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DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

JCDA-R Student Code of Conduct

~~7/1/23~~ x/x/24

1 **RATIONALE/OBJECTIVE:**

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3 The Cobb County School District (District) is dedicated to sound discipline practices in the
4 continuing effort to provide students an effective and safe learning environment. The District
5 recognizes concerns for student welfare from their entry on a school bus or other school property
6 to their return to the bus stop or their leaving school property.
7

8 **RULE:**

9
10 The following code provisions apply to offenses that students commit while on District property at
11 any time, engaging in or attending a school-sponsored event, while using the District technology
12 resources, or in the case of cyberbullying and for limited off-campus offenses, whether or not the
13 offense or the electronic communication occurred on District property or with District equipment.
14 As used in this Code of Conduct:

15 A. District property includes, but is not limited to:

- 16 1. The land and improvements which constitute the District;
- 17 2. Any other property or building, including school bus stops, wherever located, where any
18 school function or activity is conducted;
- 19 3. Any bus or other vehicle used in connection with school functions and activities, including
20 but not limited to, school buses, buses leased by the District and privately-owned vehicles
21 used for transportation to and from school activities; and
- 22 4. Personal belongings, automobiles or other vehicles which are located on ~~school~~ District
23 property.

24 B. District technology resources includes, but are not limited to:

- 25 1. Electronic media systems such as computers, electronic networks, messaging, and Web
26 site publishing; and
- 27 2. The associated hardware and software programs used for purposes such as, but not
28 limited to, developing, retrieving, storing, disseminating, and accessing instructional,
29 educational, and administrative information.
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31 Any and all violations of the Code of Conduct will be part of a student's disciplinary record and
32 may be used in a student disciplinary hearing pursuant to the District's progressive discipline
33 process.
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35 The decision to charge a student for violation of this Code of Conduct shall be made by the
36 administration of the school. Degree of discipline shall be based upon a progressive discipline
37 process, with discipline assigned in proportion to the severity of the behavior leading to the
38 discipline, previous discipline history of the student, and other relevant factors. All due process
39 procedures required by federal and state law will be followed. Relevant factors to be considered
40 should include, but not be limited to the age, maturity level, willfulness and intent, and the
41 cognitive ability of the student. If the school administration is uncertain as to the interpretation of
42 the Code of Conduct, they are to contact the Office of Student Discipline or their respective level
43 assistant superintendent.

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Suspension of a student from school for not more than ten (10) consecutive days is considered a short-term suspension, not subject to formal rights of hearing or appeal. Although there are no such rights guaranteed by law, parents/guardians may contact the Principal to discuss their child’s discipline.

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE:

School personnel shall utilize progressive discipline processes in order to create the expectation that the degree of discipline will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior. In addition, consideration will be given to each student’s previous discipline history and other relevant factors, including repeated offenses, which may include offenses over the course of more than one school year (cumulative offenses). Discipline assigned may increase where students have committed repeated offenses. Infractions in Part II below that are considered cumulative over the course of more than one school year include Paragraphs A, K, L-3, R-6, R-7, R-9, R-10, S, and Category I and Category II Weapons.

B. DISCIPLINE LEVELS:

1. Level 1 Discipline:

- a. Level 1 discipline is used for minor acts of misconduct which interfere with the good order of school.
- b. Following appropriate teacher/staff intervention, students may be referred to an administrator.
- c. Level 1 consequences range from a minimum of an administrative conference to a maximum of five (5) days of In-School Isolation (ISI) for elementary students, or five (5) days of In-School Suspension (ISS) for middle and high school students and may include restitution.

2. Level 2 Discipline:

- a. Level 2 discipline offenses are intermediate acts of misconduct.
- b. Students should be referred to an administrator.
- c. Level 2 consequences range from a minimum of one (1) day of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) to a maximum of ten (10) days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) and may include restitution.
- d. Repeated violations of any Level 2 offense may result in that violation being considered a Level 3 or higher offense which may result in long-term suspension/expulsion. For Levels 2 through 5 Discipline, students in grades preschool through third must receive a multi-tiered system of supports, such as response to intervention, prior to suspension for more than five consecutive or cumulative days during a school year. This requirement does not apply to offenses including possession of weapon, illegal drugs or other dangerous instrument, or if the student’s behavior endangers the physical safety of other students or school personnel.

3. Levels 3, 4, and 5 Discipline:

- a. Levels 3, 4, and 5 discipline offenses are serious acts of misconduct including, but not limited to, repeated misbehaviors of a similar nature, serious disruptions of the school environment, threats to health, safety, or property and other acts of serious misconduct.
- b. Students must be referred to an administrator. Administrators will notify the appropriate level assistant superintendent, the Office of Student Discipline, and the Cobb County School District Police Department (CCSDPD), as well as other law enforcement agencies as deemed appropriate. Consequences range from out-of-school suspension to permanent expulsion. Consequences for middle school and high school students may also include referral to apply to the Alternative Education Program (AEP). All students accepted in the District’s AEP will be on contract, which will include behavior and attendance objectives.
- c. Any misconduct that threatens the health, safety, or well-being of others may result in immediate suspension of the student from the school and/or school-sponsored

102 activities for up to ten (10) school days, pending disciplinary investigation of the
103 allegations.

- 104 d. Middle schools and high schools may recommend that a student be considered eligible
105 to apply to attend the AEP during his/her long-term suspension/expulsion. Upon this
106 recommendation or a decision of the District Hearing Officer/Panel, long-term
107 suspended/expelled students may attend AEP pursuant to a contract. If the student
108 violates the terms of the contract, he/she may forfeit the opportunity to attend the AEP
109 during the remainder of his/her long-term suspension or expulsion, pursuant to the
110 Order of the Hearing Officer/Panel and/or the terms of the contract. The student may
111 appeal his/her dismissal from the AEP to the District administrator for the supervision
112 of the AEP. The student may also receive further discipline, in addition to the
113 reinstatement of his/her long-term suspension or expulsion.
- 114 e. Level 3 consequences range from a minimum of ten (10) days of Out-of-School
115 Suspension (OSS) to a maximum of ten (10) days OSS with a recommendation for
116 long-term suspension for the remainder of the current semester.
- 117 f. Level 4 consequences include ten (10) days OSS with a recommendation for expulsion
118 for the remainder of the current semester and for one additional semester.
- 119 g. Level 5 consequences include ten (10) days OSS with a recommendation for expulsion
120 for the remainder of the current semester and for two additional semesters. Based on
121 the severity of the behavior, student's previous discipline history, and other relevant
122 factors, permanent expulsion may be recommended with approval of the appropriate
123 level assistant superintendent.

