



**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT**

**GRADES 6-12**



**Franklin County School System**

***"Preparing Students for the Challenges of Tomorrow"***

**2020 - 2021 School Year**

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## **Student Code of Conduct: Grades 6-12**

### **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 follow:

- 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 6<sup>th</sup> unexcused absence is a misdemeanor, the 7<sup>th</sup> 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 a student from school for the following reasons:

1. Personal illness 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.

**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)

\*\*\*High school students who exceed five unexcused absences will not be granted credit. Students who have unusual circumstances may appeal to the principal and the attendance officer for class credit.

**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 absences 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.

### **Weapons**

It is the policy of the Board of Education that a student shall not possess, use, handle or transmit any object that reasonably can be considered a weapon on property or in a building owned or leased by a school district, at a school function, or on a bus or other transportation provided by the school district. Weapons may include, but are not limited to:

1. 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. 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.

Students who possess any weapon described in paragraph 1 in violation of this policy will be subject to a minimum of a 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 paragraph 2 will be subject to discipline as specified in the student code of conduct.

### **Weapons Reporting Requirements**

Any employee who has reasonable cause to believe that a student possesses a weapon as defined in paragraph 1, is involved in an assault using a weapon as defined in paragraph 2, or is involved in a second offense with a weapon on campus must report such violations to the principal or assistant principal of the school. If the principal has reasonable cause to believe that such report is valid, he/she must immediately make an oral report to the Superintendent and to the appropriate law enforcement authority and district attorney.

The student's parents or guardian will be notified immediately of his/her child's involvement in any activity involving weapons.

### **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 intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
2. 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/s by telephone, electronically, or in writing. Upon a finding that a student in grades 6-12 has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in one school year, the student shall be referred for a tribunal hearing.

**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 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 required to cooperate if asked to open book bags, lockers, or any vehicle brought to campus. 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. 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.

Georgia Code requires the local board of education to develop and implement disciplinary hearings and provides three processes the local system may choose from to meet this requirement. The Franklin County Board of Education chose to implement the Student Disciplinary Tribunal.

When a student has violated a rule in the Student Code of Conduct that may result in a disciplinary action of more than a 10-day out-of-school suspension, the student is suspended out-of-school for 10 days and the student is referred for a Student Disciplinary Tribunal. The school system then has 10 days from the beginning of the suspension to schedule and hold the Student Disciplinary Tribunal or both parties must agree to an extension of the time lines. 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.

The Student Disciplinary Tribunal panel is composed of three panel members. These panel members are certified staff members, who have been trained in the Tribunal Process, and have been selected by the Tribunal Facilitator. The persons have no prior knowledge of who and why a student is coming before a tribunal.

If the school or the student/parent do not agree with the findings of the Student Disciplinary Tribunal, an appeal may be made to the local Board of Education within 20 calendar days. If that appeal does not yield satisfactory results, the student/parent may appeal to the State Board of Education.

Georgia Code legislates the local school's right to honor disciplinary orders of private schools and other public schools and school systems.

## **THE SUMMIT SUCCESS ACADEMIC (ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL)**

The Franklin County School System provides an alternative school (The Summit) for students who have been suspended/expelled on a long-term basis from the middle or high school. The Summit is staffed by personnel who are highly qualified to teach in this program. The tribunal panel members are the decision

makers regarding a student's privilege to attend The Summit. The Tribunal Panel's decision is whether or not the student **may** attend The Summit, the date the student **may** enroll in The Summit, and the date the student **may** return to his/her home school.

The Summit provides the academic program the student needs to remain on track academically; it provides a credit recovery program; the pupil-teacher ratio is low; and the focus of the program is therapeutic and not punitive.

The Summit can serve only a specific number of students in the program at one time. If there are more students than slots, a student may be placed on a waiting list. The school system's preference is that all students who wish to attend are able to enroll in a timely manner and the system will work towards that goal.

## **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, which are not covered by Georgia Code, 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**

