



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
GRADES K-5



2020-2021 School Year

Carnesville Elementary School
706-384-7326

Royston Elementary School
706-245-9252

Lavonia Elementary School
706-356-8209

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STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT: GRADES K-5

INTRODUCTION

Everyone associated with the Franklin County System—from your child’s bus driver to the classroom teacher, from the administrators in your child’s school to the Superintendent, from the custodians to the lunchroom workers—ALL are dedicated to providing a safe and orderly learning environment for your child. In this safe and orderly environment, the students and classroom teachers will be able to engage in the art of instruction and learning. The goal of the Student Code of Conduct is not to simply punish a student when he or she misbehaves. The goals of the Student Code of Conduct in the Franklin County School System are as follows:

- To enable the growth of behavioral skills which are appropriate and cause no harm to others.
- To enable the growth of personal character, which reflects, accepted moral and ethical standards.

NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Franklin County School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, or sex in its employment practices, student programs, and dealings with the public. It is the policy of the Franklin County Board of Education to comply fully with the requirements of Title II, Title VI, Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act, and all accompanying regulations.

GENERAL STUDENT DISCIPLINE INFORMATION

1. A student is under the jurisdiction of school authorities and subject to the rules and regulations as stated in the Student Code of Conduct on his/her way to or from school, on the school bus, at a school bus stop, at any school-related activity or event, and at any school event held away from the school. Students may also be under the jurisdiction of school authorities for misconduct which occurs off campus if the misconduct could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and which makes the student’s continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.
2. A student under short-term suspension (1-10 days), long-term suspension/expulsion (more than 10 days) is not allowed on any Franklin County school campus and is not allowed to attend any school sponsored activity, function, or event during the time of the out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
3. Any dangerous weapon or controlled substance confiscated by school authorities will be turned over to law enforcement officials.
4. A student, who unintentionally brings contraband banned by the Student Code of Conduct to school and realizes that he/she has the contraband on his/her person, should immediately inform a teacher or an administrator of the banned item. The administrator will consider the fact that the student self-reported the violation of the Student Code of Conduct when determining disciplinary action for the student.
5. School officials may search a student if there is reasonable suspicion the student is in possession of an item that is illegal or against school rules. Student vehicles brought on campus, student book bags, school lockers, desks, and other school property are subject to inspection and search

by school authorities at any time without further notice to students or parents. Students are in violation of the Student Code of Conduct if they fail to cooperate with an administrator who is conducting a search. Metal detectors and drug or weapon sniffing dogs may be utilized at school or at any school function, including activities that occur outside normal school hours or off the school campus at the discretion of administrators.

6. Students in violation of being an accomplice to any violation of the Student Code of Conduct are subject to the same penalties as students who are actively involved in committing such offenses.
7. The Unsafe School Choice Option provides students at schools classified as persistently dangerous with the option of transferring to another school. Major offenses including, but not limited to drug and weapon offenses can lead to schools being named as an Unsafe School according to the provisions of State Board Rule 160-4-8-16.
8. The General Assembly of Georgia requires that the Student Code of Conduct include language encouraging parents and guardians to inform their children of the consequences, including potential criminal penalties, of underage sexual conduct and crimes for which a minor can be tried as an adult.
9. Parents are encouraged to become familiar with the Student Code of Conduct and to be supportive of it in their daily communication with their child and others in the community. . Each student will be provided a copy of the Student Code of Conduct. Extra copies of the Student Code of Conduct are available in each school and each classroom upon request.
10. The administrator or his/her designee has the authority to question a student about a reported incident and to ask the student to give him/her a written statement about the incident without notifying the parent and without the parent/guardian present.
11. When it is necessary to impose discipline, school administrators and teachers will follow a progressive discipline process. The degree of discipline to be imposed by each school administrator will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of a particular student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student, the possibility of harm to others, and the legal mandates which pertain to the violation and the student.

LEGAL MANDATES AND THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The requirements of Federal and State Laws impact the disciplinary process. The following is a partial listing of the laws that have the greatest impact.

Mandatory Attendance

Mandatory attendance in a public school, private school, or home school program shall be required for children between their sixth and sixteenth birthdays. Mandatory attendance shall not be required where the child has successfully completed all requirements for a high school diploma. Every parent, guardian, or other person residing within the State of Georgia having control or charge of any child or children during the ages of mandatory attendance shall enroll and send such child or children to a public school, a private school, or a home study program.

The requirements for mandatory attendance apply to a child during the ages of mandatory attendance who has been assigned by a local board of education or its delegate to attend an alternative public school program established by that local board of education, including an alternative public school program, regardless of whether the child has been suspended or expelled from another public school program by that local board of education or its delegate.

Truant

Any child subject to mandatory attendance who during the school calendar year has more than five days of unexcused absences is considered truant (S.B.O.E. 160-5-1.10). After the school notifies the parent/guardian or other person who has control or charge of a child that the child has five days of unexcused absences, each additional unexcused absence shall constitute a misdemeanor offense (the 6th unexcused absence is a misdemeanor, the 7th unexcused absence is another misdemeanor, etc.). Upon conviction of each misdemeanor offense, the parent/guardian shall be subject to a fine not less than \$25 and not greater than \$100, imprisonment not to exceed 30 days, community service, or any combination of such penalties. A student who is truant from school may be subject to disposition as an “unruly child”.

Student Attendance

Franklin County Board of Education Policy requires students to attend school for the number of student days specified in the school system’s calendar, which is set annually by the Board. High school students may be absent no more than 10 unexcused days during the school year (maximum of 5 unexcused absences per class per semester) in order to receive credit for the course taken. Elementary and middle school students with excessive absences may be retained if determined appropriate by the placement committee, SST (Student Support Team), or an IEP (Individual Educational Program) Team.

Excused Absences

It is the policy of the Board to excuse student from school for the following reasons:

1. Personal illnesses or when attendance in school endangers a student’s health or the health of others.
2. A serious illness or death in a student’s immediate family necessitating absence from school. The immediate family is defined as mother, father, brother, sister, grandparents. Excused leave for a funeral/family illness is limited to five days. Documentation of the funeral or family illness must be provided to the school.
3. A court order or an order by a governmental agency, including pre-induction physical examinations for service in the armed forces, mandating absence from school.
4. The observance of religious holidays, necessitating absence from school.
5. Conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety.
6. Registering to vote or voting in a public election, which shall not exceed one day.
7. A student whose parent or legal guardian is in military service in the U. S. armed forces or National Guard, and such parent has been called to duty for or is on leave from overseas deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting, will be granted up to 5 days of excused absences per school year to visit with his or her parent prior to the parent’s deployment or during the parent’s leave.
8. Any other absence not explicitly defined in this policy but deemed to have merit based on circumstances as determined by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
9. All documentation for absences must be submitted to the school within 3 days after returning to school.