124 **C. REMOVING DISRUPTIVE STUDENTS FROM THE CLASSROOM:**

- 125 1. The Superintendent and principals shall, and do, fully support the authority of every
126 teacher in his/her school(s) to remove a disruptive student from his/her class pursuant to
127 O.C.G.A. § 20-2-738. This code applies to a student who repeatedly or substantially
128 interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with students in the class or
129 with the student's classmates' ability to learn where the student's behavior is in violation
130 of the District Student Code of Conduct.
- 131 2. The teacher shall follow his/her school's administrative referral guidelines and, when
132 necessary, the procedures outlined in Administrative Rule JDF-R (Teacher Authority to
133 Remove Students from Classroom).

134 **D. STUDENT ENROLLMENT/CONDUCT RELATIVE TO GEORGIA DRIVER'S LICENSES:**

135 The issuance of driver's licenses and permits to minors will be based on student enrollment
136 rather than school attendance. The Department of Driver Services (DDS) shall not issue an
137 instruction permit or driver's license to a person who is younger than 18 years of age unless,
138 at the time such minor submits an application for an instruction permit or driver's license, the
139 records of the department indicate that said applicant is enrolled in and not under suspension
140 from school. Accordingly, the State Department of Education will forward student enrollment,
141 suspension and expulsion information from the statewide student information system to DDS,
142 which will issue licenses when its records indicate that applicants are enrolled in school and
143 not under suspension or expulsion. Lastly, DDS shall notify such minor of his or her
144 ineligibility for an instruction permit or driver's license at the time of such application.
145 (O.C.G.A. § 40-5-22)

146 **E. TRUANCY:**

147 When a child is absent, parents, guardians, or other persons who have control of a child
148 enrolled in the District should comply with Administrative Rule JB-R (Student Attendance) and
149 school guidelines to report reasons for absences. Georgia law requires that after any student
150 accrues five (5) days of unexcused absences in a given school year, the parent, guardian, or
151 other person who has control or charge of that child shall be in violation of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-
152 690.1(b). Any child that is subject to compulsory attendance who, during the school calendar
153 year, has more than five (5) days of unexcused absences is considered truant. The law states
154 the following:
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159 "Any parent, guardian, or other person residing in this state who has control or charge of a
160 child or children and who violates this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon
161 conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$25.00 and, not greater than
162 \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, community service, or any combination of
163 such penalties, at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction. Each day's absence from
164 school in violation of this part after the child's school system notifies the parent, guardian, or
165 other person who has control or charge of a child of five unexcused days of absence for a child
166 shall constitute a separate offense."

- Schools will notify parents/guardians when a student has accumulated five (5) unexcused absences.

171 **F. REPORTING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT:**

172 In addition to discipline of students by the District, student conduct may be reported to
173 appropriate law enforcement authorities. The District encourages parents/guardians to inform
174 their children of the consequences, including potential criminal penalties, of underage sexual
175 conduct and crimes for which a minor can be tried as an adult.

177 **G. CHRONIC DISCIPLINARY PROBLEM STUDENTS:**

178 A chronic disciplinary problem student is a student who exhibits a pattern of behavioral
179 characteristics which interfere with the learning process of students around him or her and
180 which are likely to recur. (see Administrative Rule JCD-R)

182 **H. TITLE IX:**

183 Some student behavior may be subject to Title IX reporting and /or investigations (see
184 Administrative Rule JCAC-R).

186 **I. PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVIES WHILE ON SUSPENSION:**

187 Student shall not be allowed to participate in school-related activities while suspended
188 including extracurricular activities, athletics, and graduation ceremonies (see Administrative
189 Rules JDD-R and IKDB-R).

191 **J. TECHNOLOGY OFFENSES:**

192 **Students who violate the Code of Conduct with regards to misuse of technology may**
193 **lose the privilege of utilizing District-issued technology for a time period to be**
194 **determined by administration, which may include a permanent revocation of**
195 **technology privileges. Administration may also limit use of student-owned**
196 **technology on school campuses or use of the District network for academic**
197 **purposes.**

199 **II. STUDENT OFFENSES:**

201 A student shall not violate any of the following rules of the Cobb County School District. Pursuant
202 to state requirements, disciplinary levels have been assigned to each offense. These levels
203 correspond to the disciplinary levels detailed above. However, principals or designee working in
204 conjunction with the Office of Student Discipline and their appropriate level assistant
205 superintendent may give greater discipline in egregious circumstances, as identified on a case-by-
206 case basis by the severity of the behavior, student's previous discipline history, and other
207 relevant factors.

209 **A. ALCOHOL/ILLEGAL DRUGS/INHALANTS:**

1. No student shall possess, consume, store, or be under any degree of influence of alcoholic beverages (including related products such as "near" beer, non- alcoholic beer, and non-alcoholic wine coolers), illegal drugs (including, but not limited to narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, cannabis oil, CBD products, **THC**, or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act), or any substance believed by the student to be alcohol or an illegal drug in any form. Legal intoxication is not required for violation of this Code of Conduct.

- **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
2. No student shall possess, transmit, store, buy, sell, distribute or possess with intent to sell any drug-related paraphernalia.
 - **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-5**
 3. No student shall falsely represent, either expressly or implied, present, or identify a substance to be alcohol or an illegal drug.
 - **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-5**
 4. No student shall buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to distribute or attempt to buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to distribute alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs (including, but not limited to narcotics, hallucinogens, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, cannabis oil, CBD products, or any other substance listed under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act), or any substance falsely identified as such, or is believed by the purchaser to be an alcoholic beverage or illegal drug in any form.
 - **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
 5. No student shall sniff or be under the influence of inhalants and/or other substances.
 - **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
 6. No student shall be in possession or under the influence of synthetic Cannabinoids such as "K-2" (also known as, Spice, Blayze II, RedBird, Mojo, VooDoo Magic, Spice Gold, Yucatan Fire, Demon and Serenity).
 - **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
- **For all A-1, A-4, A-5, and A-6:**
 - Notify the appropriate level assistant superintendent.
 - **Contact CCSDPD.**
 - **Option for A-1, A-5, and A-6:** For middle **Middle** school and high school students, the student may reduce the first out-of-school suspension by five days by attending the Gaining Results in Intervention and Prevention (GRIP) Program consisting of a four-hour online program, or another comparable program approved by Student Assistance Programs office. **Middle school students can reduce the suspension by five days, and high school students may reduce the suspension by three days.** Failure to successfully complete this program will result in the student serving the full length of the suspension.

