

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Comment:

Handbook and Student Code of Conduct



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT GAINESVILLE CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM Middle School Level 2020 – 2021

FOREWORD

It is the purpose of the Gainesville City School System (GCSS) to operate each school in a manner that will provide an orderly process of education that ensures the welfare and safety of all students who attend the schools within the district. In accordance with that purpose, the Board of Education has adopted a policy that requires all schools to provide codes of conduct. These require students to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that facilitates an optimum learning environment for themselves and others.

GCSS has adopted this Code to support the creation of a safe learning environment for all members of the school community. The purpose of this Code is to state clearly our standards for acceptable conduct of students. The Code also explains the consequences for not meeting these standards of conduct. This Code establishes a strict policy for conduct that endangers the safety of the schools and/or disrupts the educational experience for other students. GCSS does not permit corporal punishment.

The Code also sets forth the discipline procedures for students who have committed violations of the Code. This Code is not meant to be a contract between the District and the students, and may be amended at any time. It is a place for GCSS to explain certain policies applicable to students.

We expect students to:

- Respect each other
- Respect school district employees
- Obey student behavior policies adopted by the Board of Education
- Obey rules established by individual schools

The school's primary goal is to educate, not to punish; however, when the behavior of an individual student comes in conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions may be necessary for the benefit of that individual and the school as a whole. Accordingly, students shall be governed by the policies, regulations and rules set forth in this Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct is effective during the following times and in the following places:

- At bus stop
- At school or on school property at any time
- Off school property at any school activity, function or event and while traveling to and from such events
- On vehicles provided for student transportation by the school system

In addition, students may be disciplined for felonious conduct off campus, which may pose a threat to the school's learning environment or the safety of students and employees.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to become familiar with the Code of Conduct and to be supportive of it in their daily communication with their children and others in the community. We ask your cooperation in sharing this responsibility for maintaining a proper learning environment.

AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCIPAL

The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in concert with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. In cases of disruptive, disorderly or dangerous conduct not covered in this Code, the principal may undertake corrective measures, which 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.

Students Should:

Participate fully in the learning process. Students need to report to school and class on time, attend all regularly scheduled classes, remain in class until excused or dismissed, pay attention to instruction, complete assignments to the best of their ability, and ask for help when needed.

Avoid behavior that impairs their own or other students' educational achievement. Students should know and avoid the behaviors prohibited by this code, take care of books and other instructional materials, and cooperate with others.

Show respect for the knowledge and authority of teachers, administrators, and other school employees. Students must obey reasonable directions, use acceptable and courteous language, avoid being rude and follow school rules and procedures.

Recognize and respect the rights of other students and adults. All students should show concern for and encouragement of educational achievements and participation of others in curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Disciplinary action for violations of expected behaviors will include appropriate hearings and reviews. In all cases, the rights of individuals will be ensured and protected. The Gainesville City School System will make every reasonable effort to administer the discipline code consistently in all schools. When applicable, individualized plans (i.e. IEP, 504, and SST) will be reviewed for appropriate consequences.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS –POLICY JBC

Age Eligibility

- All students, including homeless, who have attained the age of five by September 1st, shall be eligible to enroll in kindergarten.
- Those who have attained the age of 6 by September 1st shall be eligible for first grade.
- Students are eligible to attend school unless they attain the age of 20 by September 1 or they have received a high school diploma or the equivalent as if they have dropped out of school for a quarter or more. Students who have not dropped out of school for a quarter or more are eligible to attend school unless they attain the age of 21 by September 1st.
- Mandatory attendance age for enrollment is age 6. Every parent, guardian, or other person residing in Georgia having control or charge of any child or children between their sixth and sixteenth birthdays is required to enroll and send such child or children in their care to a public or private school or provide a home study program for these children which meets the requirements set forth in law. If a student is enrolled prior to age 6 in a kindergarten program and attends for 20 days, then the child is subject to the provisions of compulsory school attendance.
- Students who were legal residents of one or more other states or countries for a period of two years immediately prior to moving to Georgia, and who were legally enrolled in a public kindergarten or first grade, or a kindergarten or first grade accredited by a state or regional association or the equivalent thereof shall be eligible for enrollment in the appropriate general or special education program if such child will attain the age of five for kindergarten or six for first grade by December 31 and is otherwise qualified
- Special education students, including homeless, are eligible for enrollment in appropriate education programs until they receive a high school diploma or equivalent or they reach their twenty-second (22) birthday, whichever comes first; provided, however they were enrolled during the preceding school year and had an approved Individualized Education Plan (IEP) which indicated that a successive year of enrollment was needed.

