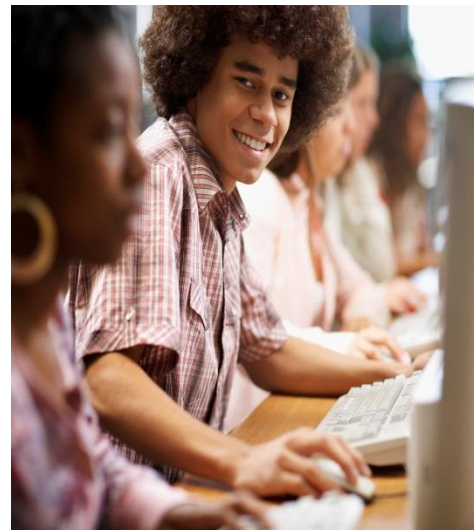
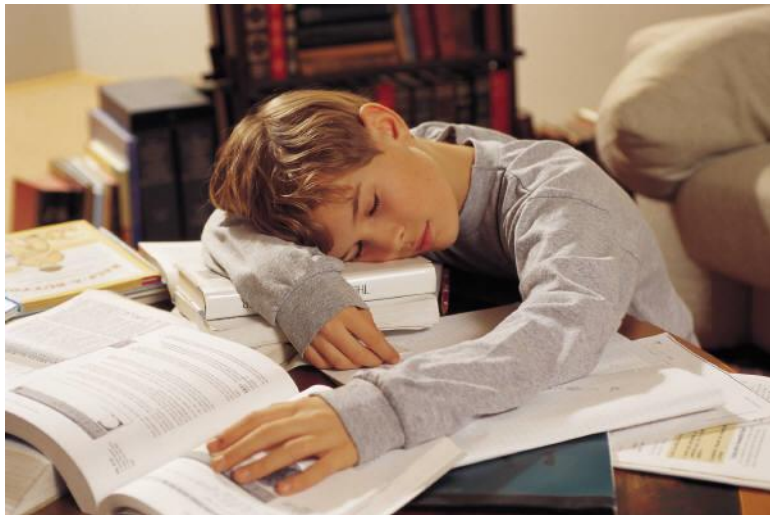


SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT

2016-2017



CODE OF CONDUCT





Keys to a Successful School Year

- Wanting to do the best possible job in your school work.
 - Be on time.
 - Be prepared.
 - Be attentive.
- Showing respect for yourself and others.
- Having pride in your personal property and in school property.
- Obeying laws and the school code of conduct.

Code of Conduct

- As the new school year begins, it is expected that students want to be successful and will follow the school and district rules.
- Sometimes students break rules and have consequences for breaking those rules.
- The Code of Conduct is in effect at bus stops, on school buses, at school and at all school-sponsored activities, both on and off campus.
- The Code of Conduct has been put in place to make sure that students are treated fairly and consistently when being disciplined.



Categories

The Sumter School District Code of Conduct is divided into four categories:

- Category I Least severe offenses
- Category II Less severe offenses
- Category III Severe offenses; result in suspension
- Category IV Most severe offenses; expulsion recommendation

Category I Offenses

- Bus violation (refer to the transportation policy)
- Detention violation
- Excessive noise
- Inappropriate affection
- Inappropriate language
- Inappropriate materials
- Littering
- Violation of class rules
- Other offenses (minor)

Category I Actions

Grades Pre-K-5

- **1st – 3rd offense** –parent/legal guardian notification /conference
- **4th offense** – school counselor referral
- **5th – 10th offense** – 1 – 3 class days out-of-school suspension

Grades 6 - 12

- **1st - 3rd offense** : administrative detention and third offense school counselor referral
- **4th offense**: in-school suspension and parent/legal guardian conference
- **5th offense**: 1 - 5 class days out-of-school suspension

Category I



Category I offenses are the least severe.

To avoid problems in this category:

- Be aware of school and classroom expectations for behavior.
- Show respect for others.

Category II Offenses

- Aiding others
- Cheating
- Confrontation/altercation
- Cutting activity
- Cutting class
- Cutting school
- Dishonesty
- Disrupting class
- Dress code violation
- Driving violation
- Failure to comply with disciplinary action
- Gambling
- Horseplay
- ID violation
- Inappropriate affection
- Larceny/theft
- Leaving class
- Loitering
- Obscene gesture
- Off Limits (in a restricted area)
- Profanity
- Refusal to obey/defiant
- Running
- Tardy
- Throwing objects
- Tobacco
- Unauthorized (use of an electronic) device
- Vandalism
- Other offenses (minor)

Category II Actions

Grades Pre-K - 5

- **1st offenses** – Warning conference or administrative detention
- **2nd offenses** – Administrative detention and school counselor referral
- **3rd offense** – Administrative detention and parent/legal guardian conference
- **4th offense** - 1-3 class days out-of-school suspension
- **5th offense** - 3-5 class days out-of-school suspension
- **6th offense** - 5-7 class days out-of-school suspension
- **7th offense** - Recommendation for expulsion

Category II Actions

Grades 6 - 12

- **1st offenses** – warning conference or in-school suspension
- **2nd offenses** – in-school suspension and school counselor referral
- **3rd offense:** – 1 - 3 class days out-of-school suspension and parent/legal guardian conference
- **4th offense:** – 3 - 5 class days out-of-school suspension
- **5th offense:** – 5 - 7 class days out-of-school suspension
- **6th offense:** – recommendation for expulsion

Category II



Category II offenses can have a variety of consequences, such as removal from class, in-school suspension, and suspension if behavior continues.

To avoid problems in this category:

- Show respect for others.
- Follow school and classroom rules.
- Set goals for being successful in each subject.