NOTE: Alcohol/Illegal Drug/Inhalant offenses are cumulative for grades K-2, grades 3-5, grades 6-8 and grades 8-12.

B. ATTENDANCE VIOLATIONS:

NOTE: For High School students, parking privileges may be revoked for attendance violations.

1. A student shall not be truant by failing to attend school in compliance with the Georgia Compulsory Attendance Laws. **(Level 1)**
2. No student shall be tardy for a class or activity for which he/she is enrolled without a valid excuse. **(Level 1)**
3. No student shall miss any class or activity for which he/she is enrolled without a valid excuse. **including, but not limited to, leaving class without permission. (Level 1)**
4. Students shall not leave school grounds during the course of the regularly scheduled school day without the permission of a parent/guardian and the Principal or designee. Students must follow the established procedures for checking in or out of school. **(Level 1-2)**

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C. BOMB THREATS:

Bomb threat is defined as: Transmitting in any manner a false alarm to the effect that a bomb or other explosive of any nature is concealed on school property creating a potentially dangerous situation.

- **Elementary School – Level 2-4**
- **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
- Notify the appropriate level assistant superintendent.
- **Contact CCSDPD.**

D. BULLETS, BB’S, PAINT BALL PELLETS:

Students may not possess ammunition, BB’s, paint pellets, **water/gel beads**, or CO₂ cartridges. These items are disruptive to the function of the school and may pose a safety risk.

- **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
- **High School – Level 2-5**

E. BUS BEHAVIORS:

Students shall follow all student behavior policies and regulations while at the bus stop and on school-provided transportation including, but not limited to, the prohibitions on physical violence, bullying, assault, battery, disrespectful conduct, or other unruly behavior. In addition to other portions of the Code of Conduct, the following apply to bus transportation:

1. Students must keep all body parts inside the bus at all times. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**
2. Nothing may be thrown into, within, out of, or at the bus. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**
3. **Bus Disruptions:**
No student shall act in any manner so as to interfere with a driver’s ability to safely drive the bus or another student’s ability to ride the bus without harassing or loud distractions. Students must remain seated at all times unless directed by the driver. Students must remain quiet at all railroad crossings. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**
4. Emergency doors and windows are to be used only at the direction of the driver. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**
5. Students may not ride a bus or disembark a bus at a bus stop other than that assigned for their residence without submitting a written request from their parent/guardian to the Principal or designee for approval. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**
6. Students shall not use any electronic devices during the operation of a school bus that ~~may~~ interferes with communication equipment or the driver's operation of the school bus. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**
7. Students shall not use mirrors, lasers, flashing lights, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective surfaces in a manner, which might interfere with the operation of the school bus. **(Level 1-2 and/or suspension from the bus for a specified time)**

NOTE: Students who commit sexual offenses, physical offenses against students, or physical offenses against District employees (as defined elsewhere in this Code of Conduct) on the school bus will receive penalties for the offense(s) as specified in this Code of Conduct for these offenses and may also be suspended from the bus for a specified time.

If a student has been found to have engaged in battery, acts of physical violence, bullying or physical threats on the school bus, the student’s parent/guardian shall be required to meet with the Principal or designee to execute a bus behavior contract. Additional bus behaviors are addressed through the District’s Safe Rider Program.

F. PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS/ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

1. **Elementary and Middle School:** Students shall not use, display, or turn on smart watches, cellular phones, video phones, or electronic devices during instructional time, class change time, recess, breakfast, or lunch. The Principal shall determine specified

333 times on campus when electronic devices may be used for instructional purposes. **(Level**
334 **1)**

335 **High School:** Students shall not use, display, or turn on smart watches, cellular phones,
336 video phones, or electronic devices during instructional time for non-instructional purposes
337 and without the express permission of the teacher. The Principal shall determine specified
338 times on campus when cell phones and other electronic devices may be used and will
339 publish this information in student handbooks, the school website, on posters, and/or by
340 other means. **(Level 1)**

- 341 2. Students shall not use personal technology resources to **capture**, distribute, or display
342 inappropriate material. Inappropriate material does not serve an instructional or
343 educational purpose and includes but is not limited to the following:

- 344 • Is profane, vulgar, lewd, obscene, offensive, indecent, sexually explicit, pornographic
345 or threatening;
- 346 • Advocates illegal or dangerous acts;
- 347 • Causes disruption to the District, its employees or students;
- 348 • Advocates violence;
- 349 • Contains knowingly false, recklessly false, or defamatory information; or
- 350 • Is otherwise harmful to minors as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act.

351 **Consequence:**

- 352 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2 3**
 - 353 • **High School – Level 2-3 4**
 - 354 • Notify the appropriate level assistant superintendent.
 - 355 • **Contact CCSDPD.**
- 356 3. Students shall not use personal technology devices to access chat rooms/social networking
357 sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, **BeReal**, or Snapchat during the regular
358 school day for non-instructional purposes and without the express permission of the
359 teacher. **(Level 1-2)**
- 360 4. Students shall not use any device for audio or visual recording without the permission of a
361 school administrator or as permitted by Administrative Rule JG(1)-R (Monitoring-Recording
362 Staff and Students). This includes, but is not limited to, using recording devices to video,
363 photograph, or record misbehaviors or to violate the privacy of others. **(Level 1-2 4)**

365 **G. DISRESPECTFUL CONDUCT:**

366 **NOTE: Administrators or their designee should contact the Title IX Coordinator when**
367 **student conduct implicates Title IX regulations.**

- 369 1. No student shall use any type of profane, vulgar, obscene or offensive language (written or
370 oral) or gestures. Offensive language may include, but is not limited to, disparaging
371 statements on the basis of disability, race, ethnicity, gender, or religion. **(Level 1-2)**
372 **NOTE: Administrators or their designee should contact the Title IX Coordinator when**
373 **student conduct implicates Title IX regulations.**
- 374 2. No student shall possess or distribute profane, vulgar, pornographic, obscene, or ethnically
375 offensive materials. **(Level 1-2)**
- 376 3. A student shall not use profane, obscene, or abusive language (written or oral) or gestures
377 toward District personnel or other adults on school property or at school sponsored events.
378 • **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
379 • **Middle School – Level 1-3**
380 • **High School – Level 2-4**
- 381 4. **Insubordination:** All students shall comply with direct commands or reasonable directions
382 of all authorized District personnel or designees.
383 • **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
384 • **Middle School – Level 1-3**
385 • **High School – Level 2-4**
- 386 5. All students shall comply with the directions of all authorized District personnel or
387 designees to remove themselves from the location of a disruptive situation. **(Level 1-2)**
- 388 6. No student shall refuse to identify himself/herself upon request of any District employee or
389 designee or attempt to conceal his/her identity. **(Level 1-2)**
- 390 7. No student shall violate the school dress code. **(Level 1-2)**