STUDENT ENROLLMENT/PROOF OF RESIDENCY

Gainesville City Schools requires the parent or guardian to provide proof of residency in the district unless the student is homeless. The student must live with the authorized person(s) who resides within the school district.

Proof of Residency - Gainesville City Schools requires the parent or guardian to provide 2 proofs of residency in the district at the time a student is initially enrolled in a school. Proof of residency may be verified by presenting one from each column below (must include address), and a picture ID of the enrolling parent/guardian.

Present one of the following AND	One of the following:
Non-contingent sales contract	Current gas bill (within last 30 days)
Current lease/rental agreement	Current water bill (within last 30 days)
Most recent income tax return or IRS Form 1099	Current electric bill (within last 30 days)
Current paycheck stub	Cable/Internet bill (with service address)
Current warranty or quitclaim deed	
Current home purchase agreement	
Current homeowner's insurance policy	

Students under the age of 18 must be accompanied by one of the following authorized individuals

- Parent (natural or adopted)
- Legal guardian or other person legally entitled to act on behalf of the child
- Foster parents appointed by a state agency
- Sponsor for an approved International Exchange Program.

The person who is enrolling a student should provide one of the following acceptable forms of identification for purposes of enrollment

- A driver's license
- A state identification card
- A passport

When a student's family is residing in the home or apartment of another individual, the following is necessary for enrollment

- A notarized affidavit signed by the individual with whom the student's parent/guardian is residing verifying that enrolling parent/guardian is residing in that home or apartment. This affidavit must be notarized and witnessed at one of the Gainesville City School System locations. and
- Proof of residency documents for that individual with whom parent/guardian is residing (See Proof of Residency documents above)

For your convenience, registration is available at the Registration/International Center, located at 508 Oak Street Gainesville, GA 30501. Registration is not available at the schools. Please contact the Registration/International Center at (770) 536-5275.

Proof of residence is subject to investigation. Students enrolled under false information are illegally enrolled and will be withdrawn from school. Also, knowingly and willfully providing false information regarding proof of residence violates state law and may subject one to fine and /or imprisonment (O.C.G.A. 16-10-20).

IMMUNIZATION CERTIFICATES

All students entering or attending Grades Pre-K through 12th grade in the Gainesville City School System are required to have a complete Georgia Certificate of Immunization (Form 3231) in accordance with Georgia State Law , O.C.G.A. 20- 2-771 and Regulations, Chapter 290-5-4. All students must be immunized against disease as specified by the Georgia Department of Human Resources, or have a medical or religious exemption on file at the school.

Beginning in the 2014- 2015 school year, ALL 7th grade students and NEW entrants into Georgia schools grade 8th through 12th grade, are required to have one dose of Meningococcal (meningitis) conjugate vaccine and Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) booster. Immunization information and flyers for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten and 7th Grade students are available on the website. All students enrolled in a Georgia Public School for the first time are required to file a completed Certificate of Vision, Hearing, Dental and Nutrition Screening (Form 3300) in accordance with Georgia Regulations, Chapter 290-5-31.

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS – POLICY JBD

The Gainesville City Board of Education subscribes to a policy of good attendance and punctuality as essential to the academic performance for all students. It is the policy of the Gainesville City School Board to encourage students to attend school regularly and participate in all class activities physically or virtually on a daily basis.

The Gainesville City School Board believes that students should arrive at school on time and be in class on time each day. In order to foster regular attendance, the Gainesville City School System shall comply with all requirements of state law, State Board of Education rule, and the Student Attendance Protocol developed by Gainesville City Schools' Student Attendance Protocol Committee. The Board strongly believes that every day at school is important and that no student should be absent except for extraordinary reasons and encourages students and their parents to assume responsibility for being punctual and regular in attendance.