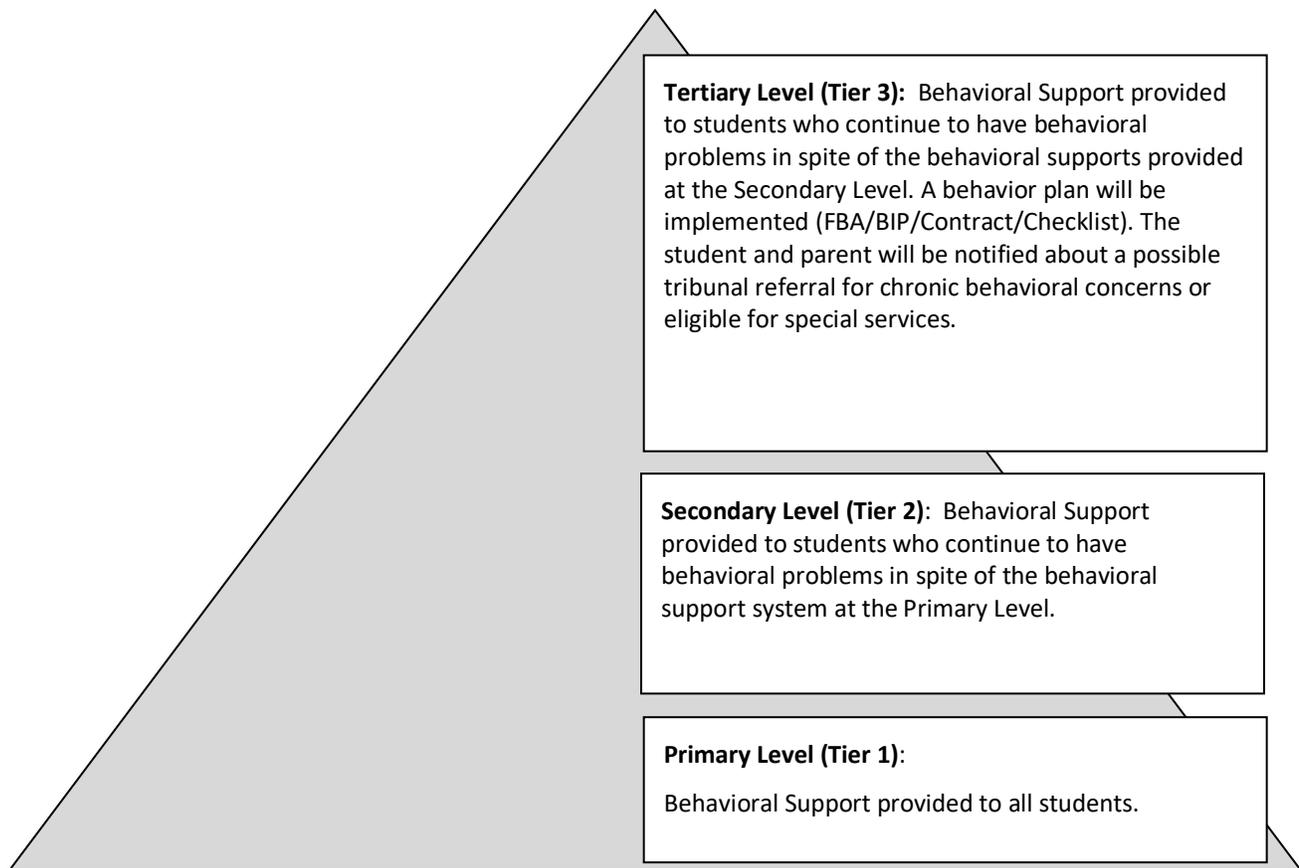
Franklin County High School personnel and Franklin County Middle School personnel along with Central Office Support Services have developed prevention, intervention, and follow-up programs/activities to provide assistance to students who are at risk behaviorally. This focus on appropriate behavior is 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 the 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 the Secondary Level are moved to Tertiary Level (Tier 3) for support services. The Multi-Tiered System of Supports for 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 pages (10 and 11) for the requirements for a Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student. Students who are not successful the Tertiary Level may be referred for a tribunal hearing if the behavioral interventions continue to be unsuccessful or eligible for special services.

It is hoped that the structure of prevention 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, 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. Recognition of students for appropriate behavior as well as presentations to the grade level from role models,
3. The School Resource Officer support,
4. Parent communication through the use of the agenda, e-mail, newsletter, and call outs,
5. The use of a classroom management plan in all classrooms that outlines student expectations and is positive in nature,
6. Maintaining a positive climate in the school,
7. The teachers as advisors program,
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 Georgia Code 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 these students in grades 6-12 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, and
4. Legal mandates that pertain to the situation and the student.

In addition to the above factors, violations of the Student Code of Conduct are ranked by the severity of the behavior's inappropriateness. Franklin County Schools use levels to rank the violations. Most violations begin at Level One. Repeat offenders at Level One rules move to Level Two. Level Two repeat offenders move to Level Three. Each level increases the severity of the consequences. Some behaviors begin at Level Two or Level Three because of the severity of the behavior. All behaviors that are criminal in nature are generally Level Three or Level Four behaviors. A table at the end of each rule indicates the ranked level of each violation of the rule.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF VIOLATIONS**

**Level One Consequences:** Teacher/student conference, parent conference, isolation, teacher detention, administrative detention, before/after school detention, or any other consequence determined appropriate by school administrators.

**Level Two Consequences:** In-school suspension, short-term out-of-school suspension, or any other consequence determined appropriate by school administrators.

**Level Three Consequences:** Short-term out-of-school suspension, referral to a Student Discipline Tribunal with a recommendation for long-term suspension, referral to juvenile court or adult court, or any other consequence determined appropriate by school administrators.

**Level Four Consequences:** Ten-day out-of-school suspension with an automatic referral to a Student Discipline Tribunal with a recommendation for long term suspension, expulsion, with or without possible enrollment in THE SUMMIT (alternative school), referral to juvenile court or adult court, or any other consequence determined appropriate by the Tribunal Panel.

## **STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT RULES**

### **RULE ONE: DISRUPTION AND INTERFERENCE WITH SCHOOL\***

No student shall cause or attempt to cause directly or indirectly disruption or interference with school by any means including but not limited to any or the following behaviors:

- 1A. Activate the fire alarm, either directly or indirectly.
- 1B. Occupy or block any area of the campus, prevent or attempt to prevent students from attending a class, school activity or event.
- 1C. Except under the direct instruction of the principal, block or attempt to block normal pedestrian or vehicular traffic on a school campus or adjacent grounds.
- 1D. In any manner, by the use of violence, noise, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, insult, or other conduct, intentionally or unintentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, including a teacher's ability to conduct his/her class, or engage in any conduct for the purpose of causing the disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission process or function.

Examples of prohibited behavior:

- 1Da. School disruption (Must impact entire school).
- 1Db. Disorderly conduct
- 1Dc. Class disruption that is repetitive or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to teach or other students' ability to learn.
- 1E. Refuse to identify himself/herself upon request of any teacher, principal, superintendent, school bus driver, or other school personnel.
- 1F. Urge, encourage, incite, or counsel other students to violate any rules of the Student Code of Conduct.
- 1G. Commit inappropriate and/or disruptive behavior on the school bus that prevents the bus driver from driving the bus safely.
- 1H. Be on campus or enter the premises of a school without proper authorization of the superintendent, principal, or other school personnel. Any person who willfully fails to remove himself or herself from the premises shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.
- 1I. Dress inappropriately (including drug, alcohol, or tobacco advertisements, graffiti, etc.). The complete dress code is listed in each school's student handbook.
- 1J. Willfully fails to leave the premises after being told to do so.

