



## Introduction

This Bristol Warren Regional School District (BWRSD) Code of Conduct is intended to promote a safe and supportive learning environment that promotes the achievement of all students. BWRSD recognizes the effectiveness of restorative practice methods and other disciplinary measures that build positive relationships. These interventions are a shift from punitive disciplinary responses. Instead, they educate students about the harm caused by their actions while seeking to reunite them with the school community. To support the implementation of this Code of Conduct, all BWRSD schools will focus on creating a positive culture and climate for students and staff. This includes schoolwide approaches that teach students positive behaviors, help students to make good decisions, and develop empathy for others. These are critical skills that all students must learn and all teachers must teach. Five levels of supports and interventions have been developed to guide teachers and administrators in creating safe and supportive learning environments that build positive relationships and foster progressive disciplinary approaches.

## Five Levels of Supports and Interventions

### **LEVEL 1 Universal classroom supports and interventions.**

Level 1 offenses are designed to be implemented in classrooms with teachers and teacher assistants empowered to address student behavioral issues and return the focus to teaching and learning.

Teachers will implement and model a variety of teaching and classroom management strategies. The following supports and interventions are used to correct behavior so students can learn and demonstrate safe and respectful actions.

- Contact parent via telephone, email, or (if permission to do so has been secured) a text message
- Verbal and non-verbal reminders and redirection (e.g., role-play)
- Written reflection or apology
- Preferential seating
- Parent or guardian conference
- Regular progress reports
- System of home/school communication for individual student progress
- Establish buddy teacher/classroom system
- Classroom system of positive reinforcement
- Teacher or student conference
- Detention (before or after school) with parent or guardian consent
- De-escalation strategies (i.e., mindfulness, reflection break)
- Restorative practice methods and/or mindfulness by a trained adult
- Explicit Reteaching and modelling

**LEVEL 2 Teacher and School Based interventions and responses**

Level 2 offenses are designed for classroom teachers to implement and/or make referrals to school based intervention teams to determine if additional support can be implemented.

**A. Teacher Responses.** These interventions may involve the teacher who aims to correct and improve behavior while keeping the student in school.

- Parent or guardian notification
- Restorative practice methods and/or mindfulness by a trained adult
- Loss of privileges (social suspension)
- Restitution (monetary or service-based)
- Detention or In-school suspension
- Conflict resolution by a trained adult
- Peer mediation
- Discussion with appropriate administrator
- Assignment of service learning projects
- Mentoring
- Referral to substance abuse counseling
- Referral to appropriate student support team: MTSS, 504, IEP

**B. School Based Intervention teams.** These interventions often involve support staff, both school-based and within the broader community, and aim to engage the student's support system to ensure successful learning and consistency of interventions and to change the conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate or disruptive behavior.

- Parent or guardian conference
- Restorative practice methods including community conferencing or mediation led by or under the supervision of a trained adult
- Mindfulness exercises led by or under the supervision of a trained adult
- Mentoring
- Peer mediation
- Referral to IEP or 504 team for evaluation
- Development of Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP)
- Referral to school-based health or mental health clinic
- Referral to an appropriate after-school or alternative learning program

- Restitution (monetary or service-based)
- Conflict resolution led by or under the supervision of a trained adult
- Short-term behavioral progress reports linked to positive reinforcement
- Referral to an appropriate community organization
- Develop a Behavior Intervention Plan
- Weekly progress monitoring and data collection

**LEVEL 3 Short-term suspension and referral responses**

Level 3 offenses are designed to provide consequences up to 1-3 days of out of school suspensions.

These interventions may involve the removal of a student from the school environment for up to three days because of the severity of the behavior. The duration of the suspension, if issued, is to be limited as much as practicable while adequately addressing the behavior.

- Parent or guardian notification
- Short-term suspension (1 to 3 days)
- Restorative practice methods including formal conferencing/ community conferencing by a trained adult
- Development of or revision to student support team plan
- Referral to the twilight and credit recovery program
- Referral to IEP team or 504 team for manifestation determination for students with disabilities
- Revision to IEP or 504 plan as needed for students with disabilities
- Development of Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP)
- Referral to substance abuse counseling
- Referral to an appropriate community organization (e.g., mentoring programs)

**LEVEL 4 Long-term suspension and referral responses**

Level 4 offenses are designed to provide consequences between 4-10 days of out of school suspensions.

These interventions involve the removal of a student from the school environment for a period ranging between 4 and 10 school days because of the severity of the behavior. The duration of the suspension, if issued, is to be limited as much as possible while adequately addressing the behavior.

