

BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
CODE OF CONDUCT

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Bristol Warren Regional School District (BWRSD) Code of Conduct is to establish clear expectations for student behavior in school. The definitions and procedures presented within this policy are intended to guide practices that will support each student in the BWRSD in assuming responsibility for his or her behavior and each parent/guardian in assuming responsibility and accepting the consequences for his/her child's behavior. The Code of Conduct aligns school and district disciplinary practices to state and federal regulations and communicates the behavioral expectations and interventions that schools will employ to promote safe and productive learning environments for all BWRSD students.

II. DEFINITIONS

- *Detention:* Teachers and administrators may assign detention Monday-Friday, afterschool. Failure to fulfill detention requirements will result in disciplinary action.
- *Multi-tiered Systems of Support:* Each school will implement a variety of instructional and behavior management strategies to establish school wide behavioral expectations and appropriate interventions so students can learn and demonstrate safe and respectful actions towards others.
- *Suspension-* The removal of students from the classroom learning environment through either in-school *or* out of school suspension. Every attempt will be made to keep students in school and complete daily assignments in a structured and supervised environment.

III. IMPLEMENTATION AND PROCEDURES

All students in BWRSD schools are expected to recognize their individual responsibilities to adhere to the Code of Conduct while on school property, being transported by school bus to and from school, while waiting for the school bus at bus stops, and when participating in school-sponsored activities.

ALL BWRSD STUDENTS WILL:

- Attend school daily unless there is a lawful purpose for being absent.
- Engage in the learning process.
- Bring to school only those approved items and materials that are appropriate for their educational programs.
- Demonstrate positive behavior and language and respect the personal, civil, and property rights of others.
- Accept responsibility for their actions and education while abiding by established School Committee policies, superintendent's rules, and procedures.

ALL BWRSD PARENTS/GUARDIANS SHOULD:

- Ensure that your child is prepared to attend school daily by completing all assignments.
- Ensure that your child attends school daily unless there is a lawful purpose for being absent.
- Work with your child and their teachers to develop a multi-year plan for career and college preparation.
- Positively interact with all school staff and assume responsibility and accept the consequences for your child's behavior.
- Abide by established School Committee policies, superintendent's rules, and procedures.
- Acknowledge and sign that they have reviewed the Code of Conduct with their child.

ALL BWRSD SCHOOLS WILL:

- Create a positive culture and climate within their school.
- Implement universal classroom supports and interventions 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.
- Adhere to the Code of Conduct Matrix of Intervention and Disciplinary Response, defined in Exhibit A, which outlines five levels of supports and interventions. This document is designed to guide teachers and administrators in creating safe and supportive learning environments that build positive relationships and foster progressive disciplinary approaches.
- Establish a school-based Intervention Team (MTSS Team) to develop, implement, and oversee a multi-tiered system of supports that provides evidence-based interventions to promote appropriate behaviors. The MTSS Team will continually review schoolwide data to inform the effectiveness of the MTSS model and develop annual strategies for continuous improvement.

The school administrator will examine disciplinary problem(s) referred to him/her and review the Code of Conduct Matrix (Exhibit A) to determine appropriate procedures based on the level and severity of the infraction.

The school committee, or a school principal as designated by the school committee, may suspend all pupils found guilty of unsafe behaviors, or where a student represents a threat to those rights of students, teachers, or administrators. Nothing in this section shall relieve the school committee or school principals from following all procedures required by state and federal law regarding discipline of students with disabilities.

IV. TRAINING

The BWRSD will ensure all school and district administrators are trained in the policy. School principals will provide training to all staff at the start of each school year and to new staff hired after the start of the school year.

V. POLICY DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION

The Code of Conduct shall be disseminated to students and families through school handbooks and require parent(s)/guardian(s) to verify that they have read this policy and relevant exhibits. In addition, this policy shall be posted on the district and school websites. Other measures will be taken, as necessary, to ensure all students and families understand the Code of Conduct.

VI. RIGHT TO APPEAL

Appeals related to student Code of Conduct violation decisions must be filed with the building Principal within forty-eight (48) hours of parental notification. Within five school days of receipt of a written appeal, the building Principal will provide a written response.

If the decision of the building Principal does not resolve the matter, a written appeal may be filed with the Superintendent within seven days of receipt of the building Principal's written response. Within five school days of receipt of a written appeal, the Superintendent will provide a written response.

If the decision of the Superintendent does not resolve the matter, a written appeal may be filed within seven days with the Chairperson of the School Committee. The Student Discipline Subcommittee will hear the appeal. Within five days of said meeting, the School Committee Chairperson will provide a written response.

If the decision of the BWRSD School Committee does not resolve the matter, a written appeal may be filed with the Rhode Island Department of Education.

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 - Exhibit A BWRSD Code of Conduct Matrix

BWRSD Subcommittees of the School Committee BCE-R

ADOPTED: October 4, 1993

REVISED: August 25, 2003

February 26, 2020