



**GREENWOOD  
SCHOOL DISTRICT 50**

# STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

The Student Rights and Responsibilities is a guide to assist families in their efforts to help their child understand school rules and expectations. These rules apply during school, in both the classroom and virtual environment, and at school-sponsored activities. Please discuss these expectations with your child because your child's behavior directly impacts their academic success and school safety.

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# Student Rights

All students have certain federal rights.

- All students have the right to be free from racial, religious, and national origin discrimination at school.
- Students have the right to enroll and remain in school regardless of their race, ethnicity, religion, or immigration status.
- Students have the right to keep their education records private.
- Students have the right to receive an appropriate education regardless of their English language proficiency skills.
- Students have the right to be free from bullying and harassment based on their race, religion, or national origin.
- Students have the right to wear religious attire in schools.
- Students have the right to talk about their faith, join extracurricular religious clubs, and practice religion at school as long as it does not disrupt other school activities.
- Students have the right to speak about social and political matters at school as long as the speech is not disruptive.

## Philosophy

The Board of Trustees of Greenwood School District 50 believes that it is the responsibility of students, parents, and educational personnel to see that students attend school and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner while at school.

The Board of Trustees believes that appropriate student behavior is important to the entire educational process. Without it, teachers will not be able to teach and students will not be able to learn. All students are expected to follow the rules established by the school district and by each school. Failure to follow these rules may result in the loss of the student's right to a public education. This right cannot be abridged except in accordance with the due process of law.

The Board of Trustees may authorize or order the expulsion, suspension, or transfer of any student for the commission of any crime, gross immorality, gross misbehavior, persistent disobedience, or for violation of written rules and regulations established by the Board of Trustees or the State Board of Education. The Board may also authorize or order the expulsion, suspension, or transfer of any student when the presence of the student is detrimental to the best interest of the school.

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We endeavor to make every reasonable effort to keep a child within the school's sphere of influence. Once a child is no longer attending school regularly, he/she is lost from the one agency in the community that is responsible for his/her education.

This document is provided to inform students, their parents, and district personnel of the students' rights and responsibilities. Each school may also give students a handbook informing them of other expectations imposed by that school, but not in conflict with Board policy or state and federal laws.

## Authority of The Board of Trustees \*

The Board of Trustees may authorize or order the expulsion, suspension or transfer of any student for the commission of any crime, gross immorality, gross misbehavior, persistent disobedience, or for violation of written rules and regulations established by the Board of Trustees or the State Board of Education. The Board may also authorize or order the expulsion, suspension or transfer of any student when the presence of the student is detrimental to the best interest of the school.

\*59-63-10 Code of Laws of S.C. 1976

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**SAFETY**

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## Safe Schools Act of 1990

The act makes it a criminal offense to distribute a controlled substance while in or on or within a radius of one-half mile of the grounds of a public or private school. The penalty is a fine of \$10,000 or imprisonment for up to ten (10) years or both. The penalty is greater if the substance involved is crack cocaine. The act also increases the penalty for carrying a weapon on school property to a fine of \$1,000 and a prison term of one year. The act provides that it is unlawful for anyone to knowingly and willfully deliver or convey to a public official, teacher or principal any letter, document, etc. which contains a threat of death or bodily harm to that person or to a member of the person's immediate family.

## Safe Schools Act of 2006

A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, and bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, are conducts that disrupt both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe environment. Since students learn by example, school administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers should be commended for demonstrating appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment, intimidation, or bullying. The purpose of this act is to protect the health and welfare of, and improve the learning environment for South Carolina school children.

## District Emergency Procedures

Emergencies at schools are paramount issues that must be addressed in an expeditious and effective manner. Schools stand the risk from a wide variety of acts of violence, natural disaster, and man-made disasters.

The Greenwood School District 50 Building Level School Emergency Response Plan was developed pursuant to Greenwood County Public Schools guidelines. At the direction of the Greenwood County School District Board of Education, the principal of the school appointed a Building Safety Team and charged it with the development and maintenance of the School Emergency Response Plan.

Greenwood School District 50 has developed one emergency response team. The District Office Safety Team responds to any situation, but each school has a safety team appointed by the principal that works in conjunction with the District Safety Team led by the district safety manager.

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## All Greenwood District 50 Schools have:

- A crisis management team that is responsible for preparing for and recovering from a crisis.
- A crisis and emergency management plan that outlines the school's response to a variety of emergencies.
- An emergency response guide in each classroom.
- A Crisis Response toolkit
- Evacuation locations and lockdown procedures

## Additional Safety Procedures

- Faculty and staff are required to display identification when inside all District 50 property.
- Parents and visitors must wait to be buzzed into any District 50 property and wait to be escorted to any destination by District 50 staff.
- In the event of an emergency, parents can get information by checking all forms of social media provided by the PIO for Greenwood District 50, ie, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or through our local news affiliates, newspaper publications or by checking the district web site [www.gwd50.org](http://www.gwd50.org).

## Ways you can help during a school crisis or emergency

- We understand the need to do so, but please refrain from calling the school. We will need the open lines for emergency communication.
- Do not come to the schools. It could put you, your child, and staff in danger. We need a steady flow of traffic for emergency vehicles.
- Always talk to your children and stress the need and importance of taking the drills seriously. Stress how important it is for them to cooperate with staff and emergency personnel.

Make sure you talk with your child about the use of cell phones and texting during an emergency. Assure them they will be allowed to use them when it is safe to do so.

Wait for information and instructions from the listed media sources along with other sources like Peachjar ect.

**PLEASE** : Make sure you have accurate and updated information on file with the district (home address, phone number- home, work, and cell, and names and numbers for additional emergency contacts. This can lead to faster notification and reunification.

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## Video Surveillance



For security purposes, Greenwood School District 50 has installed video surveillance cameras in our schools and buses.



# **BUS SAFETY**



# School Bus Accident Procedures



The driver's primary responsibility is the student passenger's safety. Therefore, it is the driver's responsibility to remain calm. If the driver is unable to physically perform his or her duties, he/she should direct others to do them. Should this be the case, ask the oldest and most capable passenger(s) to help.

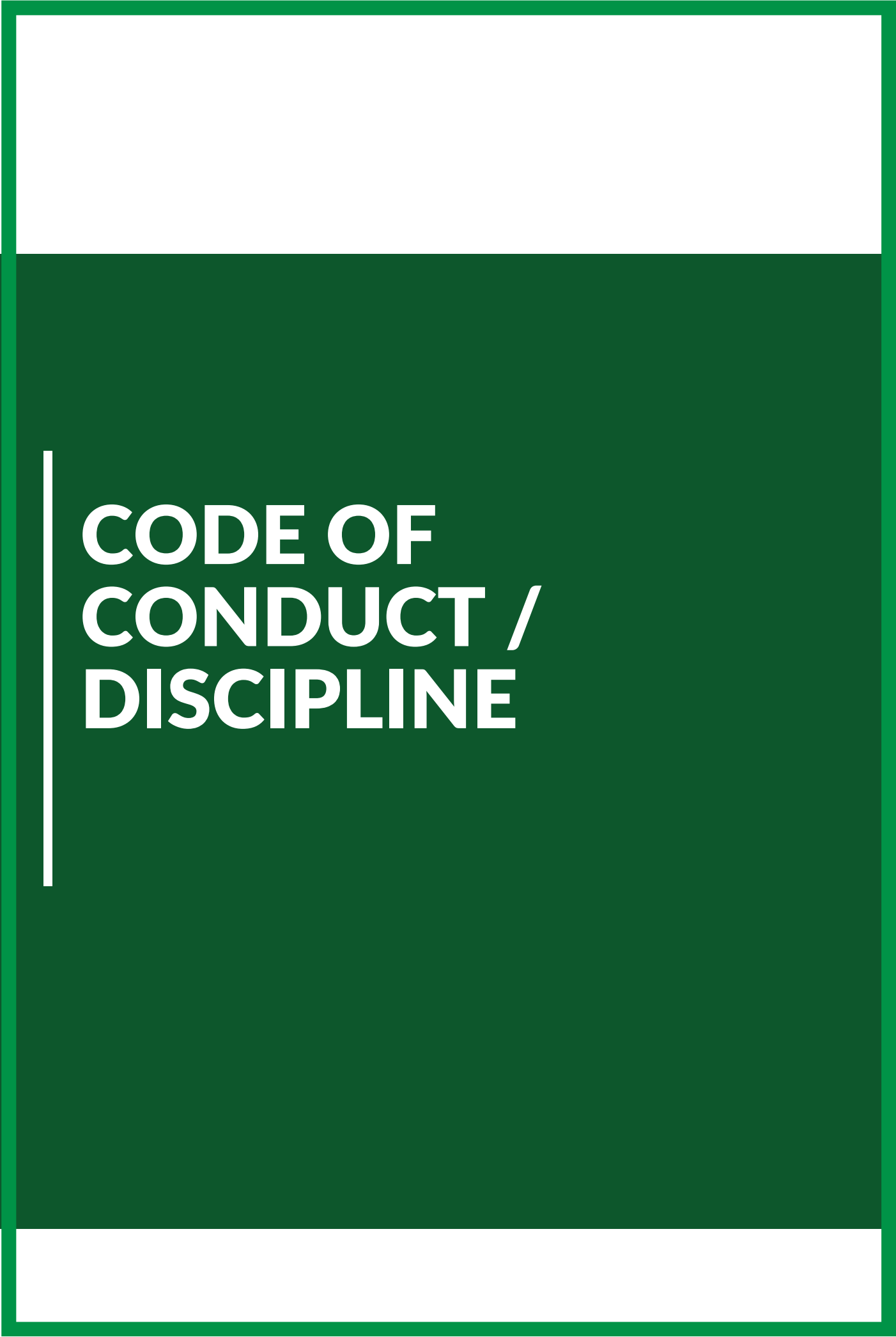
The following procedure is recommended:

1. Turn off the ignition switch.
2. Set the park brake.
3. Take key out of ignition.
4. Remain calm and reassure your passengers.
5. Check for any injuries to passengers.
  - a. If passengers are injured, follow first aid procedures and get assistance.
6. Be alert regarding fire or the possibility of fire:
  - a. Look for smoke.
  - b. Check for ruptured fuel tank and fuel lines
  - c. Check for electrical fire
  - d. Check for hot wires which may catch fire
7. Use warning devices such as reflectors or fuses where applicable.
8. Keep all passengers in the vehicle unless conditions warrant the possibility of fire, hazardous material spill or other danger which may warrant evacuation.
9. Account for all passengers; their presence as well as injury status.
10. Call 911 so that necessary assistance from law enforcement, fire, ambulance or rescue personnel may be obtained. Call the Transportation office to inform them about the accident.
11. Protect the scene:
  - a. Protect the passengers and the vehicle from further accidents and injuries.
  - b. Protect the scene from traffic and people so that evidence is not destroyed.
  - c. Under normal circumstances, the vehicle(s) involved should not be moved until law enforcement personnel advise the driver to do so.
12. When law enforcement, fire or emergency personnel arrive, they are in command of the scene. The driver does not maintain control over the scene of the accident. The driver should focus control over the pupil passengers.
13. Do not discuss the facts of the accident except to give information to law enforcement, fire and rescue personnel, and to transportation officials:
  - a. Be prepared to provide a list of all passengers, ages, addresses, telephone number and seating positions.
  - b. Give information about the school bus insurance, owner and driver data, which is located in a folder beside the rearview mirror.
  - c. Be patient, evaluate the questions and give clear concise answers.

14. Follow any other directives issued by state or school district in the event of an accident.

At the scene of an accident involving property damage, injuries, fire or hazardous materials, (hazmat) such as leaking fuel, law enforcement has full responsibility for managing the scene.

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**CODE OF  
CONDUCT /  
DISCIPLINE**

# Student Dress Code (Board Policy JICA)



In an effort to have a school environment that is safe, orderly, and conducive to learning, the following dress code will apply to all schools in Greenwood School District 50. Inappropriate and impermissible student attire includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. All pants will be worn above the hips.
2. Clothing or accessories that depict alcohol, drugs, tobacco, racial slurs/epithets, sexual suggestion/insinuation, inappropriate language, or gang association is prohibited.
3. Halter tops, tank tops, and see-through clothing are prohibited. Cleavage will not be shown.
4. Shorts and miniskirts are allowed in grades 5-12 with the following restrictions:
  - a. Said garments may not be made of clinging material, such as but not limited to biker shorts and pants, surfer pants, form-fitting knit material, etc.
  - b. All garments should be of an appropriate length, as determined by the school principal.
5. Head coverings will not be worn in the buildings. Religious head coverings are excluded from this policy.

Adopted: January 20, 1998

# Attendance



## Perfect Attendance Award Standard

A student must be present every day and must not accumulate more than a total of 4 early dismissals or tardies within a school year.

The board believes that attendance is a key factor in student achievement. Any absence from school represents an educational loss to the student. However, the board recognizes that some absences are unavoidable.

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1. Students are required to bring written documentation for absences within five (5) days from the day of the absence.
2. Parents' notes will be accepted but are limited to ten (10) absences per year. Thereafter, a medical note will be required.
3. For elementary and middle school students, principal judgment will be used to excuse absences above 10, which total no more than 15 days of lawful and/or unlawful absences.
4. For secondary students, principal judgment will be used to excuse absences above five days per semester, which total no more than eight days of lawful and/or unlawful absences.
5. Absences with no documentation are automatically considered unlawful.
6. In accordance with SBE Regulation 43-274, Section B(1):
  - When a child between the ages of 6 to 17 years has three consecutive unlawful absences or five unlawful absences, that child is determined to be truant.
  - Once a child is determined to be truant, school officials must meet with the parent(s) or guardian(s) to identify reasons for absences.
  - A written "Intervention Plan" must be developed to address the student's continued absences.

### Tardies

Please refer to your school's handbook for policies concerning tardies to school and classes.

## Breaches of the Code of Conduct



[Click here](#) to view the Breaches of the Code of Conduct.

## Detention



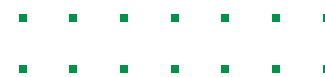
1. Detention will be held as designated by the school administration. If the student is dismissed from school, he/she must make up the detention on the next detention day.
2. A designated supervisor will keep roll and refer absences to an administrator.
3. When more punishment is necessary, additional days of detention or suspension will be assigned.

## In-School Suspension



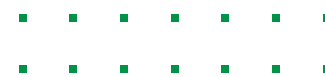
When necessary, in-school suspension will be assigned by the school administration for student misconduct.

## Parent Conference



The school administration will arrange for a parent conference when deemed necessary.

## Gang Activity and Participation



"Ganging" or participating as a member of a gang in inflicting a violent act of bodily harm, however slight, upon another person will not be tolerated. A "gang" shall consist of two or more persons acting together for and with the purpose of committing an act of violence against another person. "Participation" also includes any act that interferes with or hinders a staff member from stopping the infliction of bodily injury that is the objective of the gang. Consequence: Student(s) will be recommended for expulsion.

## Secret Societies/Gang Activity Policy JICG



Issued September 2003

Purpose: To establish the basic structure for the district's prohibition of student secret societies and gang activities.

The board finds that gangs that initiate, advocate or promote activities threatening the safety or well being of persons or property on school grounds or gangs which disrupt the school environment are disruptive to the educational process.

The district prohibits the use of hand signals, graffiti or the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol or any other attribute indicates or implies membership or affiliation with a group that presents a clear and present danger contrary to the school environment and educational objectives. The district prohibits incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations or related activities of such group affiliations that are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to students.

## Secret Societies/Gang Activity Policy JICG



The administration will establish procedures and regulations to ensure the discipline of any student wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia, exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang membership, or causing or participating in activities which intimidate or affect the attendance of another student.

The administration will provide in-service training in gang behavior and characteristics to facilitate staff identification of students at-risk and promote membership in authorized school groups or activities as an alternative.

Adopted 9/15/03

Legal references: S.C. Code, 1976, as amended: Section 59-63-270 - Regulation or prohibition of clubs or like activities.

## Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (Policy JICFAA)



Purpose: To establish the basic structure for maintaining a safe, positive environment for students and staff that is free from harassment, intimidation or bullying.

The board prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying of a student by students, staff and third parties on the basis of sex, race/color/national origin, disability or any other classification protected by applicable federal, state or local laws, and other incidents that interfere with or disrupt a student's ability to learn and the school's responsibility to educate its students in a safe and orderly environment whether in a classroom, on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, at an official school bus stop, at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises, or at another program or function where the school is responsible for the student.

For purposes of this policy, harassment, intimidation or bullying is defined as a gesture, electronic communication, or a written, verbal, physical or sexual act reasonably perceived to have the effect of either of the following.

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- harming a student physically or emotionally or damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of personal harm or property damage
  - insulting or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school

Any student who feels he/she has been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying is encouraged to file a complaint in accordance with procedures established by the superintendent. Complaints will be investigated promptly, thoroughly and confidentially. All school employees are required to report alleged violations of this policy to the principal or his/her designee. Reports by students or employees may be made anonymously

The district prohibits retaliation or reprisal in any form against a student or employee who has filed a complaint or report of harassment, intimidation or bullying. The district also prohibits any person from falsely accusing another as a means of harassment, intimidation or bullying.