Category III Offenses

- Bite/pinch/spit
- Bullying*
- Computer violation
- Contraband
- Cyberbullying*
- Fighting*
- Fireworks
- Forgery
- Gang activity*
- Harassment*
- Hit/kick/push
- Inappropriate physical contact
- Intimidation*
- Larceny/theft
- Leaving school
- Loitering
- Major disruption
- Obscene gesture
- Profanity
- Property misuse
- Refusal to obey/defiant
- Simple assault*
- Issue threats
- Trespassing
- Vandalism
- Other minor infractions

Category III Actions

Grades Pre-K - 12

- **1st offense:** 1-5 class days out-of-school suspension and school counselor referral
- **2nd offense:** 3 - 5 class days out-of-school suspension and parent/legal guardian conference
- **3rd offense:** 5 - 7 class days out-of-school suspension
- **4th offense:** Recommendation for expulsion

The following aggressive offenses: *bullying, cyberbullying, fighting, gang activity, harassment, intimidation, and simple assault and any combination of these seven offenses **may** result in a recommendation for expulsion with the second offense.

Category III



Committing offenses in Category III will result in suspension.

To avoid problems in this category:

- Do not be verbally or physically aggressive towards others.
- Do not disrespect others in actions and words.

Category IV Offenses

- Aggravated assault
- Alcohol/liquor law violation
- Arson
- Bomb threat
- Bribery
- Burglary
- Computer violation
- Contraband
- Contract violation
- Disturbing school
- Drug distribution
- Drug possession
- Drug usage
- Embezzlement
- Extortion
- Fire alarm
- Fireworks
- Forced sexual offense
- Fraud
- Gang activity
- Harassment
- Homicide
- Indecent exposure
- Intimidation
- Kidnap/abduction
- Non-forcible sexual offense
- pornography

Category IV Offenses

- Prostitution
- Robbery
- Sexual harassment
- Sex Violation
- Simple assault
- Issue threats
- Vehicle theft
- Weapons (refer to Policy JICI)
- Other offenses (serious)

Category IV Actions – Grades Pre-K - 12

- Referral to the hearing officer
- Suspension until the hearing before the hearing officer which shall take place within **15** days of the written notification at a time and place designated by the hearing board
- See administrative actions addendum
- Students with identified disabilities—notify school psychologist; see discipline for students with identified disabilities addendum

Category IV



Any Category IV offense that is committed will result in recommendation for expulsion.

Many of these offenses are against the law and could involve law enforcement.

To avoid problems in this category:

- Do not use violence.
- Do not bring items from home that are not allowed at school.
- Respect others.
- Do not break the law.

ADMINISTRATIVE actions - Categories I-IV

Administrator must do the following:

- meet with student and discuss what happened
- give oral notice of charges to student
- explain the evidence against student
- give the student the opportunity to tell his/her version



AMNESTY

- If a student brings an unauthorized item to school, upon realizing the item is in his/her possession, he/she must notify immediately a teacher, staff member, administrator or school resource officer to avoid disciplinary action.



AMNESTY continued.....

- If a student chooses not to submit the unauthorized item to school officials, and he/she is found in possession of the item, the student is subject to the disciplinary process.

Transportation



Many students use the school buses for transportation. While on the bus, school rules apply, and in addition there are specific rules for the buses.

If you do not follow the bus rules or the school rules while on the bus, consequences will follow the code. You will also be suspended off of the bus.

TRANSPORTATION

The preceding student discipline code applies to student behavior en route from the bus stop to and from the school and back to the bus stop on a bus or other school vehicle.

In addition to discipline procedures outlined in the code, principals may add or substitute the following sanctions:

- 3 class days suspension from buses
- 5 class days suspension from buses
- 7 class days suspension from buses
- 10 class days suspension from buses
- recommendation for permanent bus suspension*.

Parent/Legal guardian notification is required for a bus suspension.

Grades Pre-K - 5

- 1st offense - warning
- 2nd offense - parent/legal guardian conference
- 3rd offense - 1 class day bus suspension
- 4th offense - 3 class days bus suspension
- 5th offense - 5 class days bus suspension
- 6th offense - 10 class days bus suspension
- 7th offense - recommendation for permanent bus suspension*


TRANSPORTATION

Grades 6-12

- **1st offense** - warning/parent/legal guardian conference
- **2nd offense** - 3 class days bus suspension
- **3rd offense** - 5 class days bus suspension
- **4th offense** - 7 class days bus suspension
- **5th offense**- 10 class days bus suspension
- **6th offense** - recommendation for permanent bus suspension*

TRANSPORTATION

- *At the end of the first semester, principals may recommend probation if the student has been suspended from the bus for more than 45 days. If a student on probation receives one referral, the student will receive permanent suspension from the bus for the remainder of the school year.



ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

- Possession of a personal Electronic Communication Device at school is a privilege.
- ECD's may be used in the classroom for instructional purposes only.
- Students are permitted to use ECD's in Free Zones which are areas designated by the principal.



Continued.....

- When using an ECD, students must wear ear buds or headphones, and one ear must be free at all times.
- ECD's should not be audible in free zones; speakers are not allowed.
- Personal devices may not be charged at school.
- ECD's should not be exchanged or shared for personal use outside of the instructional setting.



And.....

- Improper use of an ECD will result in disciplinary action.
- If the device is confiscated for inappropriate use, it can be picked up the next day by a parent/guardian.
- Continued violations will be considered Refusal to Obey/Defiant.



Remember.....

- Refusal to surrender an ECD when requested is a Category III offense and will result in suspension.



Questions?