- 391 8. No student shall fail to attend Saturday School, Detention, or In-School Suspension. **(Level**
392 **1-2)**
- 393 9. No student shall violate a no-contact or stay-away agreement issued by the District.
- 394 • **Elementary School – Level 2**
- 395 • **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
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397 **H. DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL:**

- 398 1. **Class Disruption:** No students shall intentionally make noise or act in any other manner
399 so as to interfere with a teacher's ability to conduct a class or a student's ability to learn.
- 400 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
- 401 • **High School – Level 1-3**
- 402 2. **School Disruption:** No student shall, in any manner, by the use of violence, force, noise,
403 coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally
404 cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process or function of the school, or engage in
405 any such conduct for the purpose of causing the disruption or obstruction of any such lawful
406 mission, process or function.
- 407 • **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- 408 • **Middle and High School – Level 1-5**
- 409 3. Students shall not be on the campus of a school in which they are not enrolled during that
410 school's hours or while that school is operational without permission from that school's
411 administration. Students also may not enter a school building after hours without express
412 permission.
- 413 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 2-3**
- 414 • **High School – Level – 2-4**
- 415 4. Students may not return to campus or attend any school function while on suspension.
- 416 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
- 417 • **High School – Level 2-3**
- 418 5. Students may not be present in an unauthorized area or gather in an area for any purpose
419 other than the intended purpose of that area (e.g. more than one student present at a time
420 in restroom stall). **(Level 1-2)**
- 421 6. Students shall not occupy nor block the entrance/exit of any school building, gymnasium,
422 school grounds, properties or parts(s) thereof with the intent to deprive others of its use, or
423 when the effect thereof is to deprive others of such use.
- 424 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
- 425 • **High School – Level 1-3**
- 426 7. Students shall not prevent or attempt to prevent the convening or continued functioning of
427 any school, class, activity or lawful meeting or assembly on the school campus.
- 428 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-2**
- 429 • **High School – Level 2-3**
- 430 8. Students shall not prevent students from attending a class or school activity.
- 431 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-2**
- 432 • **High School – Level 2-3**
- 433 9. No student shall, except under the direct instruction of the Principal, block normal
434 pedestrian or vehicular traffic on a school campus or adjacent grounds.
- 435 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-2**
- 436 • **High School – Level 1-3**
- 437 10. No student shall be involved in a serious verbal altercation that disrupts the school, class or
438 school activity.
- 439 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-2**
- 440 • **High School – Level 1-3**
- 441 11. No student directly or indirectly shall cause to be delivered any items for himself/herself or
442 a 3rd party without Principal permission, including but not limited to UberEats, DoorDash,
443 restaurant deliveries, etc.
- 444 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-3**
- 445 • **Middle and High School – Level 1-5**
- 446 12. No student shall buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to distribute or
447 attempt to buy, sell, **rent**, or otherwise distribute or possess with intent to distribute any
448 unauthorized item-, **including, but not limited to a service.**

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- **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-3**
 - **High School – Level 1-5**
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- 451 13. No student shall knowingly allow a person into a school building with the intent to cause
- 452 harm or disruption **without permission from the school's administration.**
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- **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-3**
 - **High School – Level 1-5**
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456 **I. FALSE REPORTS INFORMATION:**

- 457 1. No student shall knowingly and willfully make false reports or statements whether orally or
- 458 in writing; falsely accuse other students of wrong actions; **hold himself/herself out to be**
- 459 **another person;** falsely accuse District employees of wrong action or inappropriate
- 460 conduct; falsify school records; or forge signatures.
- **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
 - **High School – Level 1-3**
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- 463 2. No student shall make false calls to emergency services including false fire alarms which
- 464 create a potentially dangerous interruption to the normal school operation and to both the
- 465 physical and emotional well-being of students and staff.
- 466 a. **False Call to Emergency Services:**
- 467 No student shall knowingly make or cause a false call to emergency services to be
- 468 made.
- **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-4**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
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- 473 b. **False Fire Alarms:**
- 474 No student shall knowingly give or cause a false fire alarm to be given.
- **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-4**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
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480 **J. GAMBLING:**

481 No student shall participate in any type of gambling activity as defined by state law or that

482 involves the wagering or betting of services, money or other items. **(Level 1-2)**

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484 **K. GANG RELATED ACTIVITY:**

485 A "gang" is defined as any group or association of three or more persons, whether formal or

486 informal, which encourages, solicits, promotes, urges, counsels, furthers, advocates,

487 condones, assists, causes, advises, procures, or abets any illegal or disruptive activity or

488 behavior of any kind, whether on or off school campuses or school property.

- 489 1. No student shall engage in any activity while participating in a gang which interferes with
- 490 the orderly conduct of school activities, with discipline in the schools, or with the rights of
- 491 other students or faculty members.
- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
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- 495 2. No student shall display identified gang tattoos.
- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
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- 499 3. No student shall hold himself/herself out as a member of a gang.
- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
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- 503 4. No student shall recruit or solicit membership in any gang or gang-related organization.
- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
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507 5. No student shall engage in any other gang-related behavior which is subversive to good
508 order and discipline in the schools, even though if such behavior is not specified in the
509 preceding written rules **Code of Conduct**.

- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
- **Contact CCSDPD**

513 **NOTE:** Gang Related Activity offenses are cumulative for grades 6-8 and grades 8-12.

514 **L. HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION, THREATS (VERBAL, WRITTEN OR ELECTRONIC), AND**
515 **BULLYING BEHAVIOR:**

516 **NOTE:** Administrators or their designee should contact the Title IX Coordinator when student
517 conduct implicates Title IX regulations.
518

519 **1. Harassment is defined as:**

520 Intentional, substantial, and unreasonable verbal, physical or written contact that is
521 initiated, maintained, or repeated. No student shall engage in harassment, intimidation, or
522 abuse of or toward any other student(s), District employees or other adults for any reason.
523 This prohibition includes but is not limited to, harassment, intimidation or abuse of
524 students or others based on actual or perceived race, creed, color, national origin, religion,
525 sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or a physical characteristic.