- Parent or guardian notification
- Long-term suspension (4 to 10 days) as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.
- Development of Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP)
- Development of or revision to student support team plan
- Restorative practice methods including formal conferencing/ community conferencing by trained adult
- Referral to IEP team or 504 team for manifestation determination for students with disabilities
- Revision to IEP or 504 plan as needed for students with disabilities
- Referral to twilight and credit recovery program
- Referral to substance abuse counseling
- Referral to appropriate community organization (e.g., mentoring programs)

### **LEVEL 5 Extended suspension, expulsion, and referral responses**

Level 5 offenses are designed to provide consequences from 11 days to expulsion.

These interventions involve the removal of a student from the school environment because of the severity of the behavior. They may involve the placement of the student in an alternative environment that provides additional structure to address the behavior. These interventions focus on maintaining the safety of the school community and ending behavior that is harmful to the student or others. The duration of an extended suspension, expulsion, or alternative placement will be limited to the least amount of time necessary to adequately address the behavior.

- Parent or guardian notification
- Extended suspension (11 to 44 days) as deemed appropriate by the School Committee. No student may be excluded indefinitely. A student may only be suspended for the remainder of the school year.
- Expulsion (serious behavioral infractions; 44 days or longer)
- Development of Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP)
- Development of or revision to student support team plan
- Restorative practice methods including formal conferencing/ community conferencing by trained adult
- Referral to IEP team or 504 team for manifestation determination for students with disabilities
- Revision to IEP or 504 plan as needed for students with disabilities
- Alternative educational placement or alternative educational setting by the Office of Suspension Services
- Referral to substance abuse counseling as warranted.

**Matrix of Intervention and Disciplinary Response**

Code	Infraction	Definition/Description	Sub-Infractions/ Aspen Codes	Levels of Intervention					Note	
				1	2	3	4	5		
1	Alcohol	Possession, use or sale of intoxicating alcoholic beverages. Includes being under the influence of alcohol on school grounds or at school events.	Possession		*	*			Required - referral to Student Assistance Counselor - mandatory three sessions.	
			Under the influence			*	*			
			Sharing/selling/distribution			*	*	*		
2	Arson	To unlawfully and intentionally damage or attempt to damage any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device			*	*	*	Required- police notification		
3	Assault/ Battery of a Student	An actual intentional touching or striking of another student against his or her will. When one student physically attacks or “beats up on” another student. Intentionally causing bodily harm to another student. Includes an attack with a weapon or threat with a weapon. This category should be used only when the attack is very serious, to warrant calling the school administration, the police, or bringing in security.	Intentional touching or striking of another student against his/her will		K-5 only *	*	*		Required- police notification	
			Physical attack (no weapon)		K-5 only *	*	*	*		
			Physical attack with intention to do bodily harm (premeditation)				*	*		
			Attack with weapon including threat with weapon				*	*		
4	Assault/Battery of a Teacher	An actual intentional touching or striking of a teacher or staff member against his or her will. When a student physically attacks or “beats up on” a teacher or staff member. Intentionally causing bodily harm to a teacher or staff member. Includes an attack with a weapon or threat with a weapon. This category should be used only when the attack is very serious, to warrant calling the school administration, the police, or bringing in security.	Intentional touching or striking of a teacher against his/her will		K-5 only *	*	*	*	Required- police notification	
			Physical attack (no weapon)		K-5 only *	*	*	*		
			Physical attack with intention to do bodily harm (premeditation)				*	*		
			Attack with weapon including threat with weapon				*	*		
5	Attendance- Cut/Skipped Class	Absence from class. Per state law, this infraction may not result in an OSS		*	*					
6	Attendance-Cut/Skipped Detention	Absence from detention. Per state law, this infraction may not result in an out-of-school suspension		*	*					
7	Attendance- Left School Grounds	Leaving school grounds without permission. Per state law, this infraction may not result in an out-of-school suspension			*					