The Gainesville City School Systems attendance requirements are as follows:

- The parents/guardians/other persons having charge of any child between the child's sixth and sixteenth birthdays are subject to "compulsory attendance". That is, they are required by law to enroll and send such child to a public or private school or utilize a home study program. Students assigned to alternative schools are subject to this requirement as well.
- All K-12 children enrolled for 20 school days or more in a public school of this state prior to their seventh birthday become subject to compulsory attendance.

Georgia law, O.C.G.A. § 20-2-690.1, states that a person who fails to send a child to school may be charged with a misdemeanor. For each violation of the statute, a court may subject this person to a fine not less than \$25.00 and not greater than \$100.00, imprisonment not to exceed thirty (30) days, community service, or any combination of such penalties. Each day's absence after the school notifies the person of five unexcused days of absence shall be considered a separate offense of the statute.

For the purposes of this Policy, a child between his/her sixth and sixteenth birthdays shall be considered truant if the child has more than five days of unexcused absences in a school year. A truant student with more than ten days of unexcused absences within a school year may identified as a child in need of services in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 15-11- 380.

It is the policy of the Board to excuse students from school for the following reasons: Written justification for any absence must be submitted by the student.

1. Personal illness or attendance in school that 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
3. The observance of religious holidays, necessitating absence from school.
4. Conditions rendering attendance impossible or hazardous to student health or safety.

5. 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
6. Visiting with a U.S. military parent prior to or on leave from overseas deployment (limited to 5 days per school year)
7. Any emergency or set of circumstances which, in the judgment of a building administrator, constitutes a just and sufficient cause for an excused absence from school
8. Students shall be counted present when they are serving as Pages of the Georgia General Assembly.
9. Students in foster care shall be counted present when they attend court proceedings relating to their foster care.
10. Students who are designated as hospitalized/homebound through the formal process are counted as present.
11. Students shall be counted present when they are serving on jury duty.

The principal may in certain circumstances require students to present appropriate medical or other documentation upon return to school for the purpose of validating that absences are excused.

Students are expected and permitted to make up all work for credit missed due to absences. This shall include all assignments, quizzes, and tests.

Tardiness - Students are expected to arrive at school on time. Students who are tardy for school must go to the school office to sign-in before going to class.

PowerSchool Parent/Student Portal Single Sign On Students and parents may access pupil attendance, grades, and assignments as well as the daily bulletin containing announcements through the parent/student portal. Student login information is available through guidance; parent log-ins may be obtained by going to the system webpage www.gcssk12.net to sign up for the PowerSchool Single Sign On (SSO) parent portal. This portal allows parents/guardians the ability to view all of their children with one login name and password.

AWARDING UNITS/TRANSFERRING CREDIT – POLICY JBC-4

Elementary and middle school students transferring from home study programs, non-accredited schools or non-traditional educational centers will be placed at the appropriate grade level in a probationary placement for one 9-week grading period. Student placement may also be based on satisfactory performance on standardized or locally developed tests focusing on grade level or subject area.

- Local tests, including SLOs and pre/post tests, may be utilized in order to provide additional information concerning student placement.
- Upon examination of test results and classroom performance, the final placement decision rests with the Principal and/or placement committee.

BUS CONDUCT

Transportation service for students is a privilege, not a right. Students will be allowed to ride Gainesville City School's buses as long as they remain a student in good standing for that purpose. A student in good standing is one who follows the rules. Students are responsible for maintaining good behavior while riding the school bus. Parents should remind their children to follow all the rules listed below and to be a person of responsible character while riding to and from school, on field trips, or any other school-sponsored trip. The school bus is considered school property; therefore, all rules that apply to school building also apply to school buses.

1. Students are to be at their designated stop in the morning at least five minutes before the bus is to arrive.
2. Students are expected to get off at their designated stop unless they have a note from a parent or legal Guardian stating that they have permission to exit at a different stop.
3. Parents must send a note to the school or call the school by 1:00 PM to make changes in afternoon bus transportation for their child.
4. **BUS BOARDING PASSES** – Students must have a bus boarding pass that is completed by the school in order to ride a bus other than their normal bus. Students must hand the bus boarding pass to the bus driver in order to

ride a bus that is not their normal bus.