- **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-3**
- **High School – Level 2-5)**

526 **2.** No student shall threaten, either verbally, in writing, electronically, or by physical presence,
527 expressed or implied, or conspire to cause bodily injury to any student, District employee or
528 non-District employee.

- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- **Middle School – Level 2-4**
- **High School – Level 2-5**

529 **3. Bullying:**

530 No student shall bully another student or students. **Bullying behavior is defined as:**

- Willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so; or
- Intentionally exhibiting a display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
- Any intentional written, verbal or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass or intimidate that:
 - Causes substantial physical harm or bodily harm capable of being perceived by a person other than the victim and may include, but is not limited to, substantially blackened eyes, substantially swollen lips or other facial or body parts, or substantial bruises to body parts;
 - Has the effect of substantially interfering with the victim student's education;
 - Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
 - Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

531 Bullying behavior is also defined as cyberbullying which occur through the use of electronic
532 communication, whether or not such electronic act originated on school property or with
533 school equipment, if the electronic communication:

- Is directed specifically at students or school personnel; **AND**
- Is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school; **AND**
- Creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

- **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
- **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**

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NOTE: If a third offense occurs within one school year, as determined by a hearing officer/tribunal, the student shall be expelled for at least one calendar year but may be assigned to the AEP during this discipline.

NOTE: L-3 offenses are cumulative for grades 6-8 and grades 8-12.

Parents/guardians of students who are victims of bullying or are found to have committed bullying behaviors will be notified via conference or letter/referral. Staff members should report instances of these behaviors to school administration immediately so that administrators may review them in a timely manner.

Employees, volunteers, students and parents/guardians/other persons that have control of students may report or otherwise provide information on bullying activity to a school administrator anonymously if they choose. No person who reports bullying behaviors will be retaliated against by any school employee. Students who retaliate against others for reports of bullying behavior are subject to discipline which may include enhanced consequences. Students who knowingly file a false report of bullying will also be disciplined.

4. **Stalking:**

Stalking is defined as a student following, placing under surveillance, or contacting another student or District employee without consent for the purpose of harassment or intimidation, which includes behavior that would cause a reasonable person to: (a) fear for their safety or the safety of others; or (b) suffer emotional distress.

- **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
- **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**

M. INCENDIARY DEVICES:

No student shall possess, light, and/or discharge smoke bombs, stink bombs, fireworks, cigarette lighters, matches, or similar devices. **(Level 1-2)**

N. OFF-CAMPUS OFFENSES:

Off-campus misconduct for which a student shall be disciplined includes, ~~but is not limited to,~~ any off-campus conduct ~~that~~ **which:**

- Could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony ~~and is prohibited by the Georgia or United States criminal codes or would be punishable as a felony if committed by an adult;~~ **AND**
- Makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or disrupts the educational process. **(Level 1-5 3-5 and contact CCSDPD)**

O. OTHER BEHAVIORS:

No student shall participate in any activity that is subversive to good order and discipline of the school not specifically addressed in the other sections of this Code of Conduct (Possession or use of counterfeit money ~~or forged official school forms~~ is included in this category).

- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- **Middle School – Level 1-5**
- **High School – Level 1-5**

NOTE: Schools should contact the Office of Student Discipline prior to charging a student with this section.

P. OVER-THE-COUNTER MEDICATION:

Possession of all over-the-counter medication on school property must be in compliance with Administrative Rule JGCD-R (Medication). A student is prohibited from selling, distributing, or possessing with intent to distribute any over-the-counter medication. Over the counter medications specifically include, but are not limited to, nicotine replacement therapies such as

622 nicotine gum and candy, nicotine lozenges, nicotine patches, nicotine inhalers, nicotine nasal
623 sprays and the like. **(Level 1-3)**

624
625 **Q. PARTIES TO THE OFFENSE:**

626 No student shall urge, encourage, counsel, further, promote, assist, cause, advise, procure, or
627 abet any other student(s) to violate any section or paragraph of this Cobb County Code of
628 Conduct.

- 629 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-3**
- 630 • **High School – Level 1-5**

631
632 **R. PHYSICAL OFFENSES:**

633 Principals or designees will continue to exercise professional discretion in determining
634 incidents of horseplay, intentional spitting, physical altercation, fighting or physical bullying, or
635 self-defense as defined by Georgia law in O.C.G.A. § 16-3-21. Principals or designees will
636 have the authority to assign consequences based on behavior related to specific incidents.
637 This may include differentiated discipline assigned on a case-by-case basis. The minimum
638 consequences for prohibited behaviors will apply as noted in this Code of Conduct and other
639 District Administrative Rules.

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641 **NOTE:** R-6, R-7, and R-9 offenses are cumulative for grades 6-8 and grades 8-12. R-10
642 offenses are cumulative for grades K-2, grades 3-5, grade 6-8, and grades 8-12.

- 644 1. No student shall use any device, chemical, irritant, or substance in a manner inconsistent
645 with its intended or prescribed use, or in a manner designed to cause harm, physical
646 irritation, or allergic reaction. Examples include, but are not limited to, directing a laser
647 optical pointer or similar device at another person's eyes, and applying "itching powder" or
648 like substances to another person. **(Level 1-2)**
- 649 2. Students may not possess or use any device designed to produce a mild electrical shock.
650 **(Level 1-2)**
- 651 3. Students shall not engage in rough or boisterous activities, including but not limited to
652 horseplay. **(Level 1-2)**
- 653 4. No student shall participate in any kind of physical altercation.
654 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-3**
655 • **High School – Level 2-4**
- 656 5. No student shall participate in any kind of physical harassment, including but not limited to
657 hazing (Administrative Rule JHC-R [School Clubs/Organizations and Student Organizations]),
658 intentionally spitting on another person, intentionally urinating on another person, lifting a
659 student's skirt, or pantsing (pulling down a student's pants/shorts/skirt, etc.).
660 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-3**
661 • **High School – Level 2-4**
- 662 6. No student shall participate in any type of fighting.
663 • **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
664 • **Middle School – Level 2-3**
665 • **High School – Level 2-5**
- 666 7. No student shall gang up act in concert with any student or students to physically attack
667 another student or other persons.
668 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 2-3**
669 • **High School – Level 3-5**
670 • **Contact CCSDPD**
- 671 8. **Physical Threat of a Student or a Person who is not a District Employee:**
672 Physical Threat is defined as: when a student attempts to commit a violent injury to the
673 person of another; or commits an act which places another in reasonable apprehension of
674 immediately receiving a physical injury.
675 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 2-3**
676 • **High School – Level 2-5**
- 677 9. **Battery on a Student or a Person who is not a District Employee:** Battery is defined
678 as when a student: intentionally causes physical harm to a person; or causes or attempts
679 to cause injury or behaves in such a way as to cause physical injury to a student.