The board expects students to conduct themselves in an orderly, courteous, dignified and respectful manner. Students and employees have a responsibility to know and respect the policies, rules and regulations of the school and district. Any student or employee who is found to have engaged in the prohibited actions as outlined in this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion in the case of a student or termination in the case of an employee. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials. The district will take all other appropriate steps to correct or rectify the situation.

The superintendent will be responsible for ensuring notice of this policy is provided to students, staff, parents/legal guardians, volunteers and members of the community including its applicability to all areas of the school environment as outlined in this policy. The superintendent will also ensure that a process is established for discussing the district policy with students.

## Look Alike Weapons and Drugs



Any toy or model weapon that looks enough like an authentic weapon to be reasonably mistaken for one will be considered a look-alike weapon. Any student who presents a look-alike weapon to a staff member or another

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student as a real weapon and/or who uses it to intimidate, threaten, or harass someone will be treated as if he or she used a real weapon, according to state and federal laws.

Any substance that can be reasonably mistaken for a controlled substance is considered a look-alike drug. This includes nonalcoholic beer and wine. Any student who uses, distributes, or presents a look-alike drug as authentic will be treated as if it were authentic, according to state and federal laws.

## Physical Restraint or Seclusion



Physical restraint or seclusion should not be used except in situations where the child's behavior poses imminent danger of serious physical harm to self or others and other interventions are ineffective and should be discontinued as soon as imminent danger of serious physical harm to self or others has dissipated.

## Sexual Assault



Any sexual act directed against another person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent. This is prohibited and will be referred to law enforcement.

## Sexual Harassment



Consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature where there is a pattern of harassing behavior or a single significant incident. Such conduct unreasonably interferes with the student's education or creates an intimidating, hostile, offensive school environment. Sexual harassment may include but is not limited to: verbal harassment, including sexually offensive comments or slurs; physical harassment such as sexually offensive cartoons, drawings, or posters. Sexual harassment is prohibited against members of the same sex as well as against members of the opposite sex. Any student who feels that she or he is being sexually harassed should talk immediately with her or his parents, guardian, teacher, counselor, or school administrator.

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## Use of Electronic Communications Device in Schools (Policy JICF)



Purpose: To establish the basic structure for student possession/use of cell phones/electronic devices in the schools of the district.

Possession of an electronic communication device (ECD) by a student is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms and provisions of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege.

An “electronic communication device” is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, image or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor. The following devices are examples of ECDs: cellular and wireless telephones, Smartphones/tablets (iPhones, Androids, iPads), Nooks, Kindles, laptops and other e-readers, Wi-Fi enabled or broadband access devices, two-way radios or video broadcasting devices, and other devices that allow a person to record and/or transmit, on either a real time or delayed basis, sound, video or still images, text or other information.

Students may not use ECDs to access and/or view Internet web sites that are inappropriate or otherwise blocked to students at school while on school property or at a school-sponsored activity.

Students are prohibited from using ECDs to capture, record or transmit the words (i.e. audio) and/or images (i.e. pictures, video) of any student, staff member or other person in the school or while attending a school-related activity without expressed prior notice and explicit consent for the capture, recording or transmission of such words or images. Using an ECD to take or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without his/her consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted, unless authorized by the building principal.

Students are prohibited from using ECDs to take pictures or record video/audio in locker rooms, bathrooms, or on school buses or other district vehicles. The use of ECDs to take pictures or record video/audio is also prohibited in classrooms, unless deemed appropriate by the teacher and used for educational/instructional purposes only. Students are prohibited from using ECDs in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated (see policy JICFAA, Harassment, Intimidation or Bullying).

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Students are also prohibited from using an ECD to capture and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using ECDs to receive such information.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the ECD. The building principal may also refer the matter to law enforcement if the violation involves an illegal activity (e.g. child pornography). Discipline will be imposed in a progressive manner based on the number of previous violations and/or the nature of or circumstances surrounding a particular violation. If the ECD is confiscated, it will be released/returned to the student's parent/legal guardian only after the student complies with any other disciplinary consequences that are imposed. Any ECD confiscated by district staff will be marked in a removable manner with the student's name and held in a secure location in the school building until it is retrieved by the parent/legal guardian. ECDs in district custody will not be searched or otherwise tampered with unless school officials reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of the law or other school rules. If multiple offenses occur, a student may lose his/her privilege to bring an ECD to school for the remainder of the school year.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their ECDs. The district and board recommend students not share ECDs unless it is for a specific academic purpose. The district and board assume no responsibility for theft, loss, damages or vandalism to ECDs brought onto its property, or unauthorized use of such devices.

Parents/legal guardians are advised that the best way to get in touch with their child during the school day is by calling the school office.

Students may use school phones to contact parents/legal guardians during the school day with permission of the administration.

Students, parents/legal guardians, teachers and staff members should be aware that the district may take disciplinary action against students consistent with policy JICDA/JICDA-R regarding student conduct away from school grounds.

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### **Elementary and Middle School**

When directed by a teacher for instructional purposes and approved by the principal, Elementary and Middle students may use an electronic communication device. Students riding a bus may use an electronic communication device, when approved by staff. Otherwise, Elementary and Middle school students may not use or display an electronic communication device while on school property during school hours. Any other use of wireless communications is considered misuse and violations may result in disciplinary action.

### **High School**

High school students may use an Electronic Communication Device during the school day (as determined by the principal). Students riding a bus may use an electronic communication device, when approved by staff. Any other use of wireless communications is considered misuse and violations may result in disciplinary action.

### **Consequences**

- First offense – warning/confiscate device and return to the parent/legal guardian at the end of the school day once parent sign electronic device use agreement
  - Second offense – confiscate device/return to parent/legal guardian at end of school day
  - Third offense – confiscate device/return at the end of the school year & revoke privilege to use or possess electronic communication device
  - Failure to surrender device will result in a 2 day in school suspension
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## Administrative Rule Use of Technology Resources in Instruction



Code IJNDB-R Issued 01-21-02

### **Internet Access**

Because technology is a vital part of the educational process and the curriculum of Greenwood School District 50, students and staff will be provided access to the Internet. By providing this access, the District intends to promote educational excellence and allow access to resources unavailable through traditional means. Through the Internet, students and staff will have access to a wide range of resources suitable for educational purposes.

With access to computers and people all over the world also comes the availability of material that may not have educational value. Greenwood School District 50 has taken precautions to restrict access to controversial or inappropriate materials. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and limit all access to information, which has no educational value. It is also impossible to define "controversial" and "inappropriate" in ways that have unambiguous meanings for all members of our community. Greenwood School District 50 firmly believes that the valuable information and the interaction available on this worldwide network far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals of Greenwood School District 50.

In compliance with the Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA), Greenwood School District 50 uses appropriate filtering/blocking software to restrict adult and student access to child pornography and other materials that may be harmful to minors. The District will implement strategies for monitoring student access to the Internet, including adult supervision for all Internet access by students.

The Internet Acceptable Use Policy and its accompanying regulations are part of the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, which is distributed to all students and families at the start of each school year. Parents and students state, by signing a form accompanying the Handbook, that they have read, understand, and will comply with the information in the Handbook, including the Internet Acceptable Use Policy and regulations.

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By signing the form in the Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook, the parent also gives permission for the student to use the Internet resources provided by the school and district for instructional activities. Parents who do not wish their child(ren) to have direct Internet access can request, in a separate signed statement, that their child(ren) be provided all appropriate materials in printed format rather than through Internet access. This request applies only to direct access by the students; those students will be permitted to view active Internet resources in activities where the teacher physically operates the computer for Internet access.

By signing employment contracts or letters of employment, Greenwood School District 50 staff agree to abide by all Internet Appropriate Use Policies and regulations. The smooth operation of the Internet network relies on the proper conduct of the end users who must adhere to strict guidelines. These guidelines are provided here so that users are aware of their responsibilities when accessing the Internet. Any violations of these guidelines will subject the user to appropriate disciplinary action and possible denial of access to the Internet through school and district computers.

Prior to accessing the Internet, students and staff must receive instruction on the appropriate use of the Internet.

### **Terms and Conditions of Use**

#### **Acceptable Use**

The purpose of Greenwood School District 50's decision to provide Internet access is to allow an expanded opportunity for research and education by providing access to unique resources and the opportunity for collaborative work. All use of the Internet must be in support of education and research and must be consistent with the educational objectives of Greenwood School District 50. Use of other organizations' network or computing resources must comply with the rules appropriate for that network. Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state laws or regulations is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secrets.

#### **Procedures for Use**

Administrators and teachers may access the Internet for educational or work-related purposes at any time, which is not disruptive and does not interfere with the performance of other responsibilities by the employee or other staff members. Students will be allowed to access the Internet only through their teachers. No students may access the Internet without permission. Students are not to have Internet access in any class, lab, or other area unless there is a staff member present and in the room. Student Internet use must be supervised at all times by a staff member.