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE ONE OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
1D, 1Da, 1E, 1F, 1I, 1J	1C, 1D, 1Da, 1Db, 1Dc, 1F, 1G, 1H, 1I, 1J	1A, 1B, 1D, 1Da, 1Db, 1Dc, 1E, 1F, 1G, 1H, 1I, 1J	None

**RULE TWO: DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, OR MISUSE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY OR EQUIPMENT\***

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or alter/misuse school technology or any other equipment, including accessing unauthorized areas on the computer. A student shall not steal or attempt to steal school property. A student shall not possess, sell, use, buy or transmit stolen school property or attempt to possess, sell, use, buy or transmit stolen school property. The prohibited behaviors below include but are not limited to the following:

- 2A. Damage or vandalize school property including willful or malicious damage.
- 2B. Steal school property (valued at less than \$100)
- 2C. Engage in larceny/theft of school property (valued at more than \$100)
- 2D. Possess, use, sell, buy, or transmit stolen school property.
- 2E. Alter/misuse technology or any other equipment-hardware or software of school web site/page
- 2F. Engage in computer trespass (accessing unauthorized areas on the computer/software)
- 2G. Undertake breaking and entering—burglary
- 2H. Commit arson (by means of fire or explosive a person knowingly damages or knowingly causes, aids, abets, advises, encourages, hires, counsels, or procures another to do damage)
- 2I. Rob or attempt to rob using a threat of intimidation
- 2J. Commit armed robbery. (with intent to commit theft, a person takes property of another by use of an offensive weapon or any replica, article, or device having the appearance of such weapon)

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE TWO OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
2F	2A, 2B, 2D, 2E, 2F, 2H	2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F	2G, 2H, 2I, 2J

**RULE THREE: DAMAGE, DESTRUCTION, OR MISUSE OF PRIVATE PROPERTY\***

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to private property or steal or attempt to steal private property. A student shall not possess, sell, use, buy or transmit stolen private property on school grounds. Further, off school grounds a student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to private property belonging to a school employee where such theft or damage is on account of that school employee's performance of

his/her official duties. A student shall not sell or buy or attempt to sell or buy personal property on school grounds. The prohibited behaviors below include but are not limited to the following:

- 3A. Damage or vandalize private property of another person.
- 3B. Steal private property of another person.
- 3C. Possess, use, sell, buy, or transmit stolen private property.
- 3D. Buy or sell personal property.
- 3E. Steal or damage employee's private property on account of performance of official duties.
- 3F. Engage in larceny, theft of private property.
- 3G. Steal or attempt to steal a motor vehicle.
- 3H. Rob or attempt to rob using a threat of intimidation
- 3I. Commit armed robbery (with intent to commit theft, a person takes property of another by use of an offensive weapon or any replica or device having the appearance of such weapon)

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE THREE OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
None	3A, 3B, 3C, 3F, 3K	3A, 3B, 3C, 3D, 3E, 3F	3G, 3H, 3I

**RULE FOUR: ABUSE, THREATS, INTIMIDATION, ASSAULT, OR BATTERY ON A SCHOOL EMPLOYEE [INCLUDED BUT NOT LIMITED TO TEACHER, BUS DRIVER, ADMINISTRATOR, SUBSTITUTE, PARAPROFESSIONAL, ETC.]\***

**Section A:**

Regardless of intent, a student shall not make oral or written communication, create a document, or make a symbolic gesture or contact of a threatening, undermining, or provoking nature to or about a school employee or in the presence of a school employee. This includes, but is not limited to, disrespectful conduct, insult, use of profanity, ethnic, racial, sexual, disability, or religious slur, or harassment and includes the development of a list of people to harm, or a statement about bringing a weapon to school and injuring people. The prohibited behaviors below include but are not limited to the following:

- 4AA. Oral threat/verbal assault/electronic threat
- 4AB. Written threat
- 4ABa. Any expression (oral, written, graphic, or gesture) which would threaten the transmission of virus, infection, or any health hazard to employee.
- 4AC. Rude and/or disrespectful conduct including but not limited to symbolic gestures and insults.
- 4AD. Use of profanity
- 4AE. Ethnic, racial, sexual, religious, or disability slur
- 4AF. Harassment (any kind)

4AG. Any expression (oral, written, graphics, or gesture) which has the effect of undermining the authority of the school employee or distracting staff and/or students from the learning environment, including writings of a threatening or provoking nature.

4AH. Terroristic threats (threatening to commit any crime of violence or to burn or damage property with the purpose of terrorizing another or of causing the evacuation of a building)

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE FOUR-A OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
4AF, 4AD, 4AC, 4ABa	4AC, 4AD, 4AE, 4AF, 4AG, 4ABa	4AA, 4AB, 4AC, 4AD, 4AE, 4AF, 4AG, 4ABa	4AH

**Section B\*\*:**

4BA. Behavior that could cause physical injury

4BB. Behavior that caused physical injury to employee

4BAa. Behavior that could cause the transmission of virus, infection, or any health hazard to employee.

4BBa. Behavior that caused the transmission of virus, infection, or any health hazard to employee.

4BC. Intentional physical contact of a threatening or provoking nature to employee

4BCa. Intentional physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature that caused physical injury to an employee

4BD. Aggravated battery (maliciously causing bodily harm to another by depriving him or her of a member of his or her, or by rendering a member of his or her body useless, or by seriously disfiguring his or her body or a member thereof)

4BE. Homicide/murder.

4BF. Kidnapping. (Seizure, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will) (Tribunal)

4BG. Voluntary Manslaughter.

4BH. Enter without permission the private property of a school employee and/or deface/damage/vandalize such property.

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

\*\* Rule 4B also applies to off school grounds when the misconduct by the alleged perpetrator is because of the school employee's performance of his/her official duties.

