

**WOODHAVEN-BROWNSTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT**

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SECTION I: INTRODUCTION

The Woodhaven-Brownstown School District is dedicated to creating and maintaining a positive learning environment for all students. All members of our learning community—including students, educators (including teachers, secretaries, custodians, aides, paraprofessionals, and other school personnel), parents, and engaged service providers—must assume a responsible role in promoting behavior that enhances academic and social success. Courteous, respectful, and responsible behavior fosters a positive climate for the learning community. Those responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

Students (persons enrolled in grades K-12) have the responsibility to:

1. Take responsibility for your learning and recognize that it is a process.
2. Attend school regularly, arrive on time, and be prepared to learn.
3. Respect yourself and others in class, on school grounds, on buses, and at any school-related activity.
4. Respect the rights and feelings of fellow students, parents, educators (including teachers, secretaries, custodians, aides, paraprofessionals, and other school personnel), visitors, and guests.
5. Work within the existing structure of the school to address concerns.
6. Know and comply with school district rules and policies.
7. Participate in your learning communities, including helping formulate rules and procedures in the school, engaging in school-related activities, and fostering a culture of respect for learning and for others.

Parents have the responsibility to:

1. Take responsibility for your child(ren)'s development as learners by, as much as possible, providing a home environment suited for learning and developing good study habits.
2. See that your child(ren) attends school regularly and on time.
3. Provide for your child(ren)'s general health and welfare as much as possible.
4. Teach and model respect for yourself, your child(ren), and all members of the school community.
5. Support the school's efforts to provide a safe and orderly learning environment.
6. Know and support the school and district rules and policies and work within the existing structure of the school to address concerns.
7. Advocate for your child(ren) and take an active role in the school community.
8. Attend your child(ren)'s parent/teacher conferences.

Educators have the responsibility to:

1. Take responsibility for students' development as learners, including their academic success and positive social-emotional development, recognizing that children should be subject to behavior management and discipline policies appropriate to their ages and levels of understanding, while following trauma informed principles.
2. Model and provide a mutually respectful and accountable atmosphere for learning that includes all members of the school community.
3. Cooperate and schedule conferences with students, parents, and other school personnel in an effort to understand and resolve academic and behavioral problems. Make every effort to accommodate families whose work schedules, access to transportation, or distance

from school limits their ability to meet or participate.

4. Keep parents informed of their students' challenges, effort, and success.
5. Encourage students to participate in classroom, extracurricular, and other school-related activities.
6. Know and enforce the rules and policies consistently, fairly, and equitably.
7. Participate in formulating rules and procedures and other learning and developmental opportunities in the school.
8. Participate in training and professional learning communities provided by the district that supports providing a positive culture and climate and promotes student learning.

Purpose of the Code

The Code of Student Conduct sets forth student rights and responsibilities while at school and school-related activities, and the consequences for violating school rules. It defines behaviors that undermine the safety and learning opportunities for all members of the school community and favors actions that encourage positive behavior and learning over actions designed to punish. When determining the consequences of student misconduct, school officials may use intervention strategies and/or disciplinary actions. Recognizing the importance of keeping students in school learning as much as possible, educators will consider the severity or repetition of misconduct, age and grade level of the student, circumstances surrounding the misconduct, impact of the student's misconduct on others in the school community, and any other relevant factors in determining how they will address misconduct.

The Code of Student Conduct will be administered fairly, without partiality or discrimination. The Code of Student Conduct does not diminish any rights under federal law (20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.) of a student determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

When and where the Code of Student Conduct applies

The Code of Student Conduct applies before, during, and after school and whenever a student is engaged in a school-related activity. Each student is expected to follow this code of conduct:

- "At school," meaning in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event, whether or not it is held on school premises.
- When a student's conduct at any other time or place has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline, or on protecting the safety and welfare of students or school district staff.
- When a student is using school telecommunications networks, accounts, or other district services.

SECTION II: DISCIPLINARY POLICY AND DUE PROCESS PROCEDURES

The Woodhaven-Brownstown School District Board of Education wants to ensure that students, staff and community a disciplined learning environment which is essential to quality education. Furthermore, the Board seeks to assure students that their rights as students and as citizens will be protected relative to disciplinary proceedings, student suspensions and expulsions. Keeping this in mind the following restorative practice, suspension and expulsion policy, and due process procedures have been adopted.