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8	Attendance- Tardy/Late	Repeated tardiness/late arrival at school or class. Per state law, may not result in an out-of-school suspension			*				
9	Attendance-Truant	Absent for the day without authorization. Per state law, this infraction may not result in an out-of-school suspension			*				Required- referral to truancy when absent more than 10% of school days
10	Bomb Threat/Threat of Mass Casualty Event	Any threat (verbal, written or electronic) by a person to bomb or use other substances or devices for the purpose of exploding, burning, or causing damage to a school building, or school property, or to harm students or staff					*	*	Required- police notification, referral to the Threat Assessment Team, and counseling.
12	Communication/ Electronic Devices	Having on one's person or unauthorized use of a device, cellular telephone, or other electronic communication device that violates the code of conduct.	Possession of	*	*				
			Unauthorized use	*	*	*			
13	Controlled Substances	The sale of – or possession, with the intent to sell – any controlled drug or narcotic substance or equipment and device used for preparing or taking drugs or narcotics. Category includes over-the-counter and prescription medications if abused by students.	Intent to sell				*	*	Required - police notification and referral to Student Assistance Counselor for mandatory three sessions.
			Sale of				*	*	
15	Controlled Substances- Possession or Under Influence	The unlawful use, purchase, possession, or transportation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment and device used for preparing or taking drugs or narcotics. Category includes over-the-counter and prescription medications if abused by the student. Includes being under the influence of drugs on school transportation, at school-sponsored events or at school	Possession			*	*		Required-police notification and referral to Student Assistance Counselor for mandatory three sessions.
			Under Influence			*	*		Required-police notification and referral to Student Assistance Counselor for mandatory three sessions.
16	Disorderly Conduct	Any act which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function, behavior which substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others. This includes incidents which occur on the school bus or at school-sponsored events, as well as incidents which take place on school grounds. If the action results in a more serious incident, report in the more serious incident category.	Disrupts learning environment	*	*	*			
			Poses threat to health, safety & welfare		*	*	*	*	
18	Fight/Physical Altercation	Participation in a fight involving physical violence. Includes minor physical altercations and tussles, but does not include verbal confrontations. Very serious incidents should be coded as Assault/Battery (Code 03, 04)	Minor physical altercations/tussles	*	*	*			
			Fight involving physical violence			*	*	*	
			Assault/Battery				*	*	

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19	Fire Regulations Violation	Causing a false fire alarm or otherwise causing others to believe that there is a fire without reasonable belief that there actually is a fire or emergency; possession of matches or lighters.	Pulls fire alarm		*	*			
			Possession of matches or lighters		*	*	*		
20	Forgery	Forging or tampering with school-related documents.		*	*	*	*		
21	Gambling	To unlawfully bet or wager money or something else of value; assist, promote or operate a game of chance; tamper with the outcome of a sporting event or contest to gain a gambling advantage.	Unlawful betting or wagering		*	*	*		
			Assist, promote, operate a game of chance			*	*		
			Tamper with outcome of events/contests			*	*	*	
22	Gang Activity- Non-violent	Participation in activity that is not violent, per se, but is characterized by membership in or affiliation with a gang. A gang is a group of recurrently associating individuals with identifiable leadership and internal organization, identifying with or claiming control over turf, and engaging in violent or other illegal activity. Includes wearing or displaying gang symbol, dress, or colors. Violent gang-related incidents should be categorized according to the type of incident that occurred (e.g. Assault/Battery, Fighting, etc.)	Membership/affiliation		*				
			Claiming control over turf			*	*	*	Police notification
			Violent or other illegal activity				*	*	Police notification
24	Harassment-Stalking	Threatening by repeatedly following or watching the victim or placing her/him in fear of receiving bodily harm, sexual assault, confinement, or restraint. Includes stalking carried out through the use of technology, or any electronic device.			*	*	*	*	
26	Harassment- Prejudice/Hate Crimes	An action motivated by hostility or hatred due to some characteristics or perceived characteristics of the victim. Any act, or attempted act, to cause physical injury, emotional suffering or property damage through intimidation, harassment, racial/ethnic slurs and bigoted epithets, vandalism, force, motivated all or in part by hostility to the victim's real or perceived membership in a class (including, but not limited to, race, religion, color, sexual orientation, ethnicity, ancestry, national origin, political beliefs, marital status, age, social and family background, linguistic preference, or disability). Includes prejudice-related harassment or hate crimes carried out through the use of technology.	Physical Injury		*	*	*	*	Follow BWRSD Policy GBOB police for contact and DCYF contact
			Intimidation/Emotional Suffering		*	*	*	*	
			Property Damage		*	*	*	*	Possible police contact