5. Students shall be permitted to use electronic devices during the operation of a school bus, including but not limited to cellular phones, MP3 players, and iPods, provided that the safety of staff members and other bus riders is not jeopardized.
6. No excessive noise or rowdy behavior is permissible on the bus. Only normal conversation is allowed except when at a railroad crossing, red lights, and stop signs. At these times there shall be no talking.
7. A student shall immediately take his/her seat upon entering the bus and remain seated in that seat until the bus stops and it is time to get off.
8. Head, hands and feet shall be kept inside the bus at all times.
9. Throwing any article inside the bus or at the bus is strictly prohibited.
10. No fighting is allowed on the bus.
11. Students must wait for the bus in an orderly manner a safe distance off the roadway. The bus shall come to a complete stop before students move toward the bus. Students must not rush or walk between buses when loading or unloading.
12. Lighters, matches, or other igniting devices, as well as smoking on the bus are strictly prohibited.
13. Eating or drinking on the bus will not be allowed.
14. Student will not use profane or foul language at any time.
15. Students shall not deface or damage the bus (i.e., writing or painting inside or outside the bus). Any guilty of such acts will pay the cost of repairs.
16. Students will not open the emergency door except for emergencies when instructed by the bus driver to do so.
17. Students who must cross the road after being discharged from the school bus must cross in front of the stopped school bus.
18. Students are strictly prohibited from acting or talking disrespectfully in any way to the bus driver.
19. Misconduct on buses near the end of the school year that cannot be dealt with during the remainder of the school year will carry over the beginning of the school year.
20. For the safety and protection of riders and drivers, buses may be equipped with video cameras and audio capabilities. These tapes may be used for identifying behavioral problems. These tapes are held for one school day only and then are taped over. Videotapes will be reviewed only by district staff.

Because safety on the school bus affects many other students, the administration reserves the right to invoke a penalty more severe than listed for the offense. This may include behaviors that threaten the safety of anyone else in the bus. Violations of the School Bus Rider's Rules will be dealt with as follows **for grades PK-12**:

First Offense- The student is reported to the principal by the bus driver. The principal talks with the student and send written communication to the parent/legal guardian to be signed and returned to the principal. A copy of this communication is sent to the bus driver.

Second Offense- The principal again talks with student and sends written communication to the parent/legal guardian. The communication in part will warn the parent/legal guardian that another offense will deny the student of bus riding privileges from one to five days (depending upon the nature of the offense). The communication is to be signed by the parent/legal guardian and returned to the principal. A copy is sent to the bus driver.

Third Offense- The parent/legal guardian is notified in writing that the bus riding privileges are suspended (from one day to ten days). The communication is to be signed by the parent/legal guardian and returned to the principal. A copy is sent to the bus driver.

ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing transportation for students suspended from riding the bus.

- Bus drivers are in complete charge at all times and are authorized to assign seats.
- Conversation with the driver or behavior distracting the driver by students during loading and unloading of buses should be avoided. During this critical time complete concentration by the driver is required. Parents/guardians with concerns or complaints that need to be addressed by the bus driver should contact the Director of Transportation, Jerry Castleberry at (770) 536-8312.. Under no circumstances should parents distract the driver by boarding the bus or complaining at the bus stop. Student safety must be top priority during this time.

- Student conduct in school and on school buses may be videotaped with surveillance equipment. This equipment is installed for the purpose of promoting a safe environment for students, personnel, passengers and drivers.
- Any action or disturbance that endangers the wellbeing of any student will be handled in accordance with the student discipline section of this handbook.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly, intentionally, or recklessly disrupt or interfere with the operation of any public school, public school bus, or public school bus stop as designated by local school boards of education. Any person violating this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature (OCGA 20-2-1181).

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR STUDENTS

All student clubs and organizations must follow guidelines and procedures governing the creation and operation of such clubs, organizations, and groups in accordance with the policies of the Gainesville City Board of Education. State law requires that parent/guardian receive information regarding school clubs and organizations, such information must include the name of the club or organization, mission or purpose, name of the club's faculty advisor, and a description of past or planned activities. On the parent/guardian signature page the parent/guardian will have an opportunity to decline permission for his or her student to participate in a club or organization designated by him or her.