The initial judgment that a student has engaged in a prohibited act under this Student Code of Conduct shall be made by the building administrator. The Woodhaven-Brownstown School

District in concordance with all applicable laws considers restorative practices with all students as a first measure of discipline.

Recognizing exclusionary discipline’s negative impact, the school community will reserve exclusion for only the most serious offenses. We will also employ positive behavioral expectations, restorative practices and discipline measures and early intervention/diversion strategies that focus on screening and treatment to minimize suspended students’ time away from school and potential court involvement.

However, if a student's presence in school poses an immediate danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the educational process, the building administrator may immediately suspend the student, and as soon thereafter as reasonable, provide the student with his/her due process rights as set forth in the paragraphs below.

If a student charged with violation of this Code of Conduct has been returned to the regular school program pending a decision by either the principal or Superintendent, then such action of reinstatement shall not limit or prejudice the District's right to suspend or expel the student following a decision by the principal or Superintendent.

Violations and Recommended Corrective Action

The prohibited acts and penalties listed below are applicable when a student:

- engages in a prohibited act on school property;
- engages in a prohibited in a motor vehicle being used for a school related purpose;
- engages in a prohibited act at a school-related activity, function or event;
- engages in a prohibited act enroute to or from school;
- engages in a prohibited act involving another student who is enroute to or from school;
- engages in a prohibited act off school premises, which act, in the judgment of the building administrator, is of such seriousness that the student's continued attendance in school would present a danger to the health and safety of students or employees or would endanger the proper functioning of the educational process; or, engages in a prohibited act when the student was not enrolled in the School District or was enrolled in another school district, if the act of misconduct would constitute a sufficient basis for suspension or expulsion had it occurred while the student was attending the School District.

The following outline represents corrective action for student conduct violations. The WBSD subscribes to a progressive discipline model. The corrective action for these violations has been approved by the Board of Education.

Corrective Actions for Types of Suspensions or Expulsions

Code A	Administrative Intervention/Restorative Practice	See definition(s)
Code B	Short Term Suspension	Up to nine (9) days
Code C*	Long Term Suspension	In excess of nine (9) days/ fewer than sixty (60) days
Code D*	Expulsion/ Permanent Exclusion	In excess of sixty (60) days

*Require approval of the Superintendent and Board of Education
The Corrective Action range is for a single incident of the prohibited act. Repeated or multiple violations shall result in more severe punishments or penalties up to and including referral to the Board of Education for expulsion. This is consistent with the District’s philosophy of progressive discipline.

Violation/Prohibited Acts**Corrective Action**

Alcohol/Chemical Substances	B to D
Arson	B to D
Assaulting a School Employee	B to D
Bullying...	Up to D
Cheating/Scholastic Dishonesty	Up to B
Classroom Disruption	Up to B
Conduct Which Endangers the Health, Safety, Welfare – Staff or Students	Up to D
Criminal Sexual Conduct	B to D
Destruction/Defacement or Vandalism of School Property	Up to D
Discriminatory/Sexual Harassment	Up to D
Dress Code Violation	Up to A
Drugs/Narcotic Drugs/Look-A-Like substances	B to D
Extortion, Coercion, Blackmail	Up to C
Failure to Serve Detention	Up to B
False Fire Alarms, Bomb Threats	B to D
Fighting including Fight Promotion	B to D
Firecrackers/Explosives/Chemical Substances	B to D
Forgery	Up to B
Gambling	Up to B
Gang or Gang Related Activity	B to D
Harassment/Intimidation	Up to D
Hazing	Up to D
Heckling or Display of Poor Sportsmanship or Manners in Public Assemblies	Up to B
Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection/Undue Familiarity	Up to A
Indecency	Up to C
Instigating or Participating in a Prohibited Act	Up to C
Insubordination	Up to B
Loitering/Skipping Class	Up to B
Malicious Mischief	Up to B
Physical Violence/Assault/Battery	B to D
Possession of Drug Related Paraphernalia	Up to C
Possession of Inappropriate Items	Up to C
Presence in an Unauthorized Area	Up to B
Profanity or Vulgarity/Improper Communications	Up to B
Smoking/Tobacco including vaping, electronic cigarettes	Up to B
Theft/Possession of Stolen Property or Possession without Owner's Permission	Up to C
Trespassing	Up to B
Unauthorized Sale of Food or Merchandise	Up to A
Unlawful Interference or Intimidation of School Authorities	Up to C
Verbal Assault/Threat	B to D
Violation of Computer Acceptable Use Policy	Up to D
Violation of Driving Regulations (and Suspension of Driving Privileges)	Up to A
Weapons: Dangerous Instruments	B to D
Weapons: Dangerous Weapons	B to D
Weapons: Look-A-Like	Up to C