Documentation for Absences

- Appropriate documentation for the purpose of validating that absences are excused includes but not limited to the following:
- Doctors note (official letterhead)
- Required court appearance (official letterhead)
- Death in the family (copy of obituary or memorial program)
- Copy of Voter Registration
- Other (to be determined by the principal/designee)
- Allow 5 guardian notes per year when a student is sick (1 note = 1 absence)

Students Counted Present

Students shall be counted present under the following circumstances:

When they are serving as pages of the Georgia General Assembly.

A foster care student who attends court proceedings relating to his or her foster care shall be counted present and shall not be counted absent, either excused or unexcused, for any day or portion of a day missed from school.

Grades and Absences

Final course grades of students shall not be penalized because of absences if the following conditions are met:

- Absences are justified and validated for excusable reasons.
- Make up work for excused absence(s) was completed satisfactorily.

Policies and Procedures to Reduce Unexcused Absences: Notification

The school system shall provide notice to the parent, guardian, or other person who has control or charge of a student (hereinafter referred to as "parent") when the student has five unexcused absences. The notice will outline the penalty and consequences of such absences and that each subsequent absence will constitute a separate offense. After two reasonable attempts to notify the parent, the school system will send written notice via first class mail or via certified mail, return receipt requested; and prior to any action to commence judicial proceedings to impose a penalty on the parent for failing to comply with compulsory attendance law, the school system will notify the parent by certified mail, return receipt requested; and each school shall provide to the parent of each student enrolled a written summary of possible consequences and penalties for failing to comply with compulsory attendance. By September 1 of each school year or within 30 school days of a student's enrollment, the parent will be asked to sign a statement indicating receipt of such written statement of possible consequences and penalties. In addition, students age ten or older by September 1 must sign a statement indicating receipt of written statement of possible consequences for non-compliance with the local Board policy.

Family Educational and Rights Protection Act (FERPA)

Parents and students have certain rights with respect to student educational records pursuant to FERPA. These rights specify the persons who have access to the student's educational records. These persons are limited to persons who have the need to know (typically these persons would be the classroom teacher(s), a school counselor, and school administrators). FERPA also establishes the right of the parent/guardian to inspect and review student educational records, and the right for

student educational records to be released only upon written consent from the parent/guardian. Student behavior records are a part of a student's educational record; therefore, the parent and the student have a right to expect privacy of the behavioral records of the student as well as educational records.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 & Individual Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)

These laws impact the discipline of students who have been identified as disabled based on specific eligibility criteria included in each law. There is a prescribed process that will be followed to address the inappropriate behavior of a student with a 504 Plan or Individualized Education Plan. All information regarding the student, the process, and the outcome is confidential and protected by FERPA. Parents with questions regarding students' rights under Section 504 or IDEA should contact a school or district administrator.

Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student Act of 1995

Georgia law mandates that any time a teacher or principal identifies a student as a chronic disciplinary problem student, the principal shall notify by telephone call and by mail the student's parent or guardian of the disciplinary problem, invite the parent or guardian to observe the student in a classroom situation, and request at least one parent or guardian to attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan.

Georgia law also states that before any chronic disciplinary problem student is permitted to return to school from a suspension or expulsion, the school shall request by telephone call and by mail at least one parent or guardian to schedule and attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan.

The law allows a local board of education to petition the juvenile court to require a parent to attend a school conference. If the court finds that the parent or guardian has willfully and unreasonably failed to attend the conference requested by the principal pursuant to the laws cited above, the court may order the parent or guardian to attend such a conference, order the parent or guardian to participate in such programs or such treatment as the court deems appropriate to improve the student's behavior, or both. After notice and opportunity for hearing, the court may impose a fine, not to exceed \$500.00, on a parent or guardian who willfully disobeys an order of the court under this law.

Acts of Violence against School Personnel

Any student who intentionally makes physical contact of a threatening or provoking manner and whose behavior causes physical injury or could cause physical injury to a teacher, bus driver, or other school employee is subject to immediate out of school suspension and referral to a Student Discipline Tribunal with a recommendation for permanent expulsion from Franklin County Schools for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public schools in the State of Georgia. The penalty will not be applied in conflict with Federal Law. In addition state law requires that when a student demonstrates violent behavior toward school personnel, the event shall be reported to the Superintendent, the appropriate law enforcement officials, and to the District Attorney's office.

Georgia Gun and Weapons Laws

A student shall not possess, use, handle or transmit any object or substance that reasonably can be considered a weapon or explosive compound while at a school building, school function, or

school property or on a bus or other transportation furnished by the school. For the purposes of this Code of Conduct, weapons include but are not limited to any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any type of knife or switchblade knife, straight-edge razor, razor blades, spring stick, metal knucks, blackjack, or any flailing instrument, nunchaku, chains, throwing, star, oriental dart, any bat club, or other bludgeon-type weapon or weapons of like kind. Students who possess firearms on campus will be subject to a minimum one calendar year suspension. In addition state law requires that when a student is found to be in possession of a weapon on school grounds, the event shall be reported to the Superintendent, the appropriate law enforcement officials, and to the District Attorney's office.

Alcohol and Drugs

Georgia Law clearly states that it is unlawful for any person to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess with intent to distribute a controlled substance or marijuana in, on, or within 1,000 feet of any real property owned by or leased to any public or private elementary school, secondary school, or school board used for elementary or secondary education. Based upon this law and concern for the safety of the students of Georgia, the Franklin County Board of Education adopted policies that prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances or marijuana on school property. A student shall not possess, sell, use, distribute, or be under the influence of any legal or illegal drug in any form whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any narcotic drug, inhalants, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamines, barbiturate, cocaine, marijuana, other controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, intoxicant of any kind, or any substance represented to be or reasonably appear to be any type of drug.

Bullying: Georgia Code 20-2-751.4

The term "bullying" means an act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
 - a. Causes another person substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm;
 - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
 - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Upon finding by a school administrator that a student has committed an act of bullying or is a victim of bullying, the administrator or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of the student by telephone, electronically, or in writing. Upon finding that a student in grades K-5 has committed the offense of bullying, age appropriate consequences will be applied.

Student Rights: Searches

School officials may search a student if there is reasonable suspicion the student is in possession of an item that is illegal or against school rules. Student book bags, school lockers, desks, and other school property are subject to inspection and search by school authorities at any time without further notice to students or parents. Students are required to cooperate if asked to open book bags and lockers. Metal detectors and drug or weapon sniffing dogs may be utilized at school or at any school function, including activities that occur outside normal school hours or off the school campus at the discretion of administrators.

Student Rights: Suspension

Before a student is suspended for ten days or less, the principal or designee will inform the student of the offense for which the student is charged and allow the student to explain his or her behavior. If the student is suspended, the student's parents will be notified if possible. If a student repeatedly violates rules within the Student Code of Conduct and/or violates a rule in the Student Code of Conduct that may result in a disciplinary action that results in a suspension out-of-school of more than 10 days, the student may be referred to a Student Disciplinary Tribunal. School officials may involve law enforcement officials when evidence surrounding a situation necessitates their involvement or when there is a legal requirement that an incident be reported. The maximum disciplinary actions for an offense include long-term suspension or expulsion, including permanent expulsion.