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- **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
- **Middle School – Level 3-4**
- **High School – Level 3-5**
- **Contact CCSDPD**

10. Physical Offenses upon District Employees:

Hearing:

If a student commits an act of physical threat (assault) or battery upon a District employee, a mandatory disciplinary hearing will be held in accordance with Administrative Rule JCEB-R (Student Hearing Procedure), regardless of the recommended discipline, unless the hearing is waived. A disciplinary hearing regarding a recommendation for a short-term out of school suspension (10 days OSS or less) must be waived by the employee. A disciplinary hearing regarding a recommendation of long-term out-of-school suspension (11 days OSS or more) must be waived by both the employee and the parent/guardian/student over 18.

a. Physical Threat:

Physical Threat is defined as: when a student attempts to commit a violent injury to the person of a staff member; or commits an act which places a staff member in reasonable apprehension of immediately receiving a serious or violent injury.

- **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- **Middle School – Level 2-5**
- **High School – Level 3-5**

b. Physical Violence Without Harm:

No student shall intentionally commit an act of assault or battery of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of a District employee, unless such contact was in self-defense, as provided in Georgia law in O.C.G.A. § 16-3-21.

- **Elementary School – Level 2-3**
- **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
- **Contact CCSDPD**

c. Physical Violence With Harm:

No student shall intentionally commit an act of assault or battery, which causes physical harm to a District employee, unless such physical contacts or physical harms were in self-defense, as provided in Georgia law in O.C.G.A. § 16-3-21. **(Level 5 – Permanent Expulsion and contact CCSDPD)**

NOTE: A student found by a disciplinary hearing officer, panel, or tribunal to have committed an act of physical violence [with harm] against a teacher, school bus driver, school official, or school employee shall be expelled from the public-school system. The expulsion shall be for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public school pursuant to Code Section 20-2-150. The local school board at its discretion may permit the student to attend an alternative education program for the period of the student's expulsion. If the student who commits an act of physical violence is in kindergarten through grade eight, then the local school board at its discretion and on the recommendation of the disciplinary hearing officer, panel, or tribunal may permit such a student to reenroll in the regular public-school program for grades nine through 12. If the local school board does not operate an alternative education program for students in kindergarten through grade six, the local school board at its discretion may permit a student in kindergarten through grade six who has committed an act of physical violence as defined in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Code section to reenroll in the public school system. (O.C.G.A. § 20-2-751.6).

11. Unauthorized Confinement/Detention:

No student shall engage in unauthorized confinement or detention of another person, which is defined as violating the personal liberty of another through confinement or detainment without legal authority.

- **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
- **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**

S. PRESCRIPTION DRUGS:

737 No student shall be in possession of prescription medication not prescribed for the student. In
738 addition, a student shall not sell, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute any prescribed
739 medication on school property.

- 740 • **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- 741 • **Middle School – Level 2-3-1-3**
- 742 • **High School – Level 2-4-1-4**

743
744 **NOTE:** Consequences for S are cumulative in grades 6-8 and grades 9-12.

745
746 **NOTE:** If the prescription drug is a controlled substance under the Georgia Controlled
747 Substances Act, the student shall be found to have violated Section II, Paragraph A,
748 Alcohol/Illegal Drugs/Inhalants, and shall be disciplined according to that Section.

749
750 **T. PROPERTY RELATED OFFENSES:**

751 **NOTE:** Parents/guardians and/or students will be held responsible for restitution of the full
752 value of any damaged or stolen property (Administrative Rule DFJ-R [District Property
753 Replacement/Restitution]).

754 1. No student shall intentionally cause substantial damage to personal property belonging to
755 a District employee or another student.

- 756 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-3**
- 757 • **High School – Level 2-3**

758 2. No student shall set fire to any private property or school property either while on school
759 grounds or off school grounds during a school activity, function, or event.

- 760 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 2-3**
- 761 • **High School – Level 2-5**
- 762 • **Contact CCSDPD**

763 3. No student shall attempt to, threaten to, or actually damage, destroy, vandalize, or steal
764 private property.

- 765 • **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- 766 • **Middle School – Level 2-3 1-3**
- 767 • **High School – Level 2-4 1-4**
- 768 • **Contact CCSDPD**

769 4. No student shall attempt to, threaten to, or actually damage, destroy, vandalize, or steal
770 District property.

- 771 • **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- 772 • **Middle School – Level 2-3 1-3**
- 773 • **High School – Level 2-4 1-4**
- 774 • **Contact CCSDPD**

775 5. No student shall possess stolen private property or school property on school grounds.

- 776 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-3**
- 777 • **High School – Level 2-4**
- 778 • **Contact CCSDPD**

779
780 **U. SEXUAL OFFENSES:**

781 Reports or complaints of sexual harassment, contact with intimate body parts, or sexual
782 molestation must be reported promptly to **Public Safety CCSDPD** and then to the Title IX
783 Office BEFORE initiating the discipline process. See Administrative Rule JCAC-R (Sexual
784 Harassment Reporting and Investigation), for further requirements, information and
785 explanation.

786 1. **Sexual Misconduct:**

787 a. No student shall be engaged in amorous kissing or other inordinate displays of
788 affection. **(Level 1-2)**

789 b. No student shall consent to and participate in any form of sexual activity.

- 790 • **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
- 791 • **Middle and High School – Level 2-3**
- 792 • **Contact CCSDPD**

- 793 c. No student shall expose one's intimate body parts or "moon" in public. Intimate body
 794 parts include the primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or buttocks of a male
 795 or female and the breasts of a female.
 796 • **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 797 • **Middle School – Level 2**
 798 • **High School – Level 2-4**
 799 • **Contact CCSDPD**
 800 d. No student shall commit any act of verbal, written, gesture-oriented, or physical sexual
 801 misconduct on school property, school buses, at school-sponsored events, or while
 802 using District technology resources.
 803 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 1-3**
 804 • **High School – Level 2-4**

805 2. **Sexual Harassment:**

806 **NOTE:** See Administrative Rule JCAC-R (Sexual Harassment Reporting and Investigation),
 807 for further requirements, information and explanation.

- 808 a. No student shall participate in verbal, non-verbal, printed, or digital conduct of a sexual
 809 nature (including, but not limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual
 810 favors, sexually offensive slurs, sexually offensive drawings, photographs or posters
 811 directed towards another person) where there is a pattern of harassing behavior or a
 812 single significant incident.