Additional Notes

- A. Repeat offenses or serious incidents may result in more severe punishments or penalties including referral to the Board for expulsion

- B. The above rules and regulations do not include all conceivable student misbehavior that might result in administrative disciplinary action taken against a student.
- C. School authorities will immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency whenever school officials believe a student has committed a criminal act.
- D. Student disciplinary records are cumulative for any violation of the student code of conduct which requires a suspension of nine (9) or more days along with documentation and shall be held throughout their entire enrollment within each respective school.
- E. If deemed appropriate by school authorities, a violation of these rules or regulations may result in immediate referral to the Board with a recommendation for expulsion.
- F. The length of a suspension within a code violation will be at the discretion of the building administrator or restorative team where applicable.
- G. In-house suspension may be assigned at the discretion of the building administrator. The length of in-house suspension will be determined by building administrator.
- H. Where deemed appropriate, the building administrator may arrange for parents to attend their child's classes in lieu of suspension. The length of the parent attendance will be established by the building administrator.
- I. A student, while on suspension, shall not enter onto School District property and shall not participate in or attend any school related activity, function or event, held on or off school property.
- J. A student, while on suspension shall be allowed to complete all work/assessment for full credit. A student, while expelled from school may request the opportunity to complete all work/assessments for full credit.

Definitions of Violations where Applicable

Alcohol/Chemical Substances – A student shall not manufacture, sell, handle, possess, use, deliver, transmit or be under any degree of influence (legal intoxication not required) of any alcoholic beverage, marijuana (CBD) or intoxicant of any kind. A student shall not inhale glue, aerosols, lighter fluid, or other chemical substance for the purpose of becoming intoxicated or under the influence (legal intoxication not required).

Arson – A student will not intentionally, by means of starting a fire, cause harm to any property or person, or participate in the burning of any property or person. If a student commits arson in a school building or on school grounds or other school property, the school board or its designee may be required to expel the student from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement, pursuant to MCL 380.1311(5) [MCL 380.1311(2)]. "Arson" means a felony violation as set forth in Chapter X of the Michigan Penal Code [MCL 750.71 to MCL 750.80].

Bullying/Cyberbullying – A student will not engage in bullying or cyberbullying any student for any reason in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school- sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. "At school" includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if the telecommunications access device or the telecommunications service provider is owned by or under the control of the school district or public school academy. "Telecommunications access device" and "telecommunications service provider" mean those terms as defined in section 219a of the Michigan penal code, 1931 PA 328, MCL 750.219a.

"Bullying" means any written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication, including, but not limited to Cyberbullying, that is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one or more pupils either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- Substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more pupils.

- Adversely affecting the ability of a pupil to participate in or benefit from the school district's or public school's educational programs or activities by placing the pupil in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress.
- Having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a pupil's physical or mental health.
- Causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Cheating/Scholastic Dishonesty - A student shall not commit cheating which includes, but is not limited to, the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized aid or assistance or the actual giving or receiving of unfair advantage on any form of academic work. A student shall not engage in plagiarism, which includes the copying of language, structure, ideas and/or thoughts of another and representing it as one's own original work.

Discriminatory/Sexual Harassment - A student shall not engage in unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors or other verbal, nonverbal or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, race, color, national origin, religion, height, weight, marital status, or handicap or disability (e.g., sexual or racial comments, threats or insults, unwanted sexual touching, etc.)