If a student is referred to a Student Disciplinary Tribunal, the parent/guardian will receive a charge letter that states the charges, a short description of what happened, and gives a day and time for the hearing as well as a summary of due process rights. Parents or students may elect not to contest whether a student has violated the Code of Conduct and to the appropriate discipline, and in such cases, an agreement may be negotiated which would include the parents of the student waiving a right to a hearing before a disciplinary tribunal. Such an agreement and waiver must be approved by the superintendent's designee.

HARASSMENT STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Franklin County Board of Education not to discriminate on the basis of gender, age, race, ethnic group, color, disability, religion, belief, or national origin in the educational programs and activities, or admissions to facilities operated by the Franklin County Board of Education. It is the express policy of the Franklin County Board of Education to comply with all appropriate laws and regulations relating to discrimination now in effect or hereafter enacted.

The Franklin County Board of Education does not tolerate harassment of our students. The term "harassment" includes, but is not limited to slurs, jokes, and other verbal, graphic, or physical conduct relating to the individual's race, ethnic group, color, gender, religion, belief, national origin, citizenship, age, or disability. "Harassment" also includes sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, unwelcome or offensive touching, and other verbal, graphic, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Students violating this policy may be disciplined up to and including exclusion from school.

MEDICATION AND ITS ADMINISTRATION AT SCHOOL

All medication, whether prescription or non-prescription, must be administered in accordance with Franklin County School System policy. All medications must be taken by the parent or guardian

to the school office immediately upon arrival at school and must be in original pharmaceutical containers, clearly labeled as to the name of the student, the name of medication, the appropriate dosage, and the times for dosage. If the parent cannot take the medication to the school, the student may give the medication to the bus driver or take the medication to the office immediately upon arrival at school. Any student possessing prescription or over-the-counter medication not in accordance with these guidelines will be considered in violation of the drug policy and shall be subject to the discipline set forth in this Student Code of Conduct. The exceptions to this policy are the students for whom the school has on file supporting medical documentation and parental permission the need for inhalers for asthma, auto-injectable epinephrine for allergic reactions and diabetic medication and devices approved by the doctor. Students authorized to self-administer such medication shall be instructed not to permit any other student to handle, possess, or otherwise attempt to use his/her medication and shall be informed that violations of such instructions will be dealt with in accordance with this Student Code of Conduct.

STUDENT REPORTING OF ACTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE OR SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Any student (*or parent or friend of a student*) who has been the victim of an act of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct by a teacher, administrator or other school system employee is urged to make an oral report of the act to any teacher, counselor or administrator at his/her school.

Any teacher, counselor or administrator receiving a report of sexual abuse or sexual misconduct of a student by a teacher, administrator or other employee shall make an oral report of the incident immediately by telephone or otherwise to the school principal or principal's designee, and shall submit a written report of the incident to the school principal or principal's designee within 24 hours. *If the principal is the person accused of the sexual abuse or sexual misconduct, the oral and written reports should be made to the superintendent or the superintendent's designee.*

Any school principal or principal's designee receiving a report of sexual abuse shall make an oral report immediately, but in no case later than 24 hours from the time there is reasonable cause to believe a child has been abused. The report should be made by telephone and followed by a written report in writing, if requested, to a child welfare agency providing protective services, as designated by the Department of Human Resources, or, in the absence of such agency, to an appropriate police authority or district attorney.

Reports of acts of sexual misconduct against a student by a teacher, administrator or other employee not covered by O.C.G.A. 19-7-5 or 20-2-1184 shall be investigated immediately by school or system personnel. If the investigation of the allegation of sexual misconduct indicates a reasonable cause to believe that the report of sexual misconduct is valid, the school principal or principal's designee shall make an immediate written report to the superintendent and the Professional Standards Commission Ethics Division.

DISRUPTING PUBLIC SCHOOL

Any parent, guardian, or person other than a student enrolled in the school who has been advised that minor children are present and who continues to insult, verbally or physically, or abuse any public school teacher, public administrator, or public school bus driver in the presence and hearing of a pupil while on the premises of any public school or public school bus may be ordered by any of the above designated school personnel to leave the school premises or school bus. Failure to do so shall result in the person being guilty of a misdemeanor and, when convicted be punished by a fine not to exceed \$500.00.

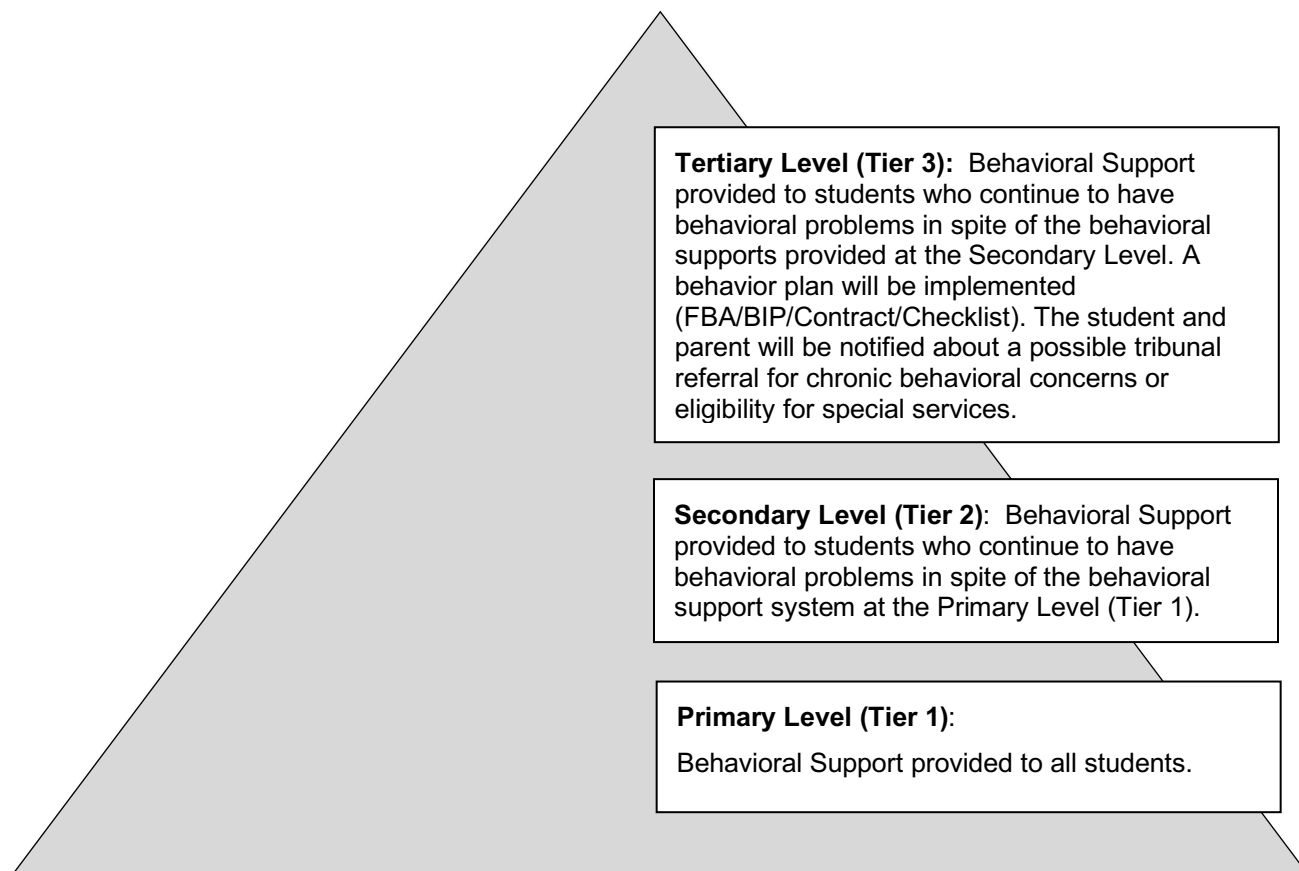
BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT SYSTEM