**Georgia State Law requires that any student who intentionally makes physical contact with a teacher, bus driver, or any employee of the school system in a threatening and/or violent manner will immediately be suspended from school and referred to a Student Discipline tribunal with a recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public school in**

**the State of Georgia. The superintendent, the District Attorneys' office, and the appropriate law enforcement officials will also be notified.**

<b>LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE FOUR-B OFFENSES</b>			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
None	None	None	4BA, 4BB, 4BC, 4BCa, 4BD, 4BE, 4BF, 4BG, 4BH, 4BAa, 4BBa

**RULE FIVE: ABUSE, THREATS, INTIMIDATION, ASSAULT, OR BATTERY BY A STUDENT ON ANOTHER STUDENT OR TO ANY OTHER PERSON NOT EMPLOYED BY THE SCHOOL\***

**Section A:**

Regardless of intent a student shall not make oral or written communication, create a document, or make a symbolic gesture or contact of a threatening, distracting, or provoking nature to or about a person/student or in the presence of a person/student. This includes, but is not limited to, bullying, disrespectful conduct, insult, use of profanity, ethnic, racial, sexual, disability, or religious slur, or harassment and includes a list of people to hurt, or a statement about bringing a weapon to school and injuring people. The prohibited behaviors below include but are not limited to the following:

- 5AA. Oral threat/intimidation (fear of bodily harm)/verbal assault
- 5AB. Written Threat
- 5ABa. Any expression (oral, written, graphic, or gesture) which would threaten the transmission of virus, infection, or any health hazard to another person.
- 5AC. Rude, disrespectful, and/ or threatening conduct including but not limited to words and gestures
- 5AD. Bullying
- 5AE. Use of profanity
- 5AF. Ethnic, racial, sexual, religious, or disability slur
- 5AG. Harassment (any kind)
- 5AH. Posturing to fight
- 5AI. Terroristic threats (threatening to commit any crime of violence or to burn or damage property with the purpose of terrorizing another or of causing the evacuation of a building)
- 5AJ. Unwanted teasing, rumors, or spreading falsehoods
- 5AK. Stalking
- 5AL. Cyberstalking or engaging in conduct to communicate, or cause to be communicated, words, images, or language by or through the use of electronic mail or electronic communication, directed at or about a specific person, causing substantial emotional distress to the victim
- 5AM. Cyber bullying or the willful, hostile and repeated harassment and intimidation of a person through the use of digital technologies, including, but not limited to, email, blogs, social networking websites, chat rooms, texts, and instant messaging

- 5AN. The use of cameras, camera phones, or other devices to take embarrassing photographs, videos, or voice recordings of students or school employees.
- 5AO. The use of digital media to send or distribute abusive or threatening text messages, instant messages, gossip, and rumors
- \* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE FIVE-A OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
5AC, 5AE, 5AG, 5AJ, 5AL, 5AM, 5AN, 5AO	5AA, 5AB, 5AC, 5AD, 5AE, 5AF, 5AG, 5AH, 5AJ, 5AL, 5AM, 5AN, 5AO, 5ABa	5AA, 5AB, 5AC, 5AD, 5AF, 5AG, 5AJ, 5AK, 5AL, 5AM, 5AN, 5AO, 5ABa	5AI

**Section B:**

- 5BA. Pushing and shoving, physical contact with another individual (Potential Tribunal)
- 5BB. Fighting
- 5BC. Battery (when one individual physically attacks or beats up on another individual)
- 5BD. Behavior that could cause physical injury
- 5BE. Behavior that caused physical injury to another student
- 5BDa. Behavior that could cause the transmission of virus, infection, or any health hazard to another person.
- 5BEa. Behavior that caused the transmission of virus, infection, or any health hazard to another person.
- 5BF. Physical contact of a threatening or provoking nature to another student
- 5BG. Aggravated battery (maliciously causing bodily harm to another by depriving him or her of a member of his or her body, or by rendering a member of his or her body useless, or by seriously disfiguring his or her body or a member thereof)
- 5BH. Homicide/murder.
- 5BI. Kidnapping (seizure, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will)
- 5BJ. Hazing.
- 5BK. Voluntary manslaughter
- \* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE FIVE-B OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four

5BA, 5BD, 5BF, 5BDa	5BA, 5BB, 5BD, 5BE, 5BF, 5BDa, 5BEa	5BA, 5BB, 5BC, 5BD, 5BE, 5BF, 5BJ, 5BDa, 5BEa	5BG, 5BH, 5BI, 5BK
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**RULE SIX: WEAPONS, EXPLOSIVE DEVICES AND HAZARDOUS OBJECTS\***

A student shall not solicit to buy or sell, or buy or sell or possess, handle, transmit, threaten with or discharge/use, any object that can reasonably be considered or converted to and/or used as a weapon such as, but not limited to knives, guns, pellet guns, brass knuckles, fire works, lighters, tear gas, mace, explosives, pepper spray, bats (other than for athletics), clubs, sticks or other instruments of a bludgeoning type, Chinese stars, razors, projectiles, and the like. The prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to possession of the following:

- 6A. 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.
- 6B. 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.

Students who possess any weapon described in 6A will be subject to a minimum of a 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. Students who possess other weapons or hazardous objects as described in 6B will be subject to discipline as determined by the principal to be appropriate based on the seriousness of the offense, the age of the student and other relevant factors.