- 813 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 2-3**
- 814 • **High School – Level 2-4**

- 815 b. No student shall participate in physical conduct of a sexual nature (including, but not
 816 limited to, unwelcome sexual advances or gestures) where there is a pattern of
 817 harassing behavior or a single significant incident.

- 818 • **Elementary and Middle – Level 2-3**
- 819 • **High School – Level 2-5**
- 820 • **Contact CCSDPD**

821 3. **Contact with Intimate Body Parts:**

822 No student shall intentionally make physical contact with the intimate parts of the body of
 823 another person without the consent of that person. Intimate body parts include the
 824 primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or buttocks of a male or female and the
 825 breasts of a female or male. No student shall commit any act of sexual battery on school
 826 property, school transportation, or at school-sponsored events.

- 827 • **Grades K-3 – Level 1 -3**
- 828 • **Grades 4 and 5 – Level 2-3**
- 829 • **Middle and High School – Level 3 2-5**
- 830 • **Contact CCSDPD**

831 4. **Sexual Molestation:**

832 Sexual molestation is defined as a student doing any immoral or indecent act to or in the
 833 presence of another person, without that person's consent, with the intent to arouse or
 834 satisfy the sexual desires of either the student or the other person. This includes a student
 835 forcing another person to make physical contact with the student's intimate body parts.
 836 Intimate body parts include the primary genital area, anus, groin, inner thighs, or buttocks
 837 of a male or female and the breasts of a female or male. No student shall commit any act
 838 of sexual molestation or the attempts thereof on school property, school buses, or at
 839 school-sponsored events.

- 840 • **Elementary School – Level 2-5**
- 841 • **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
- 842 • **Contact CCSDPD**

843 **NOTE:** Consequences for Paragraph U, Subsections 2, 3, 4 are cumulative in grades 3-5, 6-8,
 844 and 8-12.

845 **V. STIMULANTS:**

846 A student shall not consume, possess, sell, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute diet
 847 pills, caffeine pills, or other stimulant on school property. **(Level 1-3)**
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NOTE: If the stimulant is a controlled substance under the Georgia Controlled Substances Act, the student shall be found to have violated Section II, Paragraph A, Alcohol/Illegal Drugs/Inhalants, and shall be disciplined according to the Section.

W. DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY OFFENSES:

All students using District technology, including on or off campus use of District issued devices must have a signed Internet use form (Form JCDA-3 [Receipt of the Family Information Guide]) on file with the school. Unauthorized access and prohibited behaviors are fully discussed and defined in Administrative Rule IFBG-R (Technology Acceptable Use). District technology, including on or off campus use of District issued devices, cannot be used for other than non-school related purposes.

Students who violate the Code of Conduct with regards to misuse of technology may lose the privilege of utilizing District-issued technology for a time period to be determined by administration, which may include a revocation of technology privileges. Administration may also limit use of student-owned technology on school campuses or use of the District network for academic purposes.

NOTE: Administrators or their designee should contact the Title IX Coordinator when student conduct implicates Title IX regulations.

1. Students shall not attempt to identify ways to gain access or otherwise hack District technology resources including on or off campus use of District issued devices. **Phishing is strictly prohibited.**
 - **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - **Middle school – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-4**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
2. Students shall not attempt to disrupt District technology resources, including on or off campus use of District issued devices by destroying, altering or otherwise modifying technology. **This includes use of unauthorized web browsers and utilizing virtual private networks (VPNs), proxies, or network sniffers.** Hacking is strictly prohibited.
 - **Elementary and Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-4**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
3. Students shall not use District technology resources, including on or off campus use of District issued devices to solicit business, advertise, or engage in any other selling activities in support of non-school related fund-raising or private business enterprises.
 - **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
 - **High School – Level 1-3**
4. Students shall not engage in any activity that monopolizes, wastes or compromises District technology resources, including on or off campus use of District issued devices.
 - **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
 - **High School – Level 1-3**
5. Students shall not copy computer programs, software or other technology provided by the District for personal use. Downloading unauthorized files is strictly prohibited.
 - **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2**
 - **High School – Level 1-3**
6. No student shall attempt to, threaten to, or actually damage, destroy, vandalize, or steal private property or District property while using District technology resources, including on or off campus use of District issued devices.
 - **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - **High School – Level 2-4**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**
7. Students shall not use District technology resources, including on or off campus use of District issued devices to distribute or display inappropriate material. Inappropriate

- 909 material does not serve an instructional or educational purpose and includes but is not
910 limited to material that:
- 911 • Is profane, vulgar, lewd, obscene, offensive, indecent, sexually explicit, pornographic
 - 912 or threatening;
 - 913 • Advocates illegal or dangerous acts;
 - 914 • Causes disruption to the District, its employees or students;
 - 915 • Advocates violence;
 - 916 • Contains knowingly false, recklessly false, or defamatory information; or
 - 917 • Is otherwise harmful to minors as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act.

918 **Consequence:**

- 919 • **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - 920 • **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - 921 • **High School – Level 2-4**
 - 922 • **Contact CCSDPD**
- 923 8. Students shall not commit any other prohibited act discussed in Administrative Rule IFBG-
- 924 R (Technology Acceptable Use) **or violate the User Device Agreement**. This includes
- 925 any modification of school records.
- 926 • **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - 927 • **Middle School – Level 2-3**
 - 928 • **High School – Level 2-4**
- 929 9. Students shall not use District technology devices, including on or off campus use of
- 930 District issued devices to access chat rooms/social networking sites including, but not
- 931 limited to Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, TikTok, or Snapchat. **(Level 1-2)**
- 932 10. Students may not use audio or visual recording devices without the permission of a school
- 933 administrator or as permitted by Administrative Rule JG(1)-R (Monitoring-Recording Staff
- 934 and Students). This includes, but is not limited to, using recording devices to video or
- 935 record misbehaviors or to violate the privacy of others.
- 936 • **Elementary and Middle School – Level 1-2 4**
 - 937 • **High School – Level 1-3 4**

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941 **X. TOBACCO, SMOKING PRODUCTS, AND VAPING:**