The following clubs exist for the 2018-19 school year:

Club/Organization	Mission/Purpose	Faculty Advisor	Description of past/planned activities

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES (PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE) –POLICY JCDA

It is the policy of the Gainesville City Board of Education that each school within this school district shall develop and implement age-appropriate student codes of conduct designed to improve the student learning environment and which will comply with state law and State Board of Education Rule 160-4-8-.15. Each code of conduct shall include the following:

1. Standards for student behavior designed to create the expectation that students will behave themselves in such a way so as to facilitate a learning environment for themselves and other students. The standards should be designed also to encourage students to respect each other and school district employees, to motivate students to obey student behavior policies adopted by this board and to obey student behavior rules established at each school within this school district
2. Student support processes designed to consider, as appropriate in light of the severity of the behavioral problem, support services available at each school, the school system and other public entities or community organizations which may assist students to address behavioral problems;
3. Progressive discipline processes designed to create the expectation that the degree of discipline imposed by each school will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of a particular student, the previous discipline history of the student and other relevant factors, while ensuring that each student receives the due process mandated by federal and state law;
4. Parental involvement processes designed to enable parents, guardians, teachers and school administrators to work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance. The process should enable parents, guardians and school employees to communicate freely their concerns about student behaviors which detract from the learning environment.
5. All other specific requirements as set forth in any existing State Board of Education Rule or in Georgia law.

Each school shall involve parents in developing and updating student codes of conduct. Each code shall require disciplinary action for each infraction of the code. All student codes of conduct shall be submitted to the board for approval.

The student code of conduct shall be distributed to each student and the student's parents or guardians during the first week of school and upon enrollment of each new student. The parents shall be requested to sign an acknowledgment of the receipt of the code of conduct and return promptly the acknowledgment to the school. The student code of conduct shall be available in the school office and each classroom.

TEACHER REPORTING REQUIREMENT

It is the policy of the Board of Education that the superintendent shall fully support the authority of principals and teachers to remove a student from the classroom pursuant to Georgia law as cited in Section 20-2-738 and Section 20-2-751.5(d).

A teacher shall have the authority, consistent with board policy, to manage his or her classroom, discipline students, and refer a student to the principal or his designee to maintain discipline in the classroom. Any teacher who has knowledge that a student has exhibited behavior which violates the student code of conduct and repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teachers ability to communicate effectively with the students in his/her class or with the ability of such student's classmates to learn shall file a report of such behavior with the principal or his designee. The principal and teacher shall thereafter follow the procedures set forth in Georgia law, specifically O.C.G.A. § 20-2-737-738.

The Superintendent and/or his designee shall develop procedures as necessary for implementation of this policy and this state law.

PBIS and the Student Code of Conduct

Gainesville City School System utilizes a **progressive discipline** approach when dealing with student behaviors. The Positive Behavioral Intervention Support (PBIS) framework is implemented at all Gainesville City school buildings. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an evidence-based framework that helps schools design effective environments and supports that, when implemented with fidelity, increase teaching and learning opportunities for all students.

A student code of conduct is intended to teach students that there are consequences for violating behavior norms while under the supervision of educators. A student code of conduct, among other things, publishes a list of unacceptable student behaviors that interfere with the learning environment and the successful operation of the school day. A corresponding and progressive list of possible consequences is defined within a student code of conduct with the intent to promote a safe learning environment.

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 of Education Rule 160-4-8-.16 Unsafe School Choice Option.

Parents and police will be notified in every instance where the law is violated.

Minor acts of misconduct are those that interfere with orderly school procedures, school functions, extracurricular programs, approved transportation, or the student's learning process. Students may be disciplined by the professional staff member involved or may be referred directly to the administration.

Penalties for minor acts of misconduct include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Warning
- Conference with student
- Alternative seating
- Loss of recess or other free-choice activity
- Time out in classroom
- Time out in another classroom

- Isolation during lunch
- Conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator
- Practice of desired behavior
- Development of an action plan or contract
- Time out in the administrator's office
- One day in-school suspension (ISS)
- Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment
- Detention
- Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student Code of Conduct and desired character trait(s)

Intermediate acts of misconduct require administrative intervention. These acts include, but are not limited to, repeated, unrelated acts of minor misconduct and misbehavior directed against persons or property, but which do not seriously endanger the health, safety or well-being of others. Consideration of necessary behavior support services should be given if not already provided. Penalties for intermediate acts of misconduct include but are not limited to the following:

- Student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher, and/or administrator
- Restriction from school programs or other activities
- Time out in administrator's office
- Up to three days out-of-school suspension
- Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment
- Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment
- Development of an action plan or contract
- Detention
- Change in Academic Setting
- Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes the student code of conduct and desired character trait(s)

Serious acts of misconduct require administrative intervention and may require the use of outside agencies and/or law enforcement. These offenses include, but are not limited to, repeated misbehavior that is similar in nature, serious disruption of the school environment, threats to health, safety, or well-being of others, or property. Because serious acts of misconduct may result in placement in a separate alternative educational program or expulsion, students have the benefit of due process, such as the Disciplinary Tribunal, the procedural safeguards and other requirements identified in the 1997 Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Georgia Board of Education's Special Education Rules. Penalties for serious acts of misconduct include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Restriction from school programs and/or other activities
- Out-of-school suspension for up to ten days
- Participation in the cleaning/repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment
- Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school-related environment
- Change in Academic Setting
- Placement in a separate alternative educational program
- Expulsion

OFFENSES	CONSEQUENCES
<p>Absences and/or truancy-unexcused (O.C.G.A 20-2-690.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Excused absences are defined as 2) Illness 3) Death in immediate family 4) Religious Holiday 5) Instances in which attendance could be hazardous as determined by Gainesville City School System 6) Service as page in legislature 7) Court Order 8) Absence to vote in an election 	<p>1. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to one to three days in-school suspension.</p>

9) Up to five (5) days excused absences per year to students where the parents are in the military and are being deployed or on leave.	
2. Academic dishonesty/misrepresenting self or others	2. Penalty may range from the student receiving a zero on the assignment and warning or conference with student/parent/guardian to one to three days out-of-school suspension.
3. Assault on faculty or staff member - Threatening bodily harm to faculty or staff member. This includes threats that are verbal, written or implied.	3. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion.
4. Bullying (OCGA 20-2-751.4)- 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 electric 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 within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23-.1; or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23-.1; 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. The term also applies to acts of cyberbullying which occur through the use of electronic communication, whether or not electronic act originated on school	4. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion. Upon a finding that a student in grades 6-12 found by tribunal to have committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the student will be assigned to an alternative school.

<p>property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication (1) is directed specifically at students or school personnel, (2) is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school, and (3) creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose. Electronic communication includes, but is not limited to, any transfer of signs, signals, writings, images, sounds, data or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic, photo electronic or photo optical system.</p>	
5. Bus Misbehavior	5. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian, suspension of bus riding privileges (1-10 days) to expulsion). See Bus Conduct section above.
<p>6. Computer Trespass</p> <p>Unauthorized use of a computer or computer network including deleting, obstructing, interrupting, altering, damaging, or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer network, program(s) or data as well as visiting inappropriate web sites.</p>	6. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to out-of-school suspension.
7. Disturbance – Classroom	7. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to one to three days out-of-school suspension.
<p>8. Disturbance</p> <p>School Acts which cause substantial disruption of learning opportunities and/or threatens the safety or well-being of other students which may include pulling fire alarms, inciting disturbances, threats, or actual violence during period of disruption.</p>	8. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator to expulsion.
9. Dress Code Violations	9. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to one-day in-school suspension.
<p>10a. Drug Sell/Transmission/Solicitation –</p> <p>No student shall sell/buy, attempt to sell/buy, intend to sell, transmit or distribute any legal or illegal drug in any form whatsoever, including, but not limited to, any narcotic drug, inhalant, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, cocaine, marijuana, other</p>	10a. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion.

controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, intoxicant of any kind, vitamin, herbal supplement, any over-the-counter pill, medication or similar substance, or any substance represented to be or reasonably appearing to be any type of drug, including alcohol. This rule shall be in effect at school or on school property at any time, off school property at a school sponsored activity, function, or event, and en route to and from school.	
<p>10b. Drug Possession/Use/Under the Influence –</p> <p>No student shall possess, use 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, amphetamine, barbiturate, cocaine, marijuana, other controlled substances, alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroids, intoxicant of any kind, vitamins, herbal supplements, over-the-counter pills, medications or similar substances, or any substance represented to be or reasonably appearing to be any type of drug, including alcohol. In addition, a student may not possess or use any drug-related paraphernalia. This rule shall be in effect at school or on school property at any time, off the school property at a school-sponsored activity, function, or event, and en route to and from school. Possession and use of over-the-counter medications or medications prescribed to the student by a doctor will not be considered a violation of this rule provided that all school and school district rules and procedures are followed.</p>	10b. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion
10c. Violations of the Medication Policy	10c. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion.
<p>11. Electronic communication devices</p> <p>Students may possess cell phones and other similar devices on school property as long as they adhere to the guidelines of Electronic Devices Use and Technology Resource Acceptable Use policies.</p>	11. Penalty may range from administrative warning to out-of-school suspension. Devices will be confiscated when in violation of the guidelines.
12. Failure to accept administrative disciplinary action	12. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student to one to ten days out- of school suspension.
<p>13. False Reporting and Statements.</p> <p>Students are prohibited against falsifying,</p>	13. Penalty may range from a warning, suspension, or a recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing

misrepresenting, omitting or erroneously reporting information regarding instances of alleged inappropriate behavior by a teacher, administrator, or other school employee.	which may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.
14. Gambling on school property, at a school function or on property used by the school with permission of the owner.	14. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator to one to ten days out-of-school suspension.
<p>15. Gang-related activity</p> <p>A gang member is a person who is part of an association of three or more people, associated for common purpose, which engages, individually or collectively, in illegal behavior. Gang-related activity includes, but is not limited to, communication of gang affiliation through hand sign flashing, wearing of clothing articles in a certain way or color scheme, jewelry, tattoos, gang signs, symbols or graffiti on personal items, vandalism of public or private property and acts of intimidation, threats, fighting or other forms of violence</p>	15. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion.
<p>16. Harassment</p> <p>Any act of harassment based upon race, color, religion, national origin, disability and gender (including sexual orientation and gender identity). This includes, but is not limited to, sexual harassment as used in connection with Title IX of the education amendments of 1972.</p>	16. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator to one to ten days out-of-school suspension.
<p>17. Off Campus Misconduct and Criminal Law Violations</p> <p>Any off campus behavior of a student 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. This includes any such conduct outside of school hours or away from school that shows disrespect to school personnel or which endangers the health, safety, morals, or well-being of other students, teachers, or employees within the school system (such as, theft or vandalism to property of a school employee).</p>	17. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator to expulsion.
18a. Physical Violence (O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.6)- A student shall not commit an act of physical violence against a teacher, school bus driver, or other school	<p>18a. (1) Immediate suspension with disciplinary tribunal hearing. Possible recommendation for expulsion.</p> <p>18a. (2) Immediate suspension with disciplinary tribunal</p>

<p>official or employee either by</p> <p>1. Intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature with the person of another, or</p> <p>2) Intentionally making physical contact that causes physical harm to another unless such physical contacts or physical harms were in defense of himself or herself.</p>	<p>hearing. Possible recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public school.</p>
<p>18b. Violence</p> <p>A student shall not commit an act of physical violence against another student. Offenses include physical violence, i.e., assault, battery, hazing, and fighting.</p>	<p>18b. Penalty may range from short-term suspension to recommendation for a disciplinary tribunal hearing that may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.</p>
<p>19. Profanity</p> <p>Use of vulgar or obscene words, gestures, or other actions, which disrupt school system operations or show disrespect to school personnel during and after school hours</p>	<p>19. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to up to three days in-school suspension.</p>
<p>20. Property</p> <p>Willful or malicious damage of and/or threats to destroy or damage school, public, private property which may include such actions as the use of or threat of bombs, explosive devices, setting fires, firecrackers, homemade bombs, and/or the deliberate and serious destruction or defacement of school property or property used by the school with the permission of the owner</p>	<p>20. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to up to three days in-school suspension to placement in alternative school.</p>
<p>21. Repeated violations/misbehavior</p>	<p>21. Penalty may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion.</p>
<p>22. Rude and/or disrespectful behavior and/or refusal to carry out instructions of faculty or staff.</p>	<p>22. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student to one to three days out-of-school suspension.</p>
<p>23. Sexual improprieties</p> <p>Inappropriate bodily contact Commission of an act of sexual contact or indecent exposure, or inappropriate public displays of affection.</p>	<p>23. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to expulsion.</p>
<p>24. Tardiness – Chronic</p>	<p>24. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/ parent/guardian to one-day in-school suspension.</p>
<p>25. Theft/Larceny</p> <p>Unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of</p>	<p>25. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or</p>