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## Rules Governing Use

The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in cancellation of Internet privileges and possible disciplinary action. All staff and students must abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette and are directed to:

- Be polite and do not be abusive in messages to others. Always use appropriate language. Profanity, vulgarities, or other inappropriate language is prohibited. Illegal activities are strictly forbidden.
- Never reveal the personal address or phone number of yourself or others.
- Note that electronic mail is not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system have access to all mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal or inappropriate activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- Do not disrupt, harass, or annoy other users.
- All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property. Always cite all quotes, references, and sources.

Never access inappropriate or restricted information, such as pornography or other obscene materials, or other information not directly related to the educational purposes for which access is being provided. Restricted information includes the following:

- o obscene, libelous, indecent, vulgar, profane, or lewd materials
- o advertisements for products or services not permitted to minors by law
- o insulting, fighting, and harassing words
- o other materials which may cause a substantial disruption of the academic environment

Vandalism also is prohibited and will result in cancellation of privileges. Vandalism includes any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, and includes, but is not limited to, the uploading, downloading, or creation of computer viruses. It also includes damage to, abuse of, or misuse of the equipment provided for access.

- All users should remain on the system only as long as necessary to complete their work, so that other individuals will have equal opportunities to access the Internet.
  - All users should use the Internet only for research and academic reasons; non academic uses are prohibited. Do not use the system for financial or commercial gain.
  - Interactive game playing is strictly prohibited unless supervised by an adult as part of an educational activity.
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- Students and staff are not to download programs or files from the Internet for the purpose of installation or upgrading any application on the local computer or the network. Students may not download any file, including music and video files, from the Internet without direct adult supervision during the download process.
  - Students will always follow the instructions of the supervising staff members.

### Penalties for Improper Use

An employee who violates the terms of this administrative rule or otherwise misuses the Internet to access inappropriate material will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge. In addition, the privilege of accessing the Internet also will be subject to cancellation for up to one year.

Students who violate the terms of this administrative rule or who otherwise misuse their access to the Internet also will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the District's Student Rights and Responsibility Behavior Code. Internet access privileges also may be canceled for up to one year.

Violations of the laws of the United States or the State of South Carolina also may subject the user to criminal prosecution. If a user incurs unauthorized costs, the user, as well as the user's parents, if the user is a student, will be responsible for all such costs.

Students must understand that abuse of Internet resources can result in denial of access. In addition, machine failure resulting from abuse or inappropriate access can cause other students to lose access for significant periods of time. Students must understand that their actions can create problems for other students as well as for themselves.

In all cases of intentional inappropriate use of Internet access or resources, the child's parent or legal guardian will be required to come to school for a discussion with the principal, the teacher, and the child. Solely the classroom teacher or the school administrator will determine intentionality. The parent or guardian will be asked to ensure that the child will not further abuse his or her privileges. If the child does not comply with the plan developed in the conference, privileges will be revoked and the child will be given appropriate materials in printed format rather than through active Internet access. Students' Internet privileges may be revoked at the sole discretion of the school administrator.

Adopted: 01-21-02 Cross Reference: IJNDB, GADA, ISBG-R, and JC-E Student's Responsibilities and Rights (Elementary, Middle, and Secondary)

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# Frequently Asked Questions

## Students



**I have turned in my signed copy of the Greenwood District 50 (GWD 50) Acceptable Use Policy. May I start bringing my device to school?**

Answer: You are not allowed to bring your device until your teacher has given you permission.

**I have my device with me in class. How do I get on the Internet now?**

Answer: Most devices will detect a wireless connection. When prompted, choose GWD 50 guest from the list and accept the terms of service. Read this carefully so that you know what will be expected of you.

**I brought my device to school to use in the classroom, but my teachers said I couldn't use it in her classroom. May I still use it?**

Answer: No. The teacher has the final say on procedures in his/her classroom. If he/she asks you not to use your technology device, then you must follow those directions.

**I just can't get my device to connect to the network. Can I get some help from someone?**

Answer: It is not the responsibility of your teachers or other GWD 50 staff to troubleshoot individual devices. Check your owner's manual for issues concerning connectivity.

**I need to print the document I just created. Why is there no printer listed?**

Answer: We do not have wireless printers. Some printing solutions include: saving the document in your Google account to print on a school printer or saving it to a flash drive to print from home or another school computer.

**My device was stolen when I brought it to school. Who should I contact about this?**

Answer: Bringing your own technology tools to school can be useful, however some risks are involved. GWD 50 is not responsible for the theft of a device or any damage done to the device while at school. You must record and file the device's serial number, make and model at home in case of theft. If a theft occurs, you should contact the school resource officer to file a report.

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I have a data plan from a provider (AT&T, Sprint, Verizon, etc) on my device that allows Internet access without using the GWD 50 guest network. Is this acceptable?

Answer: No. As outlined in this Acceptable Use Policy, students are only allowed to access the Internet through the filtered GWD 50 guest network. Students may not use 3G or 4G networks to access the Internet.

## Parents



**My child is bringing a device to school for instructional purposes. Will he have access to the same software and programs that are on the school computers?**

Answer: Your child will have access to any of the web-based software that GWD 50 utilizes (databases, library search tools, Goggle, etc.) Software may run differently on different devices for varying reasons. You should consult your owner's manual for software limitations

**As a parent, am I required to provide additional software such as virus protection or Internet filtering to my child's technology device?**

Answer: No. Currently, we are not requiring any additional software for school use. Virus protection is always advised, but not required to participate in BYOT. While on the GWD 50 guest network, students will be monitored through the district's filter, so there is no need for additional filtering software.

**If my child's device is stolen or damaged, what recourse can I take?**

Answer: The school and district are not responsible for any damage or theft of student-owned equipment. Theft or vandalism of any kind should be reported immediately to the school resource officer so that he/she can file a report with the police department. The device's serial number, make and model will be required if you file a report.

**What are the school/classroom rules for using student-owned devices, including phones?**

Answer: Teachers make the final decision of any tools used in the classroom. Individual teachers will communicate his/her rules and expectations to the students. Contact your child's teachers or school administration if you are unsure of these expectations

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# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## Photo Release Statement



From time to time our students and staff members may be identified or photographed for publication, broadcast, transmission and/or electronic display by the news media or school and district public relations officials, in accordance with district policy and privacy laws. Only “directory” type information will be given, such as name, school, grade level, etc. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school principal. If you have objections to your child’s photo being taken or released, please notify your school in writing.

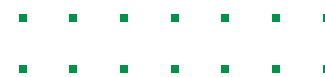
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# **SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION**

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## Policy Governing Suspension and Expulsion of Students



A student may be suspended or expelled for commission of any crime, gross immorality, gross misbehavior, persistent disobedience, or for violation of written rules and regulations established by the Board of Trustees, or the State Board of Education, or when the presence of the student is detrimental to the best interest of the school. The expelled student shall have the right to petition for re-admission for the succeeding school year.

## Suspension of Students



Suspension in or out of school will be assigned by the school principal/director or designee according to the procedures specified in Board Policy “Suspension of Students” (JKD). During the suspension, the parent/guardian of the student may be required to attend an administrative conference at the school before the student returns to class.

When a student is suspended from school and the cumulative number of suspension days exceeds fifteen (15) for the academic year, the student may be recommended for expulsion by the school administration to the superintendent or his designee. After review, the superintendent, or his designee, will present the case to the Disciplinary Hearing Panel. The Disciplinary Hearing Panel will review the case and determine the status of the student. A student recommended for expulsion due to suspension days that exceed fifteen (15), will remain in school until the status has been determined by the Disciplinary Hearing Panel, unless the student’s behavior is determined to be detrimental to the best interest of the school.