Drugs/Narcotic Drugs/Counterfeit Substances - A student shall not manufacture, sell, possess, use, deliver transfer or be under the influence (legal intoxication not required) of any drug, narcotic drug, marijuana, hallucinogen, stimulant, THC and CBD, depressant, controlled substance, counterfeit substance or a controlled substance analogue intended for human consumption. A student shall not sell, deliver or transfer, any prescription or non-prescription drug, medicine, vitamin or chemical substance, nor shall a student use or possess these substances for an improper purpose. A student shall not sell or represent a legal substance as an illegal or controlled substance. This includes, but is not limited to, wax pens.

Extortion/Coercion/Blackmail - A student shall not commit or attempt to commit extortion, coercion or blackmail. A student shall not secure, or attempt to secure, money or other items of value from an unwilling person, nor shall a student, by threats and/or violence, force another person to perform an unwilling act.

False Fire Alarm or Bomb Report - Tampering with Fire Alarm System: Unless an emergency exists, a student will not intentionally sound a fire alarm or cause a fire alarm to be sounded, nor will a student falsely communicate or cause to be communicated that a bomb is located in a building or on school property, or at a school-related event. These acts are prohibited, irrespective of the whereabouts of the student. A student will not destroy, damage, or otherwise tamper with a fire alarm system in a school building.

Fighting and Fight Promotion - displaying or engaging in violence, combat, or aggression. Fight Promotion includes comments made to encourage/assist fighting, "look out" person or recording of fight.

If a student enrolled in grade six (6) or above makes a bomb threat or similar threat directed at a school building, school property, or a school-related event, then the school board or its designee may be required to suspend or expel the student from the school district for a period of time as determined at the discretion of the school board, or its designee [MCL 380.1311a(2)].

Firecrackers/Explosives/Chemical Substances - A student shall not sell, possess, use, or deliver/transfer firecrackers, explosives and/or chemical substances that include but are not

limited to any flammable or combustible material and/or device that is or can be ignited by flame, heat, electricity, gas and/or compression whether or not such discharge or ignition produces flame, noise, projectiles, smoke or fumes.

Forgery – A student will not sign the name of another person for the purpose of defrauding another.

Gambling – A student will not engage in any game of chance or contest wherein money or other items of monetary value are awarded to the winner, except for those games and contests authorized as official school functions.

Gang or Gang Related Activity - A student will not, by the use of violence, force, coercion, threat of violence, or gang activity, cause disruption or obstruction to the educational process. Gangs are defined as organized groups of students and/or adults who engage in activities that threaten the safety of the general populace, compromise the general community order, and/or interfere with the school district's education mission.

Gang activity includes any one of the following:

- Wearing or displaying any clothing, jewelry, colors, or insignia that intentionally identifies the student as a member of a gang, or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang.
- Using any word, phrase, symbol, or gesture that intentionally identifies a student as a member of a gang, or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang.
- Gathering of two or more persons for purposes of engaging in activities or discussions promoting gangs.
- Recruiting student(s) for gangs.

Harassment/Intimidation - 1) A student will not engage in or participate in any behavior that is included in the definition of harassment or intimidation. Harassment and/or intimidation is defined as any aggressive or intimidating behavior, or statement/images therein, intended to cause fear, discomfort, or that display bigotry or hate speech, whether overt or perceived (e.g., Confederate Flag, Swastika, etc...). Harassment and/or threat is prohibited in all forms, and includes, but is not limited to the following: 1) Having the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. 2) Having the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's participation in or access to educational activities, learning opportunities, and/or educational programs. 3) Adversely affecting an individual's learning space, or access to extracurricular activities and programs, including athletics. 4) Harassment and/or threat carried out on the basis of sex, age, race, ability, familial status, height/weight, national origin, political affiliation, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and/or veteran status.

Hazing - The act of hazing is a crime in Michigan and will not be tolerated in the district. A student will not engage in or participate in any behavior that is included in the definition of hazing. The term "hazing" means "an intentional, knowing, or reckless act by a person acting alone or acting with others that is directed against an individual and that the person knew or should have known endangers the physical health or safety of the individual, and that is done for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, participating in, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization." The term "organization" means "a fraternity, sorority, association, corporation, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, service group, social group, athletic team, or similar group whose members are primarily students at an educational institution." [MCL 750.411t].