\* Any weapons violation as defined in federal law 18 U.S.C. § 921 will result in immediate out of school suspension and referral to a Student Discipline Tribunal with a recommendation of long-term suspension of up to a minimum of one year. The local board shall have authority to modify such expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. State law also requires that the Superintendent, the District Attorneys' office, and the appropriate law enforcement officials be notified and legal charges must be filed.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE SIX OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
6B	6B	6B	6A, 6B

**RULE SEVEN: DRUGS, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO\***

A student shall not:

1. Possess, use, distribute any substance, or be under the influence of any drug, alcohol, tobacco, or nicotine product to include but not limit the following: any narcotic drug, depressant or stimulant drug including without limitation caffeine pill, hallucinogenic drug, anabolic steroid, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, inhalant, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
2. Be involved in any substance, drug, alcohol, tobacco, or nicotine product transaction, including without limitation to buy, possess, sell, use, transmit, solicit, attempt to buy, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, depressant or stimulant drug including without limitation caffeine pill, hallucinogenic drug, anabolic steroid, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, inhalant, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
3. Possess, sell, buy or transmit, or attempt to sell, buy or transmit any substance under the pretense that it is in fact, a prohibited substance as described in this rule.
4. Possess, use, sell, distribute, or be under the influence of any prescribed medication, or controlled substances, which are not prescribed to the student or are used in a manner inconsistent with its prescribed use, or where a student has not followed the proper procedure for the use of prescription medications at school. This rule shall not apply to proper possession and/or use of a drug as authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician.
5. Possess, use, sell, distribute, solicit, buy, or be involved with any inhalants, which are not prescribed to the student, or are used in a manner that is inconsistent with its prescribed use, or where a student has not followed the proper procedure for the use of prescription inhalants at school.

The prohibited substances and behaviors include but are not limited to the possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of the following within a 1,000 feet of school property:

**Section A:**

- 7AA. Alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind
- 7AB. Amphetamine/methamphetamine drug {schedule II}
- 7AC. Hallucinogenic drug (schedule I){example peyote, PCP, etc.}
- 7AD. Anabolic steroid {schedule III}
- 7AE. Barbiturate drug {controlled prescription drug, example: phenobarbital, amobarbital, metharbital, etc.}
- 7AF. Marijuana (non-felony misdemeanor possession of less than one ounce)
- 7AG. LSD {schedule I}
- 7AH. Cocaine {schedule II}

- 7AI. Ritalin (controlled stimulant prescription drug)
- 7AJ. Heroin {schedule I}
- 7AK. Inhalants (any volatile solvents, aerosols, anesthetics, or volatile nitrites), examples—glue, paint thinners, hair spray, Pam, ether, etc.
- 7AL. Over the counter (OTC) stimulants or non stimulants {examples—no doze, vivarin, asthma medicines, energy pills, diet pills, aspirins, glue, Pam, herb pills, etc.}
- 7AM. Look alike substance (under the pretense)
- 7AN. Marijuana (felony-selling or possession of one ounce or more) {schedule I}
- 7AO. The use of prescription or nonprescription medication without following school procedures.
- 7AP. Narcotics

\* **Any violation of the Alcohol and Drugs Law may result in immediate out of school suspension and/or referral to a Student Discipline Tribunal. State law also requires that the superintendent, the District Attorneys’ office, and the appropriate law enforcement officials be notified and legal charges must be filed.**

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE SEVEN-A OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
7AP, 7AO	7AP, 7AO	7AA, 7AK, 7AL, 7AM, 7AO, 7AP, 7AQ	7AB, 7AC, 7AD, 7AE, 7AF, 7AG, 7AH, 7AI, 7AJ, 7AN, 7AO, 7AP

**Section B:**

A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, buy, or solicit any drug-related paraphernalia which includes, but is not limited to pipes, water pipes, clips, rolling papers, or any other items related to drug use or depicting drugs or drug use except where such items are related to approved curriculum. The prohibited paraphernalia include but are not limited to the following:

- 7BA. Pipes, water pipes, clips, rolling papers
- 7BB. Photographs, drawings or depictions of drugs or drug use, or objects used for drug use
- 7BC. Electronic vaping systems (Examples: e-cigarettes, e-cigs, vape pens, e-hookahs, e-pipes, tanks, mods, vapes, JUULs, etc.

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE SEVEN-B OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
7BB, 7BC	7BA, 7BB, 7BC	7BA, 7BB, 7BC	None

**Section C:**

A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, buy, or solicit tobacco products, or tobacco paraphernalia such as, but not limited to matches, lighters, pipes, rolling papers, electronic vapor cigarettes and the like. The prohibited paraphernalia include but are not limited to the following:

7CA. Tobacco products {examples, cigarettes, electronic vapor cigarettes, dip, snuff, cigars, etc.}

7CB. Tobacco paraphernalia {examples, matches, lighters, rolling papers and the like}

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE SEVEN-C OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
7CA, 7CB	7CA, 7CB	7CA, 7CB	None

**Section D:**

A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, buy, or solicit vape products, or vape paraphernalia such as, but not limited to e-cigarettes, e-cigs, vape pens, e-hookahs, e-pipes, tanks, mods, vapes, and JUULs, and the like. The prohibited paraphernalia include but are not limited to the following:

7DA. e-cigarettes, e-cigs, vape pens, e-hookahs, e-pipes, tanks, mods, vapes, and JUULs, etc.

7DB. vape or JUUL paraphernalia

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE SEVEN-D OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
7DA, 7DB	7DA, 7DB	7DA, 7DB	None

**RULE EIGHT: DISREGARD OF DIRECTIONS OR COMMANDS\***

A student shall not fail to comply with reasonable directions or commands of teachers, students, substitute teachers, teacher aides, administrators, school bus drivers, or other authorized school personnel. The prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to the following:

8A. Failure to follow verbal directions or commands of staff members

8B. Failure to follow written directions or local school rules or regulations

8C. Encourage urge, or counsel other students to violate this rule.

8D. Failure to cooperate with request to be searched by authorized school personnel.

8E. Failure to accept disciplinary action.

8F. Failure to comply with established health protocols and rules (For example: failure to wear required items, failure to maintain required social distancing, failure to meet quarantine requirements, etc.)