property of another person.	administrator to one to ten days out-of-school suspension
26. Threats or intimidation of another student(s), written, verbal or implied, but not involving actual physical contact.	26. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator to one to ten days out-of-school suspension.
27. Tobacco and/or paraphernalia Possession or use: Includes smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco or snuff, e-cigarettes, hookahs, and other similar item	27. Penalty may range from student participation in conference with parent/guardian, teacher and/or administrator to one to ten days out-of-school suspension.
28. Vandalism and misuse of equipment Destruction, or defacement of public or private property located on school premises or at a school function or on property used by the school with the permission of the owner, or inciting, advising or counseling of others to engage in prohibited acts such as marking, defacing or destroying school property	28. Penalty may range from warning and/or conference with student/parent/guardian to one to ten days out-of-school suspension.
29. Weapons/Hazardous Objects A student shall not supply, possess, handle, use or transmit a dangerous instrument, weapon, or any object which can be reasonably considered a weapon on school property, on his/her way to and from school, or at any school function or activity, or at any school-related activity or event away from school. 1. Weapon means and includes 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. 2. Hazardous objects ,include 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 charka, nunchuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain, or any	29. Students who possess any weapon described in #1 in violation of this policy will be subject to a minimum of one calendar year expulsion. The Superintendent shall have the authority either before or after the student is referred for a tribunal hearing to reduce the mandated one year expulsion under circumstances where the one year expulsion appears excessive to the superintendent. The tribunal shall also have the authority to modify such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis in determining the appropriate punishment. Finally, in any tribunal decision appealed to the board of education, the board may reduce the mandated punishment but shall consider whether the superintendent and/or tribunal considered a reduction and any rationale in denying such a reduction. Students who possess other weapons or hazardous objects as described in # 2 will be subject to discipline that may range from restriction from school programs and/or other activities to expulsion.

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.	
---	--

DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS

We, the Gainesville City District family, aim high to create a warm and inviting environment. We want every reflection of our brand to be consistent with our tradition of excellence. As a member of this family, your appearance is a reflection of the GCSS brand and how we show up collectively is important to our community. At the same time, we want to build a district where individuality, empowerment, and inclusion are nurtured. With this balance in mind, we have updated our dress code.

Our dress code is generally based on what we like to think of as “school appropriate.” All clothing must fit modestly and provide appropriate coverage and length. Shoes should be safe for the school environment.

For further clarity it is helpful to provide examples on a “we don’t wear list.” On this list are examples of the things we don’t wear.

We Don’t Wear...

- pajama attire, sleepwear, or bedroom footwear.
- spaghetti straps, backless, strapless, or tank tops.
- clothing that allows the exposure of our midriff or waist.
- hats, caps, or hoods inside.
- clothing in a way that reveals underwear.
- clothing that fits immodestly.
- clothing that causes distractions to our mission (examples: clothing with inappropriate language, pictures or symbols; clothing depicting gangs, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco; clothing that advocates/promote violence).

The school administration has the discretion to render judgments regarding what is and what is not appropriate, The administration may, if necessary, waive these policy restrictions for religious and/or medical situations. Principals and assistant principals will determine what happens when a student does not comply with our dress code. A student may be sent home to dress appropriately or may be required to wear a change of clothing provided by the school or parents/guardians.

Electronic Devices Use Policy- POLICY JCDAF

Use of personal electronic devices and other electronic media during the regular school day must be in support of and consistent with the vision, mission, and goals established by the Gainesville City Board of Education. All personal electronic devices on Board property or used during a school sponsored activity are subject to the Technology Resources Acceptable Use Policy IFBG. Students may be permitted to use their personal electronic devices for instructional purposes and to access the District provided network/internet. Students must follow all directions given by school personnel in regards to using personal devices.

Only a student whose parent or legal guardian has completed and returned a “Permission Form for Personal Electronic Devices” shall be allowed to use an electronic device on Board property. The form is to be completed yearly.