Franklin County Elementary Schools' personnel along with Central Office Support Services have developed prevention, intervention, and follow-up programs/activities to provide assistance to students who are at risk behaviorally. This focus on appropriate behavior is a part of the system's Pyramid of Intervention. The purpose of this behavioral support system is to provide instruction that focuses on the development of appropriate behavior for all students. This is Primary Level (Tier 1) instruction of the Multi-Tier System of Supports. Students who are not successful behaviorally at Primary Level are moved to the Secondary Level (Tier 2). At this level of the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, the number of students needing behavior interventions is significantly reduced and school personnel are able to work with groups of students who have similar needs and to increase the amount of intervention provided for the student. Students who continue to be unsuccessful behaviorally at Secondary Level are moved to Tertiary Level (Tier 3) for support services. The Multi-Tiered System of Supports behavioral support services provided for students at the Tertiary Level may be individualized for the student and the student may be declared a Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student. Also, the student may be referred to the Student Support Team for additional behavioral support. See Page ten for the requirements for a Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student. Students, who are not successful at Tertiary Level, may be eligible for special education services.

It is hoped that the structure of preventive and support services contained in the Multi-Tiered System of Supports for Behavior will prevent the student from displaying behaviors that violate the Student Code of Conduct for the school and the school system. Our goal is to develop appropriate behavioral and character traits—not to punish inappropriate behavioral and character traits. Examples of interventions and services provided to, but not limited to, through the Multi-Tiered System of Supports are listed below. These services may not be available in each school.

1. PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions Supports),
2. Grade level recognitions of students for appropriate behaviors as well as presentations to the grade level from role models,
3. The School Resource Officer support,
4. CHAMPS,
5. Parent communication through the use of the agenda,
6. The use of a classroom management plan in all classrooms that outlines student expectations and is positive in nature,
7. Maintaining a positive climate in the school,
8. The practice of tying good behavior to privileges.

Multi-Tiered System of Supports: Behavioral Supports



AUTHORITY OF THE PARENT

Parents are powerful advocates for their child. The parent/guardian has the ultimate authority for the child. The parent/guardian is in charge of what time the student gets up; whether or not the student eats breakfast; and if the student is tardy or on time for school. The parent/guardian establishes the criteria for acceptable behavior; how behavior (appropriate and inappropriate) will be dealt with; and the parent/guardian establishes the rules regarding homework.

Even if a child is doing well in school, the parent/guardian has the responsibility to know what the student is learning in school; to carefully read Student Handbooks, the Student Code of Conduct, and other literature the school provides to parents explaining rules, procedures, and policies for programs/activities that are available in the student's school.

There is a Chain of Command the parent/student needs to follow to resolve conflicts between the school and the student/parent/guardian. It is outlined below:

1. The first step in the chain of command would be to contact the teacher. If the meeting/conversation with the teacher does not answer the questions or resolve the problem, the parent should contact an administrator at the student's school.
2. If the meeting/conversation with an administrator at the school does not resolve the situation, a phone call may be made to the Superintendent. If the problem cannot be resolved by a phone call, then a conference may be scheduled with the Superintendent.

The schools encourage parents/guardians to be involved with the student's education. The activities, interventions, and behavior support process are more effective when the parent/guardian is involved with the educational process. Again, the goals of the Student Code of Conduct are to develop appropriate character and behavioral skills.

AUTHORITY OF THE TEACHER

The Superintendent fully supports the authority of principals and teachers in the school system to remove a student from the classroom pursuant to provisions of state law. Each teacher shall comply with the provisions of O.C.G.A. § 20-2-737 which requires the filing of a report by a teacher who has knowledge that a student has exhibited behavior that repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in his or her class or with the ability of such student's classmates to learn, where such behavior is in violation of the Student Code of Conduct. Such report shall be filed with the principal or designee on the school day of the most recent occurrence of such behavior, shall not exceed one page, and shall describe the behavior. The principal or designee shall, within one school day after receiving such a report from a teacher, send to the student's parents or guardian a copy of the report and information regarding how the student's parent/guardians may contact the principal or designee.

The principal/designee shall notify in writing the teacher and the student's parent/guardian of the discipline and/or student support services which have occurred as a result of the teacher's report within one school day from applying the discipline or the use of the support services. The principal or designee shall make a reasonable attempt to confirm that the student's parents or guardian have received the written notification, including information as to how the parents or guardian may contact the principal or designee.

AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCIPAL

When it is necessary to impose discipline, school administrators and teachers will follow a progressive discipline process. The degree of discipline to be imposed by each school official will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of a particular student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student, and other relevant factors.

The Student Code of Conduct provides a systematic process of behavioral correction in which inappropriate behaviors are followed by consequences. Disciplinary actions are designed to teach students self-discipline and to help them substitute inappropriate behaviors with those that are consistent with the character traits from Georgia's Character Education Program. Violations of the Student Code of Conduct fall into two major categories:

- Behavior that may cause harm to self or others.
- Behavior that may violate accepted standards of moral and ethical standards.

In cases of disruptive, disorderly or dangerous conduct not covered in the Student Code of Conduct, the principal/designee may undertake corrective measures that he or she believes to be in the best interest of the student and the school provided any such action does not violate school board policy or procedures.

The rules in the Student Code of Conduct are designed to notify students and parents of students in grades K-5 as to the types and range of behaviors that are unacceptable in the school setting. Any violation of these rules will result in the student being disciplined. A disciplinary action is determined by several factors. Administrators may consider the totality of the circumstances,

including the following factors when determining the disciplinary action/s for a violation/s of the rule/s of the Student Code of Conduct:

1. The student's discipline history.
2. The potential for harm to another student or self as a result of the inappropriate behavior/s.
3. The age of the student.
4. Legal mandates that pertain to the situation and the student.