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1. When a principal suspends a student, the student will be denied the privilege of attending school and participating in school activities for the number of days of his/her punishment. Students' homework assignments will be made available while students are on suspension.
  2. The principal of a school may suspend a student for not more than ten (10) days for any one offense and for not more than thirty (30) days in any one school year, under the following conditions:
    - a. The student shall not be suspended during the last ten (10) days of a year if the suspension will make the student ineligible to receive credit for the school year, unless the presence of the student constitutes an actual threat to a class or to the school.
    - b. Before the suspension is ordered, the pupil must be given oral and written notice of the charges against him/her; if he/she denies the charges, he/she must be given an explanation of the authorities' evidence and also an opportunity to present his/her version of what happened.
  3. In many cases, the alleged misconduct may be informally discussed with the student immediately after it has occurred. The student may have an opportunity to give his/her version of the facts at this discussion, being first told what he/she is accused of doing and the basis of the accusation. If the principal finds that the presence of the student poses a continuing danger to persons or property or is an ongoing threat to the academic process, the student may be immediately removed from school. The notice of opportunity for explanation should be given to the student as soon as possible after the suspension has been imposed.
  4. On the same day as the date of the suspension, the principal shall notify, in writing, the parents or legal guardian of the student.
  5. A conference may be held with the parent(s) or legal guardian following a suspension.
  6. Non-student attendance days, including school closings due to inclement weather or other circumstances, are not counted in the number of assigned suspension days. Suspension days are actual student attendance days.
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## 7. Appeals

- a. parent/guardian has the right to appeal to the school administration for a hearing within one school day of the assignment of a suspension. The request must be in writing and should state the reason for the appeal.
- b. If a parent/guardian disagrees with the principal's decision, he/she has the right to appeal to the Assistant Superintendent for Administration. This hearing will be held within three (3) school attendance days of receipt of the request. At the hearing, the student and the parents/guardians of the student may appear, along with the principal or an administrator of the school.
- c. If the parent/guardian disagrees with the assistant superintendent's decision, he/she may appeal to the Superintendent.
- d. Under Board policy, appeals to the Board of Trustees are not provided for suspensions.

## Student Expulsions (Board Policy JKE)



A student may be expelled for the reasons listed in the district's Discipline Policy, for the commission of any crime, gross immorality, gross misbehavior or the violation of any other written rules and regulations established by the board, the school or the state board of education. A student also may be expelled when the presence of the student is deemed to be detrimental to the best interest of the school. Expulsion means the student cannot do the following:

- attend school or be on any school district property
- attend any program at the school in the daytime or at night
- attend any school-sponsored activity
- ride a school bus

If procedures for expulsion are initiated, the parent/guardian of the pupil will be notified in writing of the time and the place of a hearing before the district hearing panel. At the hearing, the parent/guardian will have the right to legal counsel and to all other regular legal rights, including the right to question all witnesses who appear on behalf of the school administration. The hearing before the hearing panel will take place within 10 school days of the written notification, at a time and place designated by the hearing panel and a decision will be rendered within 10 calendar days of the hearing. The student may be suspended from school and all activities during the time of the expulsion procedures.



The student will have the right to appeal the hearing panel's decision first to the superintendent, and then to the Greenwood School District 50 Board of Trustees. Both the superintendent and the Board will consider appeals based on the written information submitted by the student, the hearing panel and the school administration. The board also will allow the student and the school administration an opportunity to appear and address the board concerning the expulsion.

All expelled students must submit a written request for re-enrollment to the district's regular education program the following school year.

Adopted 12/83; Revised 12/16/91, 11/01, 9/15/03, 3/17/08

Investigation and action taken by the principal

If an administrator and/or his designee investigates a report of student misbehavior and decides to recommend expulsion, the administrator should suspend the student and notify the student's parent/guardian of his/her right to meet with the administrator within three school days of the date of the suspension. If after meeting with the parent/guardian (or if the parent/guardian has not come in for a meeting by the third school day), the administrator still intends to recommend expulsion, the matter will be referred directly to the superintendent or his designee.

A student recommended for expulsion due to suspension days that exceed fifteen (15) will remain in school until the status has been determined by the Disciplinary Hearing Panel, unless the student's behavior is determined to be detrimental to the best interest of the school.

Notice of expulsion recommendation

By the end of the third school day following receipt of an expulsion recommendation, the superintendent or his designee will notify the student and parent/guardian, in writing, of the following:

- the rule(s) infraction alleged to have occurred
  - the time and place of the hearing which must be held within 10 school days of written notification (unless the parent/guardian or his/her representative agrees otherwise)
  - the procedure to be followed at the hearing, including the student's right to be represented by legal counsel (without expense to the district)
  - the request of a forty-eight hour notification to the district if the student will have legal counsel at the hearing
  - the right of the student, parent/guardian or the student's representative to examine the student's records, including the investigative documents and witness statements the administration intends to present at the expulsion hearing
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### Hearing procedures

The administrator will present the recommendation for expulsion to a three-member hearing panel. The hearing panel, composed of building level and/or district office administrators, will listen to the recommendation for expulsion from the school administration. The administrator, the administrator's representative, the student, the parent/legal guardian and/or the student's representative may be present at the hearing. If the hearing panel and the parent/guardian agree, the student may be dismissed during portions of the hearing. The administrator and the student (or their representatives) will be allowed to present witnesses or witnesses' statements and, within the discretion of the hearing panel, cross examine the other party's witnesses. Members of the hearing panel may ask questions of anyone who attends the hearing. The parent/guardian and/or the student's representative will be given an opportunity to argue their position or express their views on the case. A recording of the hearing will be kept on file by the district for at least a calendar year following the hearing.

This procedure will be followed in all cases, regardless of the offense charged.

Nothing herein shall prevent the question of expulsion of any student from being considered originally by the Board of Trustees.

### Action following the hearing

Within 10 calendar days after the hearing, the hearing panel will decide whether the student committed the alleged misconduct based upon the evidence presented at the hearing, and will also decide the appropriate punishment to be applied. If the hearing panel determines that grounds for expulsion exist, it may expel the student, in accordance with Federal and State statutes and regulations, for the remainder of the current school year, or for any lesser period of time. The panel may also give punishment other than expulsion, including but not limited to suspension, placement in one of the district's alternative education programs, or probation. Probation means special restrictions have been placed on the student's right to attend school.

Violations of these restrictions will result in suspension and a recommendation for expulsion. Assignment to an alternative program means loss of the right to participate in extracurricular activities in the base school during the assignment period.

In accordance with the Safe Schools Act, any student who brings a weapon (firearm) to school will be expelled for a period of not less than twelve months.

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The Assistant Superintendent for Administration will report the decision of the hearing panel, in writing, to the parent/guardian, the superintendent and the school. If the hearing panel determines that the student is innocent of all charges, all absences resulting from the suspension shall be excused, and the student's record shall be cleared. The student will be allowed to make up all work missed during the suspension.

### **Appeals**

The decision of the hearing panel may be appealed by the student or school administrator to the superintendent if written notice of appeal is made within five calendar days of notification of the hearing panel's decision. The written notice of appeal must contain specific reasons why the student or administrator believes that the hearing panel's decision was incorrect. The superintendent will review all of the written information concerning the appeal, and will make a decision, within ten (10) school days, to uphold or overturn the expulsion. If the parent or administrator disagrees with the decision of the superintendent, an appeal may be made to the Board of Trustees within five (5) calendar days of notification of the superintendent's decision. The Board of Trustees will review all of the written information concerning the appeal, and also will provide the student and the school administration an opportunity to appear and address the Board of Trustees at its next regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of the appeal. If the request to appeal is received five days or less prior to the next regularly scheduled Board meeting, a hearing will be scheduled at the discretion of the Board. Each party will be given 10 minutes to address the Board of Trustees. An appeal will normally be limited to the established record, and no new testimony will be allowed, unless the Board desires to hear additional testimony. The Board of Trustees will make a decision on the appeal within 10 calendar days following the appeal hearing. If the Board of Trustees determines that the student is innocent of all charges, all absences resulting from the suspension will be excused, and the student's record will be cleared. The student will be allowed to make up all work missed during the suspension.

### **Permanent expulsion**

Students who are incorrigible, including those who commit a single serious offense, or who are expelled during two successive school years, may be recommended for permanent expulsion. Only the Board of Trustees will have the authority to permanently expel a student, based upon the recommendation of the hearing panel and superintendent.

### **Petitions for readmission**

Students who have been expelled must make a written request to the superintendent, or his or her designee, for readmission. The request must specify the reasons why the student should be allowed to return.

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If the superintendent, or his or her designee, denies the student's request for readmission, or in all cases of permanent expulsion, the student may make a written request to the Board of Trustees for readmission, and may include a request to appear before the Board of Trustees. If the request is denied by the Board of Trustees, the student may submit another request prior to the following school year.

## Procedural Summary for Suspensions and Expulsions



### Out of School Suspensions

1. The student must be given oral and/or written notice of charges against him/her.
2. In addition to the student receiving notice of charges, written notice (copy) must be mailed to the parent/guardian, preceded by a phone call when possible.
3. The parent/guardian will be notified by the school official of the right to appeal and will be reminded of the appeal process.
4. The parent/guardian may appeal the suspension to the Assistant Superintendent for Administration following a conference at school, then to the Superintendent of Schools, if desired. Under Board policy, appeals to the Board of Trustees are not provided for suspensions.