8G. Encourage, urge, or counsel other students to not comply with established health protocols and rules.

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE EIGHT OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
8B, 8C,8F, 8G	8A,8B, 8C,8E,8F, 8G	8A, 8B, 8C, 8D, 8E,8F, 8G	None

**RULE NINE: SEXUAL MISCONDUCT/INDECENCY\***

A student shall not engage in any act of sexual harassment of a physical nature or a verbal nature. A student shall not perform any act of indecent exposure or indecent touching of the student's body or the body of another person, or act of sexual intercourse. A student shall not use any inappropriate gestures that mimic or imply sexual acts or engage in any acts of indecent exposure. Such acts will not be regarded lightly or considered pranks.

A student shall not possess, view, copy, sell, buy, or transmit printed or non-printed pornographic materials including any non-curricular sexually explicit printed or non-printed materials; or a student shall not possess, view, copy, sell, buy, or transmit printed or non-printed pornographic materials including but not limited to non-curricular materials depicting the human male or female body. The prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to the following:

- 9A. Sexual harassment (physical or verbal) deliberate, repeated, and unsolicited physical actions, gestures, or verbal or written comments of a sexual nature
- 9B. Indecent exposure (any act of)
- 9C. Incident of possible exposure
- 9D. Obscene and/or indecent gestures or gestures that mimic or imply sexually inappropriate behavior
- 9E. Touching of the student's own body in a sexual manner
- 9F. Touching of the body of another person in a sexual manner
- 9G. Sexual intercourse or any other form of intimate contact
- 9H. Aggravated sexual battery
- 9I. Pornographic materials (printed or non-printed)
- 9J. Kissing or any act of intimacy
- 9K. Aggravated child molestation
- 9L. Aggravated sodomy
- 9M. Rape
- 9N. Sexual battery

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

<b>LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE NINE OFFENSES</b>
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Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
9J	9J	9A, 9B, 9C, 9D, 9E, 9F, 9I, 9J	9G, 9H, 9K, 9L, 9M, 9N

**RULE TEN: UNEXCUSED ABSENCES\***

A student shall not be absent from school or from any class or other required school function during required school hours except for illness or other good cause, except with written permission of the teacher, principal, or duly authorized school official, nor shall any student encourage, urge, or counsel other students to violate this rule. A student may not leave school grounds prior to the end of the school day, after his/her initial arrival on campus, without the permission of a duly authorized school official. The prohibited behaviors include but are not limited to the following:

- 10A. Tardy to class
- 10B. Tardy to school
- 10C. AWOL from class
- 10D. AWOL from school
- 10E. Out of Pocket (Student does not have permission to be in the area of building where student is)
- 10F. Unexcused Absence (Failure to comply with Compulsory Attendance Law)
- 10G. Encourage, urge, or counsel another student to violate Rule 10.

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE TEN OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
10A, 10B, 10C, 10E, 10F, 10G	10A, 10B, 10C, 10D, 10E, 10F, 10G	10C, 10D, 10E, 10G	None

**RULE ELEVEN: OTHER CONDUCT WHICH IS SUBVERSIVE TO GOOD ORDER\***

A student shall not perform any other act that is subversive to good order and discipline in the school. This includes, but is not limited to, violation of local school rules, violation of state and federal law, involvement in criminal gang-related behavior and/or criminal gang conduct, providing false information to school personnel, unauthorized possession or inappropriate use of laser pointers, and electronic communication devices (including cell phones, recording device, CD players, iPods, radios, and televisions, etc.), loitering or trespassing, or community misconduct that would be so serious as to pose a threat to the school community.

Subject to the rules listed below the Franklin County Board of Education permits students to possess electronic pagers including cell phones or communication devices on a limited basis and provides each principal with the authority to establish school level rules pertaining to student possession and use of such devices at their individual school. The prohibited behaviors below include but are not limited to the following:

- 11A. Violation of local school rules—State the rule.
- 11B. Students who use, employ, or rely upon gang membership or affiliation to threaten, intimidate (written gang symbols) or (nonverbal gestures/hand symbols) or to verbally or physically harass or harm other

students, employees or persons attending a school-related function are subject to increased disciplinary penalties.

- 11C. Provide false information (lying)
- 11D. Cheating
- 11E. Gambling
- 11F. Forgery
- 11G. Plagiarism
- 11H. Foul language (profane or vulgar language not directed at another person) on school property or at a school sponsored event.
- 11I. Laser pointers
- 11J. Unauthorized use during school hours of electronic devices including but not limited to recording devices, radios, CD players, cell phones, iPods, phones, and television, etc. (Unauthorized use during school hours of electronic devices).
- 11K. Loitering
- 11L. Criminal trespassing
- 11M. Community misconduct that would pose a threat to the school community—any off campus behavior of a student which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and make the student’s continuing presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at school or which disrupts the educational process (O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.5).

\* Any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff’s Department.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE ELEVEN OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
11A, 11C, 11D, 11E, 11F, 11G, 11H, 11I, 11J, 11K	11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E, 11H, 11I, 11J, 11K, 11M	11A, 11B, 11C, 11D, 11E, 11J, 11K, 11L, 11M	11M

**RULE TWELVE: REPEATED VIOLATIONS/MISBEHAVIOR/CHRONIC DISCIPLINARY PROBLEM STUDENTS**

Students who chronically disrupt or repeatedly violate school rules may be charged with a violation of Rule Twelve. This hearing could result in long-term suspension or expulsion. The prohibited behaviors below include but are not limited to the following:

- 12A. Chronically disrupts or repeatedly violates other school rules.

