

**Rule 5 Computer Trespass**

A student shall not use a computer or computer network with the intention of deleting, interrupting, altering, damaging, or in any way causing the malfunction of the computer, network, program, or data.

**Rule 6 Disorderly Conduct**

A student shall not engage in any act that substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function, substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment, or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others. Administrators need to consider age and developmentally appropriate behavior before using this category.

**Rule 7 Drugs, Except Alcohol or Tobacco**

A student shall not unlawfully use, cultivate, manufacture, distribute, sell, purchase, possess, transport, or import any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment or devices used for preparing or using drugs or narcotics. This includes being under the influence of drugs or substances represented as drugs and it includes over-the-counter medications if abused by the student.

**Rule 8 Fighting**

A student shall not mutually participate in a fight involving physical violence where there is not one main offender and no major injury. It does not include verbal confrontations, tussles, or other minor confrontations. Administrators need to consider age and developmentally appropriate behavior before using this category.

**Rule 9 Homicide**

A student shall not commit murder or non-negligent manslaughter.

**Rule 10 Kidnapping**

A student shall not unlawfully seize, transport, and/or detain a person against his/her will, or a minor without the consent of his/her custodial parents or legal guardians.

**Rule 11 Larceny/Theft**

A student shall not unlawfully take, carry, lead, or ride away property of another person without threat, violence, or bodily harm. This includes pocket picking, purse or backpack snatching if left unattended, theft from a building, theft from a motor vehicle, theft from a coin-operated machine, and all other types of larcenies. Typically, this category should be used only when theft is serious enough to warrant calling the police or bringing in security. Administrators need to consider age and developmentally appropriate behavior before using this category.

**Rule 12 Motor Vehicle Theft**

A student shall not engage in theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. This includes theft of car, truck, motorcycle, dune buggy, RV, or anything that is self-propelled.

**Rule 13 Robbery**

A student shall not take, or attempt to take, anything of value that is owned by another person or organization, under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear. An essential difference between robbery and larceny is that a threat or battery is involved in a robbery.

**Rule 14 Sexual Battery**

A student shall not engage in oral, anal, or vaginal penetration, or union with, the sexual organ of another or the anal or vaginal penetration of another by any other object, or attempt forcibly and/or against the person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth or because of temporary or permanent mental incapacity. This includes rape, fondling which includes touching of private body parts of another person (either through human contact or using an object), indecent liberties, child molestation, and sodomy. This rule should be used only when the incident is severe enough to warrant calling in law enforcement.

**Rule 15 Sexual Harassment**

A student shall not engage in 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 behaviors such as leering, pinching, grabbing, suggestive comments or jokes, or pressure to engage in sexual activity.

**Rule 16 Sex Offenses**

A student shall not engage in sexual intercourse, sexual contact, or other unlawful behavior or contact intended to result in sexual gratification without force or threat of force and where the victim is capable of giving consent. This includes indecent exposure and obscenity. Examples include entering or downloading pornographic content onto school computers. Administrators need to consider age and developmentally appropriate behavior before using this category.

**Rule 17 Verbal Threat/Intimidation**

A student shall not unlawfully place another person in fear of bodily harm through verbal threats without displaying a weapon or subjecting the person to actual physical attack. Administrators need to consider age and developmentally appropriate behavior before using this category.

**Rule 18 Tobacco**

A student shall not possess, use, distribute, or sell tobacco products on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, and on transportation to or from school. This includes nicotine innovations such as electronic or vapor cigarettes.

**Rule 19 Trespassing**

A student shall not enter or remain on a public school campus or School Board facility without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose of entry. This includes students under suspension or expulsion, and unauthorized persons who enter or remain on a campus after being directed to leave.

**Rule 20 Vandalism**

A student shall not willfully and/or maliciously destroy, damage, or deface public or private property, real or personal, without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it. Examples include graffiti, destroying school computer records, carving in desktops, or spray painting on walls.

**Rule 21 Weapons - Firearm**

A student shall not possess any weapon which will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device; any machine gun. A destructive device is any bomb, grenade, mine, rocket, missile, pipe bomb, or similar device containing some type of explosive that is capable of causing bodily harm or property damage. This includes firearms of any kind, loaded or unloaded, operable or inoperable.

**Rule 22 Weapons - Knife**

A student shall not possess, use, or intend to use any type of knife, including a pocket or pen knife.

**Rule 23 Weapons - Other**

A student shall not possess, use, or intend to use any instrument or object that could inflict harm on another person or intimidate any person. This includes chains, pipes, razor blades, ice picks, dirks, nunchakus, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, billy clubs, tear gas guns, electrical weapons or devices, explosives, fireworks, mace, or propellants.

**Rule 24 General Misconduct**

Any misconduct that directly affects the orderly mission of the school or that is otherwise obviously inappropriate whether such misconduct is specifically listed in this Code of Conduct.

**Rule 25 Affection**

A student shall not engage in any type of public display of affection that is deemed disruptive to the school program.

**Rule 26 Bullying**

A student shall not engage in any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so, or in any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm. A student shall also not engage in any intentional written, verbal or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass or intimidate and which act causes another person substantial physical harm or visible bodily harm; has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education; is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school. "Bullying" constitutes 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.

**Rule 27 Cheating**

A student shall not cheat or assist others in cheating on tests, homework, or other assignments.

**Rule 28 Class Disruption**

A student shall not continuously and intentionally make noise or act in any other manner so as to interfere with the teacher's ability to conduct his/her class.

**Rule 29 Disregard Directions**

A student shall not fail to comply with reasonable directions or commands of teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, principals, school bus drivers, or other authorized Board personnel.

**Rule 30 Disrespectful Behavior**

A student shall not engage in disrespectful conduct toward any employee of the Walker County Board of Education, any other student, or any person attending a school related function.

**Rule 31 School Disruption**

A student shall not cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing the disruption or obstruction of any such lawful mission, process or function.

**Rule 32 Dress Code**

A student shall not violate the Dress Code adopted by the Board. A student shall not dress, groom, or wear or use emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols where the effect thereof is