### Expulsions

1. The parent/guardian will be notified in writing of the recommended expulsion and a hearing date arranged to meet with the parent/guardian to discuss the incident. The initial contact person will be the principal.
  2. Following the hearing with the principal, if the parent/guardian desires, he/she may appeal to the Assistant Superintendent for Administration, then to the Superintendent.
  3. Any decision of the Disciplinary Hearing Panel to expel a student may be appealed to the Board of Trustees.
  4. At any hearing, the student and his/her parents/guardian shall have the right to legal counsel without expense to the district.
  5. Unless otherwise ordered by the principal or superintendent, the student shall be suspended from school during the time of expulsion procedures.
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# Discipline of Students with Disabilities



## A. Introduction

A student identified as disabled pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (hereinafter “Section 504-disabled”) or as disabled pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (hereinafter “IDEA-disabled”) may not be suspended from school for any number of school days in a school year beyond 10, if such removal would constitute a “change of placement”, as defined below, unless, pursuant to the procedural requirements described in part C of this policy, the student’s behavior resulting in suspension is determined not to be a manifestation of the student’s disability. The determination whether a “change of placement” would occur as a result of a removal must be made on a case-by-case basis based on the circumstances of each case.

In regard to a suspension beyond 10 days in a school year, a “change of placement” would likely occur if:

- the student’s suspension from school is for more than 10 consecutive days; or
- the student is subjected to a series of suspensions from school that constitute a “pattern” because they cumulate to more than 10 school days in a school year, and because of factors such as the length of each suspension, the total amount of time the student is suspended, and the proximity of the suspensions to one another.

## Discipline Options

(1) Short-term suspensions which do not constitute a “change of placement”

### a. Duration of suspensions

If a disabled student violates the District’s Code of Conduct, a school administrator may order the student to an alternative placement (as determined by the IEP team) or suspend the student for a maximum of ten (10) consecutive school days for that particular incident. For separate incidents of misconduct, the school administrator may suspend the student for additional periods of not more than 10 consecutive school days in that same school year, as long as the suspensions do not constitute a “change of placement”, as set forth in Section (A) above.

## Discipline of Students with Disabilities



### B. Services Provided During Suspensions

The school does not need to provide services to a student with a disability who has been suspended, so long as the student is suspended for not more than 10 cumulative school days during a school year.

The school must provide services to a student who has been suspended for more than 10 cumulative school days in the same school year. During any subsequent days of suspension beyond 10, (so long as the suspension does not constitute a “change of placement”) the school must provide services to the student to the extent necessary to enable the student to (1) appropriately progress in the general curriculum; and (2) appropriately advance toward achieving the goals set out in the student’s IEP. A determination of the appropriate services to be provided to a student suspended for more than 10 cumulative school days in a school year shall be made by appropriate school administrative personnel, in consultation with the student’s special education teacher.

(2) Removal to alternative placement for up to 45 calendar days  
(Dangerous weapons or drugs)

If a disabled student (1) carries a dangerous weapon to school or to a school function or (2) knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance (3) willingly causes serious bodily injury while at school or a school function, the school administrator may refer the student to an appropriate “interim alternative educational setting” (as determined by the IEP team) for up to 45 calendar days.

A “dangerous weapon” is defined as a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length.

Serious Bodily Injury means a bodily injury that involves one or more of the following: a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain; protracted and obvious disfigurement; or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

## Discipline of Students with Disabilities



The “interim alternative educational setting” must be determined by the IEP team. Any interim alternative educational setting must be:

- a. selected so as to enable the student to continue to progress in the general curriculum, although in another setting, and to continue to receive those services and modifications, including those described in the student’s current IEP, that will enable the student to meet the goals set out in the IEP; and
- b. include services and modifications to address the behavior that are designed to prevent the behavior from recurring.

### Procedures to be Followed

#### (1) Conduct a Functional Behavioral Assessment

Either before or not later than ten (10) business days after suspending a student for more than 10 school days in a school year or commencing a removal that constitutes a “change of placement”, the school must either:

- a. convene an IEP meeting to develop an assessment plan to address the behavior (if the school did not conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for the student before the suspension was imposed); or
- b. If the student already has a behavioral intervention plan, the IEP team shall review the plan and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior. If a student is subjected to additional suspension days beyond 10 days in a school year, which do not constitute a “change of placement”, the IEP team members shall review the behavioral intervention plan and its implementation, as appropriate, to determine if modifications are necessary, and make any such modifications.

#### (2) Conduct a Manifestation Determination as Defined by Law

The IEP team must also conduct a manifestation determination immediately, if possible, but no later than ten (10) school days after taking a disciplinary action which amounts to a “change of placement” or results in a student being placed in an interim alternative educational setting.

A manifestation determination must also be conducted for students who have a 504 Plan.

When the parents are notified of the decision to take action, they must be provided with a procedural safeguards notice.

The manifestation determination shall be conducted by the IEP team and other qualified personnel.

A manifestation determination may be conducted by the IEP team to review a student's misconduct at a point earlier than required, irrespective of whether any disciplinary action taken would constitute a "change of placement". Thus, the mere convening of such a meeting does not constitute an admission on the part of the school personnel that the disciplinary action taken amounts to a "change of placement".

a. Finding that conduct was related to a student's disability

The IEP team may determine that the behavior of the student was not a manifestation of the student's disability only if the team:

(i) considers, in terms of the behavior subject to disciplinary action, all relevant information, including –

- evaluation and diagnostic results including the results or other relevant information supplied by the parents of the student;

- observations of the student; and

- the student's IEP and placement; and

(ii) then determines that in relationship to the behavior subject to the disciplinary action,

- the student's IEP and placement were appropriate and the special education services, supplementary aids and services, and behavior intervention strategies were provided consistent with the student's IEP and placement;

- the student's disability did not impair the ability of student to understand the impact and consequences of the behavior subject to disciplinary action; and

- the student's disability did not impair the ability of the student to control the behavior subject to disciplinary action.

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\*If the IEP team determines that any of the standards in C(2)(a)(ii) were not met, then the behavior must be considered a manifestation of the student's disability.

b. Finding that conduct was not related to a student's disability

If the multidisciplinary team determines that an IDEA-disabled student's misconduct was not a manifestation of his/her disability, the student may be disciplined to the same extent that a nondisabled student may be disciplined, subject to procedural safeguards; however, the student must be provided services to the extent necessary to enable the student to appropriately progress in the general curriculum and appropriately advance toward achieving the goals set out in the student's IEP. The IEP team shall determine the services to be provided. If the multidisciplinary team determines that a Section 504-disabled student's misconduct was not a manifestation of his/her disability, the student may be expelled as otherwise provided by District policy or procedure. In such cases, the District is not obligated to continue educational services.

#### Court Injunctions/45 Day Interim Alternative Placement

In appropriate circumstances, the District may seek a court injunction or an order from an hearing officer to allow disciplinary removals of disabled students beyond the time limits set forth in this policy.

#### **E. Referral to Law Enforcement**

Nothing shall prohibit a school district from reporting a crime committed by a student with a disability to appropriate authorities. In reporting such a crime, the school shall ensure, consistent with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, that copies of the special education and discipline records of the student are made available to the appropriate authorities to whom it reports the crime.

#### **45-Day Interim Placement**

A special education due process hearing officer approved by the South Carolina Department of Education may order a change in the placement of a child with a disability to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 days if, after conducting an evidentiary hearing, the hearing officer:

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- (1) determines that the public agency has demonstrated by substantial evidence that maintaining the current placement of such child is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or to others;
  - (2) considers the appropriateness of the child's current placement;
  - (3) considers whether the public agency has made reasonable efforts to minimize the risk of harm in the child's current placement, including the use of supplementary aids and services; and
  - (4) determines that the interim alternative educational setting meets the requirements of paragraph (3)(B).

### **Services Available to Students with Special Health Care Needs Parent Notice (IHPs, 504, IDEA, Homebound): Required By S.C. Code Ann. Section 59-63-90 (Supp. 2005)**

Many health care services can be provided for students to keep them at school where they can learn and participate with other students. Our goal is to provide information to parents and legal guardians about some of the services and programs available for addressing the health care needs of students during the school day to help students succeed in school. It is important that the necessary health care information is shared with the appropriate people—such as teachers on duty during recess, bus drivers, and cafeteria employees—to make sure that the students' needs are met throughout the school day.

### **Individual Health Care Plans or Individual Health Plans (IHPs)**

Individual health care plans are also called individual health plans or IHPs. School nurses who are registered nurses write IHPs to guide how a student's health care needs will be met while at school. The nurse works with the student, the student's parents or legal guardians, the student's health care provider, and other school staff to write the plan. IHPs are written for students who have special health care needs that must be met by school staff during the school day. IHPs are also written for students who have been approved by the school district to self-medicate or self-monitor. To learn more about IHPs, talk with your child's school nurse or the Director of Nursing or Greenwood School District 50, at 941-5571.