BEHAVIOR WHICH WILL RESULT IN DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

At the elementary level, the principal has the authority to apply disciplinary action depending on the age of the student, the severity of the misbehavior, and the disciplinary record of the student. However, there are some behaviors, which require mandatory disciplinary actions to be taken by school administrators regardless of the student's age and/or disciplinary record. The behaviors which require mandatory reporting and mandatory consequences are mandated by Georgia Law and apply to behaviors which deal with possession of weapons, drugs, physical assault and/or violence directed toward any school system employee, and any terroristic or bomb threat that a student makes. If you have questions about mandated reporting of behaviors and mandated consequences, you may contact an administrator at your child's school. Below are the behavior standards our students are asked to meet each day.

RULE 1. STUDENTS SHALL BE FREE OF ANY WEAPON

1a. Violation: Weapons/Hazardous Objects

Possessing, carrying to, or having under control any weapon within a school safety zone or at a school building, school function, or on school property, including in a vehicle, or on a bus or other transportation furnished by the school. The term weapon includes any pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind; or a dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches; razor blade or straight-edge razor; spring stick, metal knucks, blackjack, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc; or whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any weapon of like kind; and any stun gun or taser; any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas such as bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or any similar device; any type of weapon which will or may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter; and any combination of parts whether designed or intended for use in converting any device into a destructive device as previously described and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. A weapon may also include any object that is used in a threatening or harmful manner.

1b. Violation: Hazardous Objects

Any hazardous object, including any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight-edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, knuckles, whether made from metal, thermoplastic, wood, or other similar material, blackjack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any instrument of like kind, any nonlethal air gun, and any stun gun or taser. Such term shall not include any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by the teacher.

1c. Violation: Weapons

Any handgun, firearm, rifle, shotgun or similar weapon; any explosive compound or incendiary device; or, any other dangerous weapon as defined in O.C.G.A. § 16-11-121, including a rocket launcher, bazooka, recoilless rifle, mortar, or hand grenade.

RULE 2. STUDENTS SHALL REFRAIN FROM BEING INVOLVED IN AN ASSAULT AND/OR BATTERY

2a. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Verbal assault, including threats of violence or bodily harm and/or sexual assault or harassment, of teachers, administrators, other school personnel.

2b. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Verbal assault, including threats of violence or bodily harm and/or sexual assault or harassment, of students or persons attending school-related functions

2c. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Physical assault or battery, including sexual battery, of other students or persons attending school-related functions

2d. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school personnel

2e. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Touching, pushing, bumping, etc. another student.

2f. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Battery-intentionally making physical contact with another student in a provocative manner.

2g. Violation: Assault and/or Battery

Fighting, striking, bullying, or threatening harm or violence to another student including extortion and/or hazing.

RULE 3. STUDENTS SHALL BE FREE OF DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

3a. Violation: Drugs and Alcohol

Possession, sale, use in any amount, distribution, or being under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturates, marijuana, drug paraphernalia or alcoholic beverage or other intoxicant.

3b. Violation: Drugs and Alcohol

Sale of or distribution of drugs, including prescription drugs, or alcohol on school property or at a school function.

3c. Violation: Drugs and Alcohol

Possession of, sale of, or under the influence of, misuse of over the counter drugs or herbs, or distribution of over the counter drugs or any material implied or represented as drugs or alcohol on school property or at a school function.

3d. Violation: Drugs and Alcohol

Inhaling substances on school property or at a school function (including aerosol sprays, glue, magic markers, etc.)

RULE 4. STUDENTS SHALL BE FREE OF TOBACCO, NICOTINE PRODUCTS, AND RELATED PARAPHERNALIA

4a. Violation: Tobacco

Possession or distribution of tobacco or nicotine products on school property or at a school function.

4b. Violation: Tobacco

Use of tobacco or nicotine products on school property or at a school function.

4c. Violation: Paraphernalia

Possession of paraphernalia (i.e. lighters, matches, etc.) on school property, or at a school function.

4d. Violation: Nicotine Products and Paraphernalia

Possession, sell, use, transmission, purchase, or solicitation of vape products, or vape paraphernalia (i.e. e-cigarettes, e-cigs, vape pens, e-hookahs, e-pipes, tanks, mods, vapes, and JUULs, and the like)

RULE 5. STUDENTS SHALL BE FREE OF HARASSMENT

5a. Violation: Harassment

Any behavior based on a student's race, national origin, sex, or disability that is unwelcome, unwanted, and/or uninvited by the recipient is prohibited, included verbal or non-verbal taunting, physical contact, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature, up to and including sexual harassment as used in connection with title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

RULE 6. STUDENTS SHALL RESPECT STAFF MEMBERS, OTHER STUDENTS, PERSONS ATTENDING SCHOOL RELATED FUNCTIONS AND RULES SET FORTH WITHIN EACH SCHOOL

6a. Violation: Disrespectful and/or Failure to Follow School Rules

Rude and disrespectful behavior, including use of vulgar or profane language.

6b. Violation: Disrespectful and/or Failure to Follow School Rules

Refusal to carry out instruction of faculty or staff member, including giving false or misleading information to faculty/staff members such as, but not limited to names or school.

6c. Violation: Disrespectful and/or Failure to Follow School Rules

Verbal assault of, physical battery or battery of, and disrespectful conduct, including use of vulgar or profane language, toward persons attending school related functions.

RULE 7. STUDENTS WILL COOPERATE IN MAINTAINING A PROPER LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

7a. Violation: Classroom and/or School Disturbance

Inciting, advising, or counseling of others to engage in prohibited acts.

7b. Violation: Classroom and/or School Disturbance

Repeated classroom and/or school disturbances causing disruption of learning opportunities.

7c. Violation: Classroom and/or School Disturbance

Acts which cause substantial disruption of learning opportunities and/or threaten the safety of other students.

7d. Violation: Classroom and/or School Disturbance

Committing any act off-campus which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.

RULE 8. STUDENTS WILL BE FREE FROM GANG INVOLVEMENT

8a. Violation: Gang Activity

Wearing or displaying gang clothing, articles, or paraphernalia which has been established by the school administration as being gang related, or representing one's self as a gang member either through words or actions.

RULE 9. STUDENTS WILL ACCEPT DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

9a. Violation: Accepting Disciplinary Action

Student fails to accept disciplinary action.

RULE 10. STUDENTS WILL REFRAIN FROM INAPPROPRIATE ACTIONS

10a. Violation: Inappropriate Actions.

Inappropriate public display of affection, indecent exposure

10b. Violation: Inappropriate Actions.

Possession of obscene, profane, or vulgar materials.

10c. Violation: Inappropriate Actions.

Other such actions, which disrupt the school program. Inappropriate use of technology.