- 942 1. Student possession or use of tobacco, tobacco product substitutes (e.g., tobacco look-
- 943 alike), cigarette look-alikes (e.g., electronic cigarettes), hookahs and hookah look-alikes
- 944 (e.g. electronic hookahs), vaping devices, or vaping cartridges is prohibited.
- 945 • **Elementary School – Level 1-2**
 - 946 • **Middle and High School – Level 2**
- 947 2. No student shall buy, sell, or otherwise distribute or possess with the intent to distribute or
- 948 attempt to buy, sell or otherwise distribute or possess with the intent to distribute tobacco,
- 949 tobacco product substitutes (e.g., tobacco look-alikes), cigarette look-alikes (e.g.,
- 950 electronic cigarettes), hookahs and hookah look-alikes (e.g. electronic hookahs), vaping
- 951 devices, or vaping cartridges.
- 952 • **Grades K-3 – Level 1 -2**
 - 953 • **Grades 4 and 5 – Level 1-3**
 - 954 • **Middle and High School – Level 2-4**

955

956 **Y. WEAPONS:**

- 957 A student who wants to use a weapon or look-alike weapon in an exhibit, presentation, or
- 958 activity in a classroom or at a school-sponsored event must meet the following requirements:
- 959 • Verbal approval of the teacher in whose class the weapon will be used;
 - 960 • Prior written permission from the Principal which includes a description of the weapons
 - 961 authorized and the time period during which the weapons may be on campus;
 - 962 • Transport of the weapon or look-alike weapon to and from the school by the
 - 963 parent/guardian of the student making the request; and
 - 964 • The teacher or school administration storing the weapon or look-alike weapon in a secure
 - 965 location when it is not being used in the above classroom activities.
- 966

967 **Prohibition:** A student shall not possess, handle, transmit, or cause to be transmitted; use or
968 threaten to use; sell, attempt to sell, or conspire to sell a weapon, either concealed or open to
969 view, on school property. A weapon includes a dangerous weapon, firearm or hazardous
970 object, as further defined below. All weapons shall be confiscated and given to CCSDPD or
971 other law enforcement agencies as appropriate. The disposition of confiscated weapons shall
972 be determined by the superintendent or his/her designated school official, in conjunction with
973 law enforcement.

974
975 **Note:** The definition of "weapon" for purposes of this Code of Conduct is one that includes,
976 but is not limited to, the following items:

977
978 **Category I Weapon - Dangerous Weapon or Firearm (Loaded or Unloaded):**

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980 **NOTE:** Category I Weapon offenses are cumulative in grades K-5, grades 6-8 and
981 grades 8-12.

982
983 Dangerous weapon means any weapon which fires explosive or non-explosive rockets or
984 weapon which is designed to explode to injure, kill, destroy armor, or similar weapon used for
985 such purpose as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-11-121. Firearm means a handgun, rifle, shotgun,
986 or other weapon which will or can be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an
987 explosive or electrical charge. **(Level 5)**

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 - The hearing officer, tribunal, panel, Superintendent, or Cobb County Board of Education
990 has the authority to modify these expulsion requirements on a case-by-case basis.
 - Notify the appropriate level assistant superintendent.
 - **Contact CCSDPD**

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994 **Category II Weapon – Hazardous Object:**

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996 **NOTE:** Category II Weapon offenses are cumulative in grades K-5, grades 6-8 and
997 grades 8-12.

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999 Hazardous object means any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other
1000 knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick,
1001 knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack,
1002 any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or
1003 more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be
1004 known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of
1005 whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be
1006 thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any
1007 instrument of like kind, any nonlethal air gun (including but not limited to BB, paintball, and
1008 certain water or water gel guns), and any stun gun or taser as defined O.C.G.A. § 16-11-106
1009 or any tool or instrument which the school administration could reasonably conclude as being
1010 used as a weapon or intended by the student to be used as a weapon and thus a violation of
1011 the intent of this Code of Conduct.

- 1012
 - **Elementary School – Level 2-5**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 3-5**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**

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1016 **Category III Weapon:**

1017 Any knife or instrument having a blade of less than two inches, any "look-alike" firearm, any
1018 "look-alike" or practice knife, or plastic disposable razor or sling shot.

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 - **Elementary School – Level 1-3**
 - **Middle and High School – Level 2-5**
 - **Contact CCSDPD**

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1023 **Note:** For items such as smoke bombs, stink bombs, fireworks, cigarette lighters, matches, or
1024 similar devices, see Paragraph M. above.

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III. CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS:

The names of student clubs and organizations, as defined by Administrative Rule JHC-R (School Clubs/Organizations and Student Organizations) the mission or purpose of such clubs or organizations, the names of the club's or organization's contacts or faculty advisors, and a description of past or planned activities will be available in student handbooks, school-provided information and/or on school Websites for each school. This information is updated periodically throughout the year and is available on the school's Website, which may be accessed at www.cobbk12.org, and/or the school's administrative office. Also see Administrative Rule IDE-R (Co-Curricular Activities) and Administrative Rule IDF-R (Interscholastic Activities).

Adopted: 7/9/80
Revised: 4/13/83; 8/8/84; 6/28/90; 5/23/91; 5/28/92; 11/11/92; 5/27/93; 8/10/94; 6/14/95; 6/27/96; 6/26/97;
5/28/98; 10/28/99; 5/25/00; 9/18/00; 5/24/01; 6/27/02; 6/26/03; 6/9/04
Reclassified an Administrative Rule: 9/1/04
Revised: 6/21/05; 7/1/06; 7/1/07; 7/1/08; 7/1/09, 6/9/10; 6/8/11; 6/13/12
Revised and Re-coded: 7/1/13
Revised: 6/11/14; 7/1/14; 7/1/15; 7/1/16; 7/1/19; 7/1/20; 7/1/22; 7/1/23; ~~x/x/24~~

Legal Reference	
O.C.G.A. 20-2-1126	Written policies and procedures for operation of school buses; receipt of code of conduct by students; acknowledgement by parent or guardians
O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.4	Policies prohibiting bullying; assignment to alternative school; notice
O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.5	Required provisions for student code of conduct
O.C.G.A. 16-11-37	Terroristic threats and acts
O.C.G.A. 16-11-37.1	Dissemination of information relating to terroristic acts
O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.7	Student reporting of inappropriate behavior by teacher/staff
O.C.G.A. 16-11-37	Terroristic threats and acts; penalties
O.C.G.A. 20-2-735	Adoption of policies by LBOEs to improve student learning environment
O.C.G.A. 20-2-736	Student codes of conduct; distribution
O.C.G.A. 20-2-737	Reports by teacher of violations of student code of conduct; parental notice
O.C.G.A. 20-2-738	Authority of teacher to remove student from classroom; procedures
Rule 160-4-8-.15	Student Discipline