### **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)**

Section 504 is a federal law that requires public schools to make adjustments so that students with certain disabilities can learn and participate in settings like other students who do not have disabilities. To be eligible for services under Section 504, a student must have a condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

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A team decides if a student is eligible. The team should include the student's parent or legal guardian, the student (if able), and others who know the student or know about the student's disability, such as a teacher, a guidance counselor, a school nurse, and other school staff. If the student is eligible, the team develops an individual accommodation plan. The individual accommodation plan explains how the student's needs will be met while at school and may include health services for the student during the school day if needed. To learn more about Section 504, contact the Director of Special Services, at 941-5481.

### **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

Students, ages 3 through 21 years, may receive services under the IDEA if the student needs special education and related services to benefit from his or her educational program. A team decides if a student qualifies for services under the IDEA. The team includes the student's parent or legal guardian, teachers, and other school staff. The team develops an individualized education program (IEP) if the student meets federal and state requirements. The IEP outlines a plan for helping the student receive a free appropriate public education and meet goals set by the team. The IEP may include health services for the student during the school day if needed. Contact Director of Special Services at 941-5481 to learn more about the IDEA.

### **Medical Homebound Instruction**

Medical homebound instruction is a service that is available for students who cannot attend school for a medical reason even with the aid of transportation. A physician must certify that the student has such a medical condition but may benefit from instruction, and must fill out the medical homebound form that the school district provides. The school district then decides whether to approve the student for medical homebound services. The school district will consider the severity of the student's illness or injury, the length of time that the student will be out of school, the impact that a long period away from school will have on the student's academic success, and whether the student's health needs can be met at school. To learn more about medical homebound services, contact the Director of Evaluation at 941-5454.

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## Student Searches



### A. School Property

#### 1. General Searches

Lockers, desks and related properties belonging to the school district may be searched as part of a general search.

#### 2. Individual Searches

Any single locker, desk or school property may be searched by school officials when they have reason to believe it contains evidence that a school rule or state law has been violated.

### B. Student's Person

1. No search of any student's person shall take place unless school officials have reason to believe that the search will turn up evidence that a school rule or state law has been violated.

2. Every search of a student's person must be approved by the principal. The search must be conducted in private by an administrative employee or a teacher with another administrative employee or teacher serving as a witness.

The search may consist of (1) the removal of all items in the student's pockets, purse, book bag, or other bag or container; (2) the removal of outer layers of clothing (e.g., coats, jackets, shoes, etc.); or (3) the pat-down of the outer surface of the student's clothing.

Searches by drug dogs can include a search of a student's personal items and vehicle.

## Contacting Law Enforcement



As required by S.C. Code Ann. § 59-24-60, school administrators will contact law enforcement immediately upon notice that a person is engaging, or has engaged, in activities on school property or at a school sanctioned or sponsored activity, which may result, or result in, injury or serious threat of injury to the person, another person or his/her property. Such reportable activities or conduct may include, but are not limited to, the examples of code of conduct referenced in Board policy JICDA and JICDA-R (Student Behavior Code).

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The Board recognizes that, when law enforcement authorities are contacted pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 59-24-60, the law enforcement authorities must make the determination whether they will conduct an investigation into the matter. If the law enforcement authorities determine an investigation is appropriate, school officials will make reasonable efforts to discuss the scope and methods of the investigation with the law enforcement authorities as they affect school operations in an effort to minimize any disruption to the school and its students.

School officials may contact law enforcement authorities for assistance in addressing concerns other than those which must be reported pursuant to § 59-24-60. In such circumstances, the principal or his/her designee will confer with the superintendent or his/her designee prior to involving law enforcement authorities, other than a school resource officer. The superintendent or his/her designee will consult with appropriate school officials and law enforcement authorities to determine that the proposed involvement and methods of law enforcement are reasonable and consistent with this policy and will have a minimally disruptive effect on school operations and student rights.

**Interrogations by school personnel and school resource officers**

Administrators and teachers, as well as school resource officers, may question students about any matter pertaining to the operation of a school and/or enforcement of its rules. The questioning will be conducted discreetly and under circumstances which will avoid, to the extent practical under the circumstances, unnecessary embarrassment to the person being questioned. School resource officers will act consistently with law enforcement guidelines should any routine questioning turn into a criminal investigation. Any student who answers falsely or evasively or who refuses to answer an appropriate question may be disciplined.

**Interrogations by Law Enforcement**

When law enforcement officers find it necessary to question a student during the school day regarding matters not connected to the school, the principal or his/her designee will cooperate with law enforcement and will request to be present, so long as his/her presence does not impede the investigation. The principal or his/her designee should make a reasonable attempt to contact the student's parent/legal guardian and request his/her presence. Should this attempt fail, the principal or his/her designee will continue to make a reasonable attempt to notify the student's parent/legal guardian that law enforcement questioning took place on school grounds. However, school officials will not act in such a manner which will interfere with an ongoing law enforcement investigation.

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Additionally, normal visitor's protocol must be followed by law enforcement officials at all times. Interrogations of students by law enforcement officials should generally take place in a private area, whether or not the principal or his/her designee is present.

### **Custody or Arrest**

Law enforcement authorities have the right to enter the school to take a student into custody or to make a lawful arrest of a student provided that they act pursuant to lawful procedure. If a student is arrested or taken into custody at school, school officials will make a reasonable effort to notify the parents/legal guardians immediately.

Board Policy JIH-050307 (Adopted 7/1/78; Revised 09/15/03, 04/18/05) Legal references: U. S. Supreme Court Cases: New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 328 (1985). S.C. Code of Laws Section 59-24-60 - Requires administrators to contact law enforcement. Section 59-63-1110, et seq. - Search of persons and effects on school property.

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# **STUDENT MATTERS**

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## Student Grievance Procedures



The administrative and teaching personnel of this school district believe that there should be standard written procedures by which any student of the school district may express his/her concerns, suggestions, or grievances. Students are reminded that unless they make their wishes known to the proper authorities of the school, the authorities are not aware of the student's feelings, and, therefore, can do nothing about them. As with any suggestion or concern, a procedure must be followed so that all persons, including handicapped, may be assured of fair and equal consideration. To assure impartial representation and consideration to all school citizens, the following grievance procedure is established:

1. Any student who wishes to express a grievance or concern must submit the grievance or concern in writing to the principal of the school. If the grievance pertains specifically to Section 504 (Rehabilitation Act of 1973), the complaint should be made in writing to the district coordinator of Section 504. If the grievance pertains specifically to a complaint of sex discrimination, the complaint should be made in writing to the district Title IX coordinator. If the grievance pertains specifically to a complaint of athletic eligibility, the complaint should be made to the school athletic director.
2. The specific nature of the grievance must be stated.
3. The grievance statement must show how the student has allegedly been adversely affected.
4. The grievance statement must indicate the relief sought by the student.
5. The grievance statement must show why the student feels that he or she is entitled to the relief sought.
6. The grievance statement should also show whether the student feels that other students are similarly affected and tell who these students are.
7. The grievance statement must be signed and the date of submission given.

Any student who has a grievance or concern to express must follow this established procedure. Upon the submission of the grievance statement to the principal, the following course of action will be taken:

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1. The principal and any designated member of his/her staff will review the grievance statement within a period of five (5) school days.
  2. Approximately five (5) days after submission of the grievance to the principal, the grieving student will be notified in writing of the principal's recommendation.
  3. If the grieving student is satisfied with the recommendation of the principal, then the grievance is settled. If the grieving student is not satisfied with the principal's recommendation, the student should request that the matter be referred to the School Grievance Committee of that school for further consideration. The School Grievance Committee shall be composed of the principal, assistant principal, and two teachers, with diverse representation.
  4. Within a period of one (1) school day after the principal's recommendation, the grievance matter will be referred to the School Grievance Committee for a hearing. The principal shall conduct the hearing in whatever way he or she thinks appropriate, making sure everyone has adequate opportunity to speak and present testimony or affidavits on his/her behalf. No cross examination shall be permitted except as the principal shall deem necessary to elicit all of the facts. The School Grievance Committee will then consider the matter and, in not more than five (5) school days after referral to the Committee, shall make a recommendation in writing of its decision to the principal.
  5. The principal will then consider the recommendation of the Committee and, in not less than one (1) school day after the committee recommendation, will advise the grieving student and the Committee of his/her decision. The principal may or may not follow the recommendation of the Committee.
  6. The final decision of the principal is to be respected and complied with by all parties involved. The principal will make every effort to be fair and impartial, and as the leader and director of the school, his/her final decision should be supported by all persons.
  7. If dissatisfaction remains, however, after the principal's final decision, the grieving student may request that the principal present his/her grievance before the Superintendent and/or Board of Trustees. Upon decision from one of these officials, the grieving student will be advised by the principal as to the decision made.
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The above procedure pertains directly to students who have grievances. In the case of parental or guardian grievances, the same basic procedure is followed if deemed necessary by the principal, or the principal may exclude the School Grievance Committee and proceed in whatever manner he or she deems appropriate.