Note: Before a student is charged with a violation of this rule, the school, the parent, and the student must have developed a plan and implemented interventions designed to improve the inappropriate behaviors (Tertiary Level (Tier 3) – Approximately 8 Behavioral Referrals). Examples of these interventions may be the development and implementation of a behavioral corrective plan; mentoring; working with the counselor,

graduation coach, SRO, or other appropriate personnel. Also the student and parent must be notified in advance that further violations may lead to RULE 12 charge pending a Student Disciplinary Tribunal Hearing (Beginning of Tertiary Level (Tier 3)). Student not experiencing success (Approximately 12 Behavioral Referrals), may/will be referred to a tribunal hearing (Rule 12 Chronic Problem Student).

\*\*\*Special education students and 504 students must also have a chronic behavior (FBA/BIP) in place if their eligibility is behaviorally related.

LEVELS OF CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATION OF RULE TWELVE OFFENSES			
Level One	Level Two	Level Three	Level Four
None	None	Plan & Notification	Possible Tribunal

### 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 THIRTEEN: STUDENTS SHALL FOLLOW ESTABLISHED GUIDELINES WHEN RIDING A SCHOOL BUS\***

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. The following specific provisions shall govern student conduct and safety on all school buses:

### **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.

**All provisions of the Student Code of Conduct apply to behavior on the school bus, including, but not limited to:**

- 13A. Acts of physical violence towards school personnel and students (Rule Four, Section B and Rule 5, Section B)
- 13B. Bullying (Rule Five, Section A)
- 13C. Disrespectful conduct toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus (Rule 4, Section A)  
Georgia law as defined by Georgia Code requires that if violation/s of the above offense/s Rule 13A or Rule 13B, occur, a meeting of the parent/guardian of the student and principal or his/her designee must be held to form a school bus behavior contract whenever the above behaviors occur on the bus.
- 13D. Unruly behavior or any act that might endanger the life or well being of any student/adult on the bus and/or pedestrians.
- 13E. Any other unsatisfactory conduct, such as disrespectful conduct, including the use of vulgar or profane language, toward the school bus driver or other persons on the school bus, or cutting, defacing or otherwise damaging in any way property belonging to the school district.
- 13F. The use of mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that might interfere with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.

### **Consequences For Violations of Rule 13: Transportation**

**Distracting Driver Infraction**

**Bus Code of Conduct Infraction**

**Consequences (6-12)**

**(Bus Driver/Transportation Director)**

**Consequences (6-12)**

**(School Administration)**

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

**\*Please contact Transportation Director**

**\*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 and referred to a Student Disciplinary Tribunal with a recommendation for long-term suspension or expulsion. Additionally, any violation of this rule may result in the School Resource Officer charging the student with appropriate legal charges and filing the charges with the Franklin County Sheriff's Department.

\*\* **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/Expulsion:** 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.

**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 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.

**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 in 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:** In accordance with Georgia Code *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.

## **FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS**

School sponsored clubs (excluding competitive interscholastic activities or events) 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.

## **FRANKLIN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS**

### **Academic Bowl—Advisor: Brett Steele**

The junior varsity and varsity academic teams participate in a RESA-sponsored academic competition and play other academic teams in the Northeast Georgia area and teams across the state. Students compete in a seven-week session with the possibility of region or state playoffs.

### **Anchor Club—Advisor: Kellie Justice**

The Anchor Club is an organization associated with the Pilot Club in Franklin County. The members are dedicated to improving communities.

### **Be The Change – Advisor: Allie Bohannon**

Be the Change Club is a group of students working to make the school a better place by promoting school unity, encouraging smart decision making, and through the enhancement of leadership skills. Some of the activities Be the Change Club has been involved in organizing are Red Ribbon Week and Safe Driving Awareness Week. Our number one goal is to make a positive impact on the school.

### **Beta Club—Advisor: Cheryl Medlin, Lynn Norman, and TBD**

The Beta Club is a student-centered organization that continually develops individuals by providing opportunities and experiences enabling them to demonstrate the ideals of character, achievement, service, and leadership in a global community. In addition to promoting character, achievement, service, and

leadership, it also rewards meritorious achievement and encourages and assists students in continuing their education after high school.

**Drama Club—Advisor: Charity Moon Henry**

The Drama Club is open to all students with an interest in the performing arts. It is an organization that focuses on the appreciation of theatre and the activities that take place within.

**Explorers – Advisor: Officer Harold Jordan**

Our “Law Enforcement Explorer Post” is a co-ed program that gives high school students the opportunity to interact with many experts in this field. You are sure to have a great time learning about your “future career” and your participation will look good on job resumes and college applications. Additionally, as a participant in the Explorer program, you will have the opportunity to apply for scholarships at both the national and local levels.

**FCCLA (Family, Career, and Consumer Leaders of America)—Advisor: Kim Cary**

The FCCLA is an organization that promotes personal growth and leadership development while using the family as the central focus. FCCLA develops skills for life and provides opportunities for developing character, creative thinking, communication, practical knowledge, and vocational preparation. FCCLA is open to all students.

**FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)—Advisor: Jason Shaver**

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is an organization committed to demonstrating integrity, service, teamwork, and excellence.

**French Club—Advisor: Sue Bell**

The French Club promotes interest and the study of French-speaking countries. It is open to all students enrolled or previously enrolled in French class.

**FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)—Advisors: Janet Demers, Sara Blakely, and Sallie Jones**

The Future Business Leaders of America is a non-profit, co-curricular education association of students preparing for careers in business and business-related fields. The mission is to bring business and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and career-development programs.

**HOSA (Health Occupations Student Association)—Advisor: Tammi Melton and Hilliary Bentley**

HOSA is an organization open to students interested in health-related fields.

**National Art Honor Society—Advisor: Kevin McClain**

The National Art Honor Society goal is to inspire and recognize those students who have shown outstanding ability in art. The NAHS also strives to aid members in working toward the attainment of their highest potential in art areas and to bring art education to the attention of the school and the community.