RULE 11. STUDENTS WILL REFRAIN FROM VIOLATING SCHOOL RULES

11a. Violation: Violation of School Rules

Willful and repeated violation of school rules.

RULE 12. STUDENTS WILL RESPECT THE PROPERTY OF OTHERS

12a. Violation: Respecting Property of Others

Destruction of and/or threats to destroy public or private property, which may include such actions as the use or threat of bombs, explosion devices, setting fires, damaging lockers and the deliberate marking, destruction, or defacement of property that belongs to the school or another student, including during off-school hours; also includes willful or malicious damage to real or personal property of the school or to personal property of any person legitimately at school, including during off-school hours.

12b. Violation: Respecting Property of Others

Theft of public or private property located on school premises or at a school function.

12c. Violation: Respecting Property of Others

Vandalism of public or private property located on school premises or at a school function, including during off-school hours.

RULE 13. STUDENTS WILL COMPLY WITH THE COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS OF O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.1 AND WILL ATTEND ALL CLASSES ON TIME

13a. Violation: Compulsory Attendance

Repeated tardiness.

13b. Violation: Compulsory Attendance

Skipping class or required activities.

13c. Violation: Compulsory Attendance

Unexcused absences.

NOTE: A student whose parent or legal guardian is in military service in the U.S. Armed Forces or National Guard, as such parent has been called to duty for or is on leave from overseas deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting will be granted up to 5 days of excused absences per school year to visit with his or her parent prior to the parent's deployment or during the parent's leave.

RULE 14. STUDENTS WILL REMAIN ON CAMPUS UNLESS PERMITTED TO LEAVE

14a. Violation: Remain on Campus

Leaving campus without permission.

RULE 15. STUDENTS WILL BE FREE OF FIREWORKS

15a. Violation: Fireworks

Student is in possession of or uses any explosive or fireworks on school grounds, at school sponsored activities, or while be transported on school supported vehicles (includes stink bombs or other offensive material).

RULE 16. STUDENTS WILL ACTIVATE FIRE ALARMS OR MAKE SUCH REPORTS ONLY WHEN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS EXIST

16a. Violation: Fire Alarms

Pulling fire alarm unnecessarily or making false reports.

RULE 17. STUDENTS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN GAMBLING ACTIVITIES OR POSSESS ITEMS USED FOR GAMBLING

17a. Violation: Gambling

Gambling on school property or at any school function.

17b. Violation: Gambling

Possession of dice, playing cards, or other gambling items.

RULE 18. STUDENTS WILL SUBMIT TO BEING SEARCHED FOR REASONABLE SUSPICIONS

18a. Violation: Refusal to be Searched

Student refuses to be searched for reasonable suspicion.

RULE 19. STUDENTS WILL COMPLETE THEIR OWN WORK

19a. Violation: Cheating on any Student Work

Student cheats on any student work.

RULE 20. STUDENTS WILL MAKE RESTITUTION FOR ALL LOST AND DAMAGED MATERIALS

20a. Violation: Restitution for School Material

Student fails to pay for lost and/or damaged textbooks and/or library/media center materials.

RULE 21. STUDENTS WILL NOT USE EITHER ONE-WAY OR TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION DEVICES OR LASER POINTERS IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

21a. Violation: Cell Phone, Pager, and other Communication Device

Use of pocket pagers (beepers), cellular phones, and other electronic devices during the school day which may interfere with the instructional program in school buildings. (See principal for exceptions.)

21b. Violation: Cell Phone, Pager, and other Communication Device

Possession of laser pointers or other laser devices.

RULE 22. STUDENTS WILL ADHERE TO THE FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOLS' DRESS CODE POLICY

22a. Violation: Dress Code

Refusal to comply with the dress code (Dress code is a part of student agenda).

CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS OF STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

School administrators follow a progressive discipline policy. The severity of the discipline administered is based on the student's behavioral history, i.e. the third time a student is disciplined by an administrator the discipline will be more severe than the discipline administered the first time the student was disciplined. Therefore, two students could be sent to the office for the same violation and receive two different disciplinary actions because it could be the first time one student has been to the office and the fifth time the other student has been to the office.

The following disciplinary actions may be imposed for any violation of this Student Code of Conduct:

- (a) Confiscation of inappropriate devices and materials;
- (b) Development of a behavioral contract between student-teacher, student-teacher-administrator, student-parent-teacher, student-parent-teacher-administrator, etc.;
- (c) Disciplinary action will be at the discretion of the administration depending on the circumstances of the situation;
- (d) Loss of privileges;
- (e) Notification of parents by written notes, agenda, phone, first class mail, and certified mail;
- (f) Opportunity Room;
- (g) Parent conference;
- (h) Referral for a Hearing for long-term suspension or expulsion;
- (i) Referral to Law Enforcement Officials, Juvenile Court Officials, and/or the District Attorney: Georgia law requires that certain acts of misconduct be referred to appropriate law enforcement officials.
- (j) Referral to School Social Worker;
- (k) Restitution for damages to property;
- (l) Short-term suspension;
- (m) Suspension or expulsion from the school bus;
- (n) Temporary placement in an Alternative Education Program;
- (o) Temporary removal from class or activity;

- (p) Transfer to another elementary school, and
- (q) Warning and/or counseling with teacher, school administrator, counselor, and/or parent.

TRANSPORTATION

Appropriate behavior on the bus is critical for the safety and well being of all students. There is no time of the school day when your child's safety is at greater risk than when he/she is riding to school or riding home from school on the bus. One yell, one laser light flash, one child throwing a pencil can take the driver's attention away from driving and his/her eye off the road and the result may be a wreck. The safety of your child on the bus is directly related to the behavior of the students on the bus. For this reason, the rules for behavior on the bus must be strictly enforced.

The bus driver cannot drive safely and deal with inappropriate behavior on the bus at the same time. Parents and students must work together with the bus driver and school administration to ensure the safety of all students. **Transportation is a privilege, not a right.** Below are guidelines for Student Transportation:

- The School Bus is an extension of the school day; therefore, the student's behavior on the bus is governed by the Student Code of Conduct.
- Students will be picked up and dropped off at their designated stop. Exceptions will require a written request from the parent or guardian. The student must present the written request to the bus driver.
- Students must have a written note from the parent, initialed by the school office, in order to ride a different bus home in the afternoon.

AN OPEN LINE OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE BUS DRIVER AND THE PARENT/GUARDIAN IS THE KEY TO HAVING APPROPRIATE STUDENT BEHAVIOR ON THE BUS. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD'S BUS DRIVER AND SCHOOL ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S BUS BEHAVIOR SO THAT WE CAN ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD ARRIVES AT SCHOOL EACH DAY SAFE AND READY TO LEARN AND THEN ARRIVES HOME EACH AFTERNOON SAFE AND HAPPY TO BE HOME.