## Student Conduct Away from School Grounds or School Activities



The Board expects administrators to take appropriate action when information becomes available about student misconduct away from school grounds or school activities that may have a direct and detrimental effect on, or seriously threaten, the discipline, educational environment, safety, or general welfare of students, faculty, staff, and/or administrators of the District. When assessing the impact of out-of-school behavior on a District school, the administrator should take into consideration the seriousness of the alleged out-of-school offense and the protection of students, faculty, staff, and administrators from the effects of violence, drugs, and/or disruptions.

Administrators are directed to evaluate each situation on a case-by-case basis. At a minimum, administrators or their designees should meet with the student upon his/her arrival at school, give the student notice of the concerns based on the reported out-of-school behavior, and allow the student an opportunity to present his/her side of the story. Based upon all of the circumstances, including a finding that the alleged conduct will have a direct and immediate effect on the school, or threatens the discipline, educational environment, safety or general welfare of students, faculty, staff, and/or administrators of the school, the Administration may either permit the student to attend classes as usual or may take appropriate disciplinary action including, but not limited to, in-school suspension or out-of-school suspension in order to conduct an investigation into the matter. The parents of students shall be notified of any action taken by the Administration and offered the opportunity for a conference with the Administration.

In the event the student is incarcerated based on his/her out-of-school conduct, the principal or his/her designee shall notify the student that he/she is to meet with the Administration prior to returning to school.

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At the conclusion of the inquiries to obtain more information on the matter, the administrator or his/her designee should take appropriate action, which action may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

1. returning the student to his/her normal class schedule and removing all evidence of suspension;
2. placing the student on probation and allowing the student to resume his/her normal class schedule;
3. placing the student on probation, allowing the student to continue classwork, but restricting the student's participation in extracurricular activities and/or designated school activities, for example, clubs, study halls, pep rallies, student government activities, and so forth;
4. suspending the student;
5. recommending expulsion of the student from regular school and placement in the District's alternative school; or
6. recommending expulsion of the student for either the remainder of the semester or year.

The disciplinary action taken must be supported by the evidence and take into full consideration the impact of the student's presence at school on the discipline, educational environment, and safety or general welfare of other students, faculty, staff, and/or administrators of the school.

Note regarding special education students: Administrators must ensure that all procedural safeguards afforded to special education students are also implemented in such circumstances.

## Rules and Regulations for Students Riding School Buses



### Suggestions for Safety

Students are:

1. to stay off the roadway while waiting for the bus.
2. to act in an orderly manner while waiting for the bus

### Rules and Regulations

Students are:

1. to get on and off the bus at their designated stop only.
  2. to wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to get on or off.
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4. to cross the road in front of the bus and never behind it.
  5. to enter and leave the bus at the front door only.
  6. to sit down promptly after getting on the bus.
  7. not to hold a seat for anyone.
  8. to obey the rules and regulations and reasonable requests of the driver at all times.
  9. not to move out of the seat while the bus is in motion.
  10. not to make any unnecessary noise at any time such as yelling, screaming, playing instruments, etc.
  11. not to throw paper, pencils, etc. while on the bus. (Put it in the trash box.)
  12. not to take drink bottles, cans, food, etc. on the bus.
  13. not to abuse the bus by cutting or marking on the seats and walls. Payment for damages will be required.
  14. not to use profanity and ugly gestures such as birdies while on the bus.
  15. not to fight, scuffle, or hit another student while on the bus.
  16. not to extend head, arms, legs, feet, etc. out of the bus windows.
  17. not to smoke or possess any tobacco or tobacco products or paraphernalia on the bus.
  18. not to tamper with the emergency door or any other part of the bus or equipment.
  19. not to switch buses. Ride your assigned bus.
  20. not to have in their possession and/or play radios, tape or CD players on school buses.
  21. not to possess, consume, or be under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol.
  22. not to possess any kind of firearm, other weapon, and/or any instrument used as a weapon.
  23. not to possess any kind of telecommunications device.
  24. not to have balloons on school buses.
  25. not to have roller book bags on buses unless a written medical statement is provided to the bus driver.

Any item not covered above will be handled by the principal on a case by case basis.

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## Disciplinary Actions for Reported Cases of Misconduct on School Buses



1. **FIRST REPORT** – Student is called to the office and told of his/her misconduct. He/she is told what is expected of him/her, and a letter is given to him/her to carry home to his/her parents. The letter is to be signed by the parent and sent back to school
2. **SECOND REPORT** – Student is called to the office and told that this is his/her second offense. He/she may be denied the privilege of riding the bus for one week.
3. **THIRD REPORT** – Student may be denied the privilege of riding the bus for a period of two weeks. It will be necessary for the parent to have a conference with school officials before the student is permitted to ride the bus again.
4. **FOURTH REPORT** – Student may be denied the privilege of riding the bus for a minimum of three weeks, up to and including termination of riding privileges.

Note: If the conduct is of a serious nature, it may be necessary to suspend the student from the bus on the first offense.

Severe bus infractions may result in out-of-school suspension.

School officials will notify parents/guardians by phone or mail before a student is denied bus privileges.

### **Notice to Students and Parents Regarding the Use of Video Recorders on School Buses**

The district has installed video recording equipment on all school buses to monitor school transportation and will be videotaping on bus routes at random during the school year. Each bus has been equipped with a video monitor box in which a video recording device may be installed. Students will not be notified when a recording device has been installed on their bus.

Tapes may be reviewed on a routine basis by the principal and/or Transportation Director, and evidence of student misconduct will be documented. Students found to be in violation of the district's bus conduct rules will be notified and disciplinary action will be initiated under the Board-adopted Code of Conduct and Discipline.

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Videotapes will be treated as protected student records under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act. The following guidelines will apply:

1. Tapes will remain in the custody of the district transportation supervisor.
2. Only students and their parent(s)/guardian will be allowed to view a bus videotape in response to disciplinary action taken against students.
3. Persons unrelated to a disciplinary incident will not be permitted to view bus videotapes.

### **Non-Students on Grounds**

The principal is empowered to take appropriate action against non-students who trespass on school grounds. Such action will include the right to call in Law Enforcement and swear out warrants. The authority for such action is Section 16-17-420 of the South Carolina Code of Laws as follows:

### **Disturbing School**

It shall be unlawful:

1. For any person willfully or unnecessarily
  - a. To interfere with or to disturb in any way or in any place the students or teachers of any school or college in this state; or
  - b. To loiter about such school or college premises; or
  - c. To act in an obnoxious manner thereon; or
2. For any person
  - a. To enter upon such school or college premises; or
  - b. To loiter around the premises, except on business, without permission of the principal or person in charge.

Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction thereof, shall pay a fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or be imprisoned in the county jail for not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days.

### **Act 373 of 1994**

Pursuant to State law, persons entering school property are deemed to have consented to search of their person and property.

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# **SIGNATURE PAGES**

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# Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy

2023-2024

Greenwood School District 50

Greenwood, South Carolina

PARENTS ARE REQUIRED TO SIGN THE STATEMENT BELOW VERIFYING THAT THEY HAVE READ AND DISCUSSED THE FOLLOWING STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES POLICY WITH THEIR CHILD.

THIS IS TO VERIFY THAT I HAVE READ AND DISCUSSED THE 2023-2024 STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF GREENWOOD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT 50 WITH THE FOLLOWING STUDENT FOR WHOM I AM RESPONSIBLE:

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF STUDENT (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
HOMEROOM TEACHER

\_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT'S SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

\_\_\_\_\_  
TELEPHONE NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY      STATE      ZIP CODE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

(Please sign and return this sheet.)

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# Internet Acceptable Use Student/Parent

## CERTIFICATION FORM

As the parent/guardian of this student, I have read and understand Greenwood School District 50's Internet Appropriate Use policy and administrative rule (IJNDB, IJNDB-R). I understand that this access is designed solely for educational purposes. I further understand that if my child violates these conditions and rules, his/her access privilege may be revoked for up to one year and disciplinary actions may be taken in accordance with the district's Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy JI.

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Date

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Parent/Guardian (please print)

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

I have read and understand the school district's Internet Acceptable Use policy and administrative rule (IJNDB, IJNDB-R). I understand and will abide by the conditions and rules set forth therein. I further understand that violations of these conditions and rules are unethical and also may constitute a criminal offense. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked for up to one year, disciplinary action may be taken in accordance with the district's Student Rights and Responsibilities Policy JI, and appropriate legal actions also may be instituted.

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Date

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Name of Student (please print)

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Student's Signature

(Please sign and return this sheet.)

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