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27	<b>Hazing</b>	Method of initiation into any team, organization, group, club, etc. which causes or is likely to cause bodily danger, harm, personal degradation, disgrace, humiliation, or mental harm.				*	*	*	
28	<b>Insubordination/Disrespect</b>	Refusing a directive of a teacher, administrator or other staff member		*	*				
29	<b>Kidnapping/Abduction</b>	The unlawful seizure, transportation and/or detention of a person against his/her will, or of a minor without the consent of his/her custodial parent(s) or legal guardian.					*	*	Police Contact, DCYF Contact
30	<b>Larceny/Theft</b>	The unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property of another person without threat, violence or bodily harm.				*	*	*	Police Contact
31	<b>Obscene/Abusive Language Toward Student</b>	To direct obscene, offensive, indecent, disgusting, abusive, harsh, injurious or insulting language or gestures, verbally or in writing, to a student, repeatedly or excessively.		*	*				
32	<b>Obscene/Abusive Language Toward Teacher</b>	To direct obscene, offensive, indecent, disgusting, abusive, harsh, injurious or insulting language or gestures, or in writing, to a teacher or other staff member.		*	*				
34	<b>Technology/Unauthorized Use of Computer or Other Technology</b>	Unauthorized or inappropriate use of technology; willfully causing or attempting to cause damage to technology or data. This includes any violation of local technology policies but does not include cyber bullying.		*	*	*			
35	<b>Threat/Intimidation/Bullying</b> <i>Threat or intimidation involving weapons or actual physical attack should be categorized as Assault/Battery</i>	To unlawfully place another person in fear of bodily harm through verbal threats without displaying a weapon or subjecting the person to actual physical attack. This also includes bullying. Bullying means the use of a written, verbal or electronic expression or a physical act or gesture or any combination thereof, directed at a student that: (a) causes physical or emotional harm to the student or damage to the student's property; (b) places the student in reasonable fear of harm to himself/herself or of damage to his/her property; (c) creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile, or abusive educational environment for the student; (d) infringes on the rights of the student to participate in school activities; or (e) materially and substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of a school. Includes cyber bullying, i.e. or bullying through the use of technology or any electronic device.	Causes physical or emotional harm	*	*	*	*	*	
			Places student in reasonable fear of harm to self/ damages property	*	*	*	*	*	
			Creates an intimidating, threatening, hostile or abusive educational environment	*	*	*	*	*	
			Infringes on the rights of students to participate in school activities	*	*	*			
			Substantially disrupts the education process or the orderly operation of school			*	*	*	



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36	Tobacco/Vaping	Where applicable, the possession, use, distribution or sale of tobacco products on school grounds, school-sponsored events and on transportation to and from school or other school transportation.	Possession		*				Referral to Student Assistance Counselor - mandatory three sessions (Referral to student assistance is for each & every offense)
			Use		*	*			
			Distribution and sale		*	*	*		
37	Trespassing	To enter or remain on school campus or restricted area without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry. May include breaking in with the intent to commit a crime.	Unauthorized entry, remaining without authorization, break in		*	*			
38	Vandalism	The willful and/or malicious destruction, damage or defacement of public or private property, real or personal, without owner consent or person having custody/control of it.	Malicious destruction and defacement of private	*	*	*			Includes graffiti.
39	Weapon Possession	The possession of any weapon, device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of causing, bodily injury to another person. Includes firearms, bombs and other explosive devices, knives, other sharp objects, blunt objects, or harmful chemicals, as well as realistic replicas. Includes use of a weapon in which no other individuals were injured, threatened, or frightened.	Possession		*	*	*	*	
			Threat of assault			*	*	*	
			Use			*	*		
40	Attendance- Cut School Suspension	Absence from in-school suspension. Per state law, this infraction may not result in an out-of-school suspension.			*				
41	Cheating/ Plagiarism	Any act of academic dishonesty or breaking the rules to gain academic advantage, including cheating on a test or other assignments and appropriating another's work without the required citation or attribution. Any act of academic dishonesty or breaking the rules to gain academic advantage, including cheating on tests or other assignments and appropriating another's work as one's own without required citation	Cheating on a test or assignment	*					
			Copying w/out appropriate citations	*	*				
42	Robbery	The taking of, or attempting to take anything of value that is owned by another person or organization under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.	Threat of force		*	*			
			Use of weapon		*	*	*		
43	Sexual Assault & Battery <i>Includes rape (oral, anal, or vaginal), fondling, forced kissing, and child molestation.</i>	A sexual act committed on another person without consent or ability to consent. Causing another person to engage in an unwanted sexual act by use of force or threat of force.			*	*	*	*	
44	Sexual Misconduct <i>Serious, non-consensual offenses should be coded as Sexual Assault/Battery.</i>	Any act of a sexual nature which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function. Includes sexual activity, indecent exposure, and displaying pornographic imagery.	Indecent exposure		*	*	*		
			Displaying pornographic images		*	*	*		
			Sexual activity		*	*	*		

**Relevant Legislation:**

[16-2-17 Right to a Safe School](#)

[16-2-17.1 In School Suspensions](#)

[16-21-27 Alternate Education Programs](#)

[RI Compilation of School Discipline Laws and Regulations](#)

**Cross Reference:**

JFC BWRSD Code of Conduct Policy

BWRSD Subcommittees of the School Committee BCE-R

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