RULE 23. ELEMENTARY BUS INFRACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

All Schools use a progressive discipline plan for all bus referrals. Each school may slightly modify the progressive discipline plan based on the age, maturity, and circumstances of the situation.

23a. Distracting Driver Infraction (Contact Jason Ayers 706-384-4554 ext. 11348)

Any act that may distract the driver and could endanger the safety of other students.

23b. Code of Conduction Infractions

Any unsatisfactory conduct, such as disrespectful conduct, including the use of vulgar or profane language, toward the school bus driver or other persons on the bus, fighting (disruptive behavior), or cutting, defacing or otherwise damaging in any way property belonging to the school district, or any conduct deemed inappropriate beyond distracting the driver.

23a and 23b Consequences: Misbehavior On School Bus

All Schools use a progressive discipline plan for all bus referrals. Each school may slightly modify the progression discipline plan based on the age, maturity, and circumstances of the situation.

**Distracting Driver Infraction
Consequences (Grades K-2)
(Bus Driver/Transportation Director)**

Informal Warning(s)/Parent Contacted
1st Referral: Official Warning
2nd Referral: 2 Day Bus Restriction
3rd Referral: 5 Day Bus Restriction
4th Referral: 7 Day Bus Restriction
5th Referral: 10 Day Bus Restriction
6th Referral: 15 Day Bus Restriction
7th Referral: Remainder of Semester

***Please contact Transportation Director**

**Bus Code of Conduct Infraction
Consequences (Grades K-2)
(School Administration)**

1st Referral: Up to 3 days CAMP/Recess in OR
2nd Referral: Up to 5 days CAMP/Recess in OR
3rd Referral: 1 Day Bus Restriction
4th Referral: 3 Day Bus Restriction
5th Referral: 5 Day Bus Restriction
6th Referral: 10 Day Bus Restriction
7th Referral: Remainder of Semester

***Please contact School Administration**

**Distracting Driver Infraction
Consequences (Grades 3-5)
(Bus Driver/Transportation Director)**

Informal Warning(s)/Parent Contacted
1st Referral: Official Warning
2nd Referral: 5 Day Bus Restriction
3rd Referral: 10 Day Bus Restriction
4th Referral: 15 Day Bus Restriction
5th Referral: Remainder of Semester

***Please contact Transportation Director**

**Bus Code of Conduct Infraction
Consequences (Grades 3-5)
(School Administration)**

1st Referral: Up to 3 days CAMP/Recess in OR
2nd Referral: Up to 5 days CAMP/Recess in OR
3rd Referral: 1 Day Bus Restriction
4th Referral: 3 Day Bus Restriction
5th Referral: 5 Day Bus Restriction
6th Referral: 10 Day Bus Restriction
7th: Remainder of Semester

***Please contact School Administration**

****Any behavior on the bus that poses a significant or severe threat to the safety or well-being of the students, other persons on the bus, the bus driver, other drivers, and/or pedestrians, may result in the student being suspended out of school.**

***Students receiving special education services may receive alternate consequences.**

DISCIPLINE GLOSSARY

GENERAL TERMS

Bus Suspension: The student is suspended from the bus for a specified period of time by the school administrator. The student is expected to attend school and the parent/guardian is responsible for providing transportation to school.

Detention: Student attends a work/study session outside of regular school hours. Student makes arrangements for transportation.

Disciplinary Probation: A student found guilty of certain offenses may be placed on probation by the local school and/or the Student Disciplinary Tribunal. Probation is a trial period during which a student violating the Student Code of Conduct a second time will be subject to further and harsher disciplinary action.

Expulsion: A student is suspended from a Franklin County school for more than 10 consecutive days and has the opportunity to attend school in an alternative setting.

Hearing Officer/Facilitator: System administrator or his/her designee who conducts the hearing.

In School Suspension: A student is removed from regular classes for a specified period time at the school level. Class work assignments are sent to the student by the teachers.

Long-Term Suspension: Long-term suspension occurs when a student is suspended out-of-school for more than 10 days but not past the end of the current semester. The Student Disciplinary Tribunal makes this decision.

Nonprescription Drug: Over-the-counter drug not authorized by a registered physician and not prescribed for the student. Student use is prohibited except in accordance with school procedure.

Permanent Expulsion: A student is permanently expelled from all Franklin County schools for the remainder of his/her eligibility to attend Georgia Schools. He/She may not be on any school campus or attend any activity or event until the age of 21 years.

Prescription Drugs: Use of a drug (medication) authorized by a registered physician and prescribed for the student. Student or parent should follow the procedures set by the school.

Short-term Suspension: A student is suspended out of school up to ten (10) days by a school administrator. The student may be suspended for an accumulation of offenses, as well as a major offense. When students are suspended short term (1-10 days), work missed will not count for or against their final grade. Suspended students shall make up those test assignments that the teachers determine will have an impact on the student's final grade and mastery of course content. Assignments that the teacher does not require to be made up will not count toward a student's grade. Students responsible for making arrangements and completing makeup work within the time line specified by the school. While the student is suspended out of school, he/she is not allowed to be on his/her school's campus, any other Franklin County Schools campus, any school activity, or school-sponsored event during or after school hours.

Student Disciplinary Tribunal: The process the Franklin County Board of Education has adopted to ensure that students who have violated the Student Code of Conduct are afforded formal due process. The Student Disciplinary Tribunal hears evidence presented by the school as well as evidence presented by the student and parents. The Tribunal Panel Members have the authority to make decisions ranging from returning the student to school to permanently expelling the student from school.

Student Self-Reporting: A student who has violated the Student Code of Conduct and reports to a teacher or administrator that he/she has violated the Student Code of Conduct.

Time-Out/Opportunity Room: A student is removed from class and placed under the supervision of support staff to correct his/her misbehavior and to continue his/her class work.

Transaction: Any substance, article, or weapon, bought from or sold to another person.

Transmission: Any substance, article, or weapon passed to another person.

Waiver of Right to Attend Student Disciplinary Tribunal: Parents may sign a waiver if they cannot attend or do not elect to attend the Student Disciplinary Tribunal. In the event a parent or student does not attend the hearing, the hearing will proceed as scheduled.

DISCIPLINE VIOLATIONS TERMS

AWOL: Unauthorized absence and/or leave from class, school, activity, or event.

Bullying: An act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
 - a. Causes another person substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm;
 - b. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
 - c. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
 - d. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Bus Misconduct: Failure to comply with rules of bus safety as defined by the bus driver and the Student Code of Conduct.

Chronic Lack of Supplies: Repeatedly reporting to class without necessary materials such as books, physical education attire, supplies, etc.

Disobedience/Insubordination: Failure of the student to comply with a reasonable direction or instruction by staff.

Disrespect: Responding in a rude and impertinent manner.

Disruption: Behaving in a manner that interferes with educational activities.

Fighting: Exchanging of mutual physical contact such as pushing, shoving, and hitting, with or without injury.