Indecency - A student shall not engage in conduct that is contrary to commonly recognized standards of decency and behavior, which includes obscenity, indecent exposure, or the use of language in verbal or written form, in pictures, in caricatures or in gestures, which are offensive to the general standards of propriety.

Instigating or Participating in a Prohibited Act – A student shall not assist or help in a rule violation which causes a disturbance which interrupts the educational opportunities of others or threatens the general health, safety and welfare of others on school property or at a school sponsored activity. *Including the use of video or photography to advertise or promote misconduct on social media or other platforms.*

Insubordination – A student shall comply with instructions and directions of School District employees (including substitute and student teachers), volunteers or persons acting in a chaperone or supervisory capacity

Loitering/Skipping Class – A student shall not deliberately delay, hang around, lag behind, aimlessly idle in getting to an assigned destination.

Physical Violence/Assault/Battery – A student shall not intentionally cause or attempt to cause great physical harm to another through force or violence. Battery is defined as an intentional non-permissible touching.

Possession of Inappropriate Items – A student shall not possess an inappropriate item is any item that causes a disruption to the educational process.

Profanity or Vulgarity/Improper Communications – A student shall not make threatening, annoying, nuisance, vulgar and/or obscene communications, verbally, in writing, or by gestures.

Sexual Assault - A student will not sexually assault another person. If a student commits and is convicted of criminal sexual conduct the school board or its designee may be required to expel the student from the school district permanently, subject to possible reinstatement in a different school from the victim, pursuant to MCL 380.1311(5) [MCL 380.1311(2)]. "Criminal sexual conduct" means a violation as set forth in Chapter LXXVI of the Michigan Penal Code [MCL 750.520b to MCL 750.520g].

Smoking/Tobacco – A student shall not smoke, chew, vape, including any form of e-cigarettes, or otherwise use tobacco and nicotine products. A student shall not, while on school property, have in his/her possession or under his/her control, tobacco in any form or tobacco related items. This includes, but is not limited to, vape/e-cigarettes not containing nicotine.

Verbal Assault/Threat – A student shall not produce an oral or written communication of intent to cause harm or injury.

Weapons: Dangerous Instrument – A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, or use a dangerous instrument capable of harming another person. A dangerous instrument is defined as any device intended to cause injury or bodily harm, any device used in a threatening manner that could cause injury or bodily harm, or any device that is primarily used for self-protection. Dangerous instruments include, but are not limited to, chemical mace, pepper spray or like substances, stun guns, BB guns, pellet guns, razors, or box cutters.

Weapons: Dangerous Weapons – A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, or use a dangerous weapon in a weapons free school zone (As referenced in State Law MCL 380.1312 and 380.1313). A dangerous weapon is defined as any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, “a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device, iron bar or metallic knuckles” or guns of any type, including air and gas powered guns, (whether loaded or unloaded), razors, clubs, electric weapons, martial arts weapons, ammunition and explosives.” Except as noted below, the school board or its designee may be required to expel permanently a student who possesses a dangerous weapon, subject to possible reinstatement.

Note that under Michigan law, school boards are not required to expel a student for weapons possession if the student can establish in a clear and convincing manner at least one of the following:

- The object or instrument possessed by the student was not possessed for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon.
- The weapon was not knowingly possessed by the student.
- The student did not know or have reason to know that the object or instrument possessed by the student constituted a dangerous weapon.
- The weapon was possessed by the student at the suggestion, request or direction of, or with the express permission of school or police authorities.

Weapons: Look-A-Like Weapon – A student shall not possess, handle, or transmit any object or instrument that is a “look-a-like” weapon or instrument (e.g., starter pistol, rubber knives, toy gun, etc.)

Corrective Action Due Process

Short-Term Suspension Definition

For purposes of this code, a short-term suspension occurs when a student is suspended for one (1) school day, up to and including nine (9) school days. During a short-term suspension, the student’s rights and privileges of attending school, including extracurricular activities, are suspended.

Due Process for Short-Term Suspensions

For a suspension of nine (9) days or less, a student is entitled to minimal due process protections, including oral or written notice of the accusation(s), what disciplinary measures are being proposed, and an opportunity to respond. If feasible, the notice and hearing should precede the student’s removal from school. If the student’s presence poses a danger to persons or property or threatens to disrupt the academic process, prior notice and hearing may not be feasible. In this case, a hearing should follow the student’s removal from school as soon as possible.