**National Future Farmers of America—Advisors: Cale Watkins, Trey Harris, and Waylon Priester**

The Future Farmers of America club is dedicated to making a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education.

FFA Motto: Learning to Do, Doing to Learn, Earning to Live, Living to Serve

**Skills USA—Advisors: Tim Cawthon, Wayne Ertzberger, and Jeff Hill**

Skills USA is a partnership of students, teachers, and industry representatives working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. It helps high school students prepare for careers in trade, technical, and skilled service occupations. It was formerly known as VICA. Open to all students enrolled in Career-Tech courses.

**Spanish Club—Advisor: Belkis Farris**

The Spanish Club exists to promote cultural awareness of Spanish-speaking countries. Open to all students enrolled or previously enrolled in Spanish classes.

**Student Government Association—Advisors: Amy Williams**

The Student Government Association is an advisory group of students who want to work for the overall improvement of FCHS.

**TSA – Advisor: Kenny Floyd and Clark Gaines**

The Technology Student Association (TSA) is the only student organization devoted exclusively to the needs of students engaged in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Open to students enrolled in or who have completed technology education courses. TSA takes the study of STEM beyond the classroom and gives students the chance to pursue academic challenges among friends with similar goals and interests. Together, chapter members work on competitive events, develops leadership, and attend conferences on the state and national levels.

**Thespian Club—Advisor: Charity Moon Henry**

The Thespian Club is open to all students with an interest in the performing arts. It is an organization that focuses on the appreciation of theatre and the activities that take place within. The club participates in several productions throughout the year.

**Youth Leadership Franklin Club– Advisors: Rebecca Milford-Floyd and Melanie Burton-Brown**

Youth Leadership Franklin is a leadership development program sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce by application. Members must be graduates or current participants of the Youth Leadership Franklin Program.

**4-H Club—Advisor: Raleigh Dawson**

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.

## **FRANKLIN COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS/ORGANIZATIONS**

### **4-H Club—Advisor: Raleigh Dawson, Amy Thomas**

Franklin County 4-H provides 4-H'ers with an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities that allow mastery, belonging, and establish responsibility.

### **Beta Club—Advisor: Sarah Anne Hamner**

Beta Club is a service club that recognizes students for outstanding character and academic achievement. Beta members participate in a variety of projects throughout the school year.

### **Boardwalk Club—Advisor: Christ Guest**

The Boardwalk Club allows students to come together and play board games or card games with friends. This club also allows students to learn face-to-face communication skills, how to be good winners, and how to handle the disappointment of losing a game. Boardwalk also sponsors Box Tops collection.

### **Chess Club—Advisor: Tony Green**

Players of all levels are welcome to come and play some friendly games of chess with Franklin County Cubs. Tournaments are held throughout the year. Every club day a player is chosen at random to play Mr. Green for a cash prize but only if you can checkmate him (that hasn't happened for years).

### **Cub Crew—Advisor: Chuck Holland**

Cub Crew is a Hip Hop Music Group that performs school PRIDE songs at pep rallies.

### **Drama Club—Advisors: Jenny Tollison and Shawna Phillips**

The FCMS Drama Club provides an opportunity for students to learn skills to get comfortable in front of an audience, and most importantly, have fun!

### **Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)—Advisors: Amy Ginn, Lynn Smith, Kevin Austin, and Greg Weaver**

FCA is a place where ANYONE and EVERYONE is welcomed! We get together to relax, hangout with friends and fellow athletes, hear a speaker who will challenge our faith and love in Christ, and give encouragement!

From time to time, we incorporate competitive games and activities!

FCA Mission Statement: To present to coaches and athletes, and all whom they influence, the challenge and adventure of receiving Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, serving Him in their relationship and in the fellowship of the church.

### **Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)—Advisor: Amy Cheek**

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) is the student organization associated with Business Education. Students are encouraged to participate in competitive events and conferences. Students are also given the opportunity to participate in community and school service projects such as the canned food drive for the local food bank, coloring books and crayons for the hospital, adopt a child at Christmas, and the March of Dimes.

**LEGOS Club—Advisors: Elizabeth Faucher and Gary Rose**

Using imagination to build amazing things with LEGOs.

**National Junior Art Honor Society—Advisor: Chase Slaton**

The National Junior Art Honor Society is an extracurricular club that offers students a way to express their creativity while experimenting with different types of art. The Art Club is for students who have a passion for creating.

**National FFA Organization—Advisors: Anna Watkins and Taylor Brown**

FFA makes a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. At Franklin County Middle School, we accomplish this mission by giving our students opportunities to participate in career and leadership development activities throughout the year from chapter meetings on club days to FFA contests and conferences.

**Paw Print Press—Advisor: Erin Schyck**

This club writes for FCMS' Student Newspaper. Students are welcome to develop their creative writing on any topics worthy of print.

**Scrapbook Journaling Club—Advisors: Shannon Davis and Rithea Brown**

This club is open to students wishing to learn how to document memorable events through the art of scrapbooking.

**Technology Student Association—Advisors: Heather Elo**

The Technology Student Association is a national co-curricular association where students learn to apply science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) to projects and competitions. Students who join TSA will build small projects that they can take home during club day meetings. Students will also have the opportunity to go on field trips and to conferences. TSA members can participate in state level competitions ranging from CO<sub>2</sub> dragsters and catapults to computer programming and video game design. Students are not required to compete at conferences to join TSA. TSA Motto: "Learning to live in a technical world."

**Wired—Advisors: Tina Hart and Virginia Burt**

Wired is designed with the performer in mind...if you sing, dance, play an instrument, do gymnastics, write poetry...stand-up comedy...please come and share your talent with us! If you don't have a talent you wish to share, you are welcome to come and participate as an audience!

**NOTE:** All clubs are subject to No Pass/No Play regulations. Clubs are open to students in 6th through 8th grade unless otherwise stated.