Harassment and Intimidation: Harassment and intimidation mean any gesture or written, verbal, or physical act, or any electronic communication that is reasonably perceived as being motivated either by any actual or perceived characteristic including race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, physical attributes, socioeconomic status, physical or mental ability or disability, or by any other distinguishing characteristic, that takes place on school property, at any school-related functions or activities or on a school bus and that:

1. A reasonable person should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of harming a student or school employee or damaging his or her property;
2. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, or school employee's work performance, or either's opportunities, or benefits;
3. Has the effect of having a substantial negative impact on a student's or a school employee's emotional or psychological well-being; or
4. Has the effect of insulting or demeaning any student or school employee in such a way as to cause substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, or the orderly operation of the school.

Inappropriate Dress: Dressing in a manner that disrupts the teaching and learning of others.

Inappropriate Personal Property: Possession of personal property that is prohibited by school rules, and that is otherwise disruptive to the teaching and learning of others.

Profanity/Vulgarity: Writing, speech, or gestures that convey an offensive, obscene, or sexually suggestive message.

Sexual Harassment: Deliberate, repeated, and unsolicited physical actions, gestures, or verbal or written comments of a sexual nature, when such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with a student's academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning environment. Examples include, but are not limited to, leering, pinching, grabbing, suggestive comments, suggestive jokes, or pressure to engage in sexual activity.

Tardiness: Failure to be a place of instruction at the assigned time without a valid excuse.

Truancy: A student staying out of school without permission or a valid excuse.

Visible Bodily Harm: *visible bodily harm* is defined as bodily harm capable of being perceived by a person other than the victim and may include, but is not limited to, substantially blackened eyes, substantially swollen lips or other facial or body parts, or substantial bruises to body parts.

LAW VIOLATIONS TERMS

Aggravated Battery: When a student maliciously causes severe bodily harm to another resulting in the loss of a member of his or her body, or seriously disfiguring his or her body or a member thereof.

Aggravated Child Molestation: When a student does any immoral or indecent act to any student under the age of 16 years.

Aggravated Sexual Battery: When a student intentionally commits a sexual act against another student without consent of that student.

Aggravated Sodomy: A student omits the offense of aggravated sodomy when he or she commits sodomy with force and against the will of the other student or with a student who is less than ten years of age.

Armed Robbery: When a student takes the property of another student by use of any type of an offensive weapon or any device having the appearance of such a weapon.

Arson-First Degree: When a student uses fire or an explosive that causes damage to any dwelling house of another or any building, vehicle, railroad car, watercraft, aircraft, or other structure.

Bomb/Explosive: A device containing combustible material and a fuse, including fireworks M-80 or above.

Burglary: Unauthorized entry into a school building with the intent of committing a felony when the building is closed to the students and the public.

Disorderly Conduct: Behaving in a violent or seriously inappropriate manner that disrupts the educational process. NOTE: This category is used only when the police are called to cite a student or person for extreme disruption.

Drug/Alcohol/Chemical Offense: Any controlled substance or alcohol; includes any transfer of a prescription drug or any substance alleged to be a drug, regardless of its actual content.

Extortion: Use of "mild" threats or intimidation to demand money or something of value from another (no weapon).

False Fire Alarm: Reporting a fire to school or fire officials or setting off a fire alarm without a reasonable belief that a fire exists.

Felony: Any offense punishable as a felony under Georgia or Federal Law.

Felony Drug Charge: It shall be unlawful for any person to manufacture, distribute, dispense, or possess with intent to distribute, a controlled substance or marijuana in, on, or within 1,000 feet of any real property owned by or leased to any public or private elementary school, secondary school, or School Board property used for elementary or secondary education.

Felony Weapons Charge: Weapon means and includes any pistol, revolver, or any weapon designed or intended to propel a missile of any kind, or any dirk, bowie, knife, switchblade, knife, ballistic knife, and any other knife having a blade of two or more inches, straight edge razor, razor blade, spring stick, metal knucks, black jack, any bat, club, or other bludgeon-type weapon, or any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a num chahka, num chuck,, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any disc, or whatever configuration, having at least two points, or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart, or any weapon of like kind, and any stun gun or laser as defined in subsection (a) of Code Section 16-11-106. This paragraph excludes any of these instruments used for classroom work authorized by a teacher.

Gambling: Playing any game of skill or chance for money or anything of value.

Kidnapping: A student commits the offense of kidnapping when he abducts or steals away any person without lawful authority or warrant and holds such person against his will.

Loitering/Trespassing: Entering any school property or school facility without proper authority (includes student entry during a period of suspension or expulsion).

Murder: When a student unlawfully and with malice aforethought causes the death of another human being.

Non-Felony Drug Charge: Violation of the Georgia Criminal Code resulting in a misdemeanor charge, (ex. Marijuana).

Rape: A student commits the offense of rape when said student has sex with another student against his/her will.

Terroristic Threats: When a student threatens to commit any crime of violence, to release any hazardous substance, or to burn or damage property with the purpose of terrorizing another or of causing the evacuation of a building, or place of assembly.

Theft/Larceny: Unlawful taking and carrying away of property belonging to another person (while the building is occupied) with the intent to deprive the lawful owner of its use [see Burglary].

Threatening/Menace: With criminal intent, the act of threatening to strike, attack, or harm any person in school or at any school-sponsored or supervised activity.

Vandalism/Graffiti: The willful or malicious destruction or defacement of public or private property.

Voluntary Manslaughter: When a student causes the death of another human being as a result of sudden, violent, and irresistible passion.

Weapon: An Article or implement that can cause bodily harm. This includes guns, knives, razors, clubs, and nun chucka, or any other object intended to be used to inflict bodily harm.

FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS

School sponsored clubs are those under the sponsorship, direction and control of the school that organize and meet for common goals, objectives, and purposes. State law requires that parents have the right to withhold permission for their students to participate in any school sponsored club or organization designated by them. The following school sponsored clubs will be in operation during this school year, for which information is provided regarding the name of each club, its purpose, faculty sponsor, and a description of past or planned activities. You, as the parent/guardian, have the right to withhold in writing your permission for your student's participation in any club or organization. For your convenience, a form is included in this handbook for that purpose. If you do not wish for your student to participate in a specific club or organization, you need to designate your preferences on the form and return it to the school. If a club is added during the school year, you will be provided information on the club and your written permission will be required prior to your student's participation.

At the elementary level, there are clubs/organizations for which students may participate. Not all clubs/organizations are available at every school. Some of the club/organizations available at the elementary level are listed below.

ELEMENTARY CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS OPPORTUNITIES

4-H: The 4-H Club is a national organization of young people to assist youth in acquiring knowledge in developing life skills and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing citizens. 4-H is open to all students in grades 5-12.

Student Council: An advisory group of students who want to work for the betterment of the school.

Various Fine Arts Clubs: Clubs that promote the study and enjoyment of the arts.

CHAMPS: A drug and alcohol prevention program taught by a School Resource Officer for the elementary schools in the county.