Except in extraordinary circumstances, alleged violations of The Code of Student Conduct are initially handled at the student’s school. If a short-term suspension is contemplated, the principal or assistant principal shall provide the student with oral or written notice of the charges or allegations and an explanation of the evidence or basis for the charges. Barring a situation requiring immediate action, the student shall be given the opportunity to contact an adult advocate such as a parent or other family member, guardian, mentor, friend, and/or an attorney before presenting an explanation or a differing statement of the facts. The student’s request to have a parent/guardian present should be respected.

If misconduct is found, the principal may authorize disciplinary action in accordance with The Code of Student Conduct, including short-term suspension. A student whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the educational process, may be immediately removed from the school without prior notice, explanation, or opportunity to respond. In such cases, the above procedures shall be provided as soon as practical.

The student and parent/guardian shall be notified of the circumstances and action taken.

Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion Definition

A long-term suspension is when a student is suspended for more than nine (9) school days. During a long-term suspension, the student's rights and privileges of attending school, including extracurricular activities, are suspended.

Recognizing exclusionary discipline's negative impact, based on a preponderance of research, the school community will reserve exclusion for only the most serious offenses and employ discipline measures and early intervention/diversion strategies with a focus on screening and treatment to minimize suspended students' time away from school and potential court involvement.

An expulsion occurs when the school district's board of education or designee terminates the student's rights and privileges to attend school, including extracurricular activities, for sixty (60) days or more. An expulsion may be for an indefinite time, as specified by the school board or state law.

Due Process for Long-Term Suspension and Expulsion

A more formal due process procedure is required when serious disciplinary measures are alleged against a student. When the student's misconduct requires legal action, school district staff will work to protect the student's due process by explaining what the student is accused of and giving him/her the opportunity to speak with an adult advocate such as a parent or other family member, guardian, mentor, friend, and/or attorney. The school district may also provide, upon request, a list of resources for representation. The student shall be given reasonable time to prepare for a hearing. The person conducting the disciplinary hearing must be impartial.

If recommended by the principal or assistant principal, the school district's board of education or its designee shall conduct a hearing to determine whether to impose a long-term suspension or expulsion. If the student has a hearing before the Board of Education, the board has the exclusive and final authority to long term suspend or expel a student from the school district.

The student and parent/guardian shall be notified of the allegation(s), the recommended disciplinary action, the time, date, and location of the hearing, and of their right to attend and participate in the hearing.

Prior to the hearing, the student and parent/guardian will have an opportunity to review all documents, videos, and other media, or any other types of evidence, and a list of all witnesses slated to testify.

Prior to the hearing, the student and parent/guardian should be notified of all of the district's processes for hearings and appeals.

The board of education or its designee shall conduct a hearing, which may be recorded if the hearing is held in Open Session. The student shall be advised of the alleged violation and be

given an explanation of the facts. The explanation may include the written or oral testimony of others, but the names or personally identifying information of student witnesses may be redacted.

At the request of the student or the student's parent/guardian, the board of education may meet in a closed session to "consider the dismissal, suspension, or disciplining of a student" [MCL 15.268(b)].

The student and parent/guardian may be represented at the hearing by an attorney or other adult. Written or oral evidence may be presented at the hearing on behalf of the student.

After the hearing, the board of education or its designee shall issue a decision, including a determination of disciplinary action.

The parent/guardian of the student may petition the school board to request the student's reinstatement to school, as permitted by state law or as specified by the Board of Education at the time of removal.

Appeal Process

In the event new evidence is obtained, A student may, within five (5) days of receipt of the decision, petition the board of education for the opportunity to request an appeal or reconsideration by the board or its designee. The petition shall be in writing and contain the reason that the board or its designee's decision should be reviewed or reconsidered. The board of education may grant or deny the request for an appeal or request for reconsideration. If granted, the board shall notify the student in writing of the procedures to be used for the appeal or the request for reconsideration.

SECTION III: OTHER STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The school community encourages student responsibility in terms of attendance, technology, and property. The expectations for these issues are defined below.

Attendance

The Woodhaven-Brownstown School District emphasizes the value of regular attendance in enabling students to benefit from the school's education programs. Michigan law places responsibility on each student to attend school on a daily basis, and on each parent or guardian to send their child to school on a daily basis. More important, however, is the effect of regular and punctual attendance on the student's scholastic achievement. Not only is each day's lesson important to the individual student, the student's participation in class contributes to the education of others. Frequent absences and tardiness, for any reason, are certain to adversely affect the student's schoolwork. Each student is expected to be in school every day except when illness, injury, or some providential conditions beyond the student's control prevents attendance. However, as a District, we understand that extenuating circumstances require accommodations to support the learning of our students. If a student has a planned extended absence, we ask that you work with building administration to develop a plan for possible continued education and a return to school plan.

The United States Education Department links school attendance with academic success and links exclusionary discipline with lower school performance and higher rates of students' academic failure. Recognizing exclusionary discipline's negative impact, the school community will prioritize getting suspended or expelled students back into school and will not count a

student's suspension days as unexcused absences or truant days, but rather as disciplinary absences.

Recognizing that grades should reflect learning rather than behavior, when suspension is used, students have the right to complete, turn in, and receive any credit earned on assignments and tests scheduled during their disciplinary absences.

Technology

The use of the Woodhaven-Brownstown School District's Technology and Internet access is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate use may result in loss of that privilege as well as consequences defined in the Woodhaven- Brownstown School District's Student Code of Conduct.

The administration of the Woodhaven-Brownstown School District will deem what is appropriate and their decision is final. The administration, faculty, and staff may request that the privilege be denied, revoked, or suspended for inappropriate use. Students and parents must review, sign, and return to the school yearly the school district's "Acceptable Use Policy."

The Woodhaven-Brownstown School District uses a filtering program which prevents students from accessing inappropriate areas on the Internet. The district's web browser accesses filtering software that complies with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA)

Cell Phones / Audio Visual Recorders

A student may possess a cell phone during school hours. The cell phone should remain out of sight out of mind unless expressly permitted by staff, teacher or building administrator. The use of cell phones in locker rooms or restrooms is prohibited. The use of audio or video recording during regular school hours is prohibited without prior permission by staff, teacher or building administrator. WBSD assumes no responsibility for lost, stolen, damaged devices. Disciplinary action can be issued by staff, teacher or building administrator including, but not limited to, loss of privilege of having a cell phone during school hours.

Lockers are School Property

All lockers assigned to pupils are the property of the school district. At no time does the school relinquish its exclusive control of its lockers. The principal or his/her designee shall have custody of all combinations to all lockers or locks. Pupils are prohibited from placing locks on any locker without the advance approval of the school principal or his/her designee.

Legitimate Use of School Lockers

The school assigns lockers to its pupils for the pupils' convenience and temporary use. Pupils are to use lockers exclusively to store school-related materials and authorized personal items such as outer garments, footwear, grooming aids, or lunch. Pupils shall not use the lockers for any other purpose, unless specifically authorized by school board policy or the public school principal or his/her designee, in advance of pupils bringing the items to school. Pupils are solely responsible for the contents of their lockers and should not share their lockers with other pupils, nor divulge locker combinations to other pupils, unless authorized by the public school principal or his/her designee.

Search and Seizure

The Board of Education has charged school authorities with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, school authorities may search school property such as lockers used by students or the person or

property, including vehicles, of a student. The Board directs the school principals to conduct a routine inspection at least annually of all storage places. The Board also authorizes the use of canines, trained in detecting the presence of drugs or devices, when the administration has reasonable suspicion that illegal drugs or devices may be present on school property.

Student Person and Possessions

The Board recognizes that the privacy of students or his/her belongings may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner.

A request for the search of a student or a student's possessions will be directed to the administration. A search will be conducted when there is a reasonable suspicion preferably with student agreement. A search will be conducted by an administrator in the presence of another staff member. When health and safety are immediately threatened a search will be conducted as soon as possible.

Search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted in the presence of another staff member and only in exceptional circumstances when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened. Administrators are authorized to arrange for a breath-test instrument, according to the Superintendent's guidelines, for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. It is not necessary for the test to determine blood-alcohol level, since the Board has established a zero tolerance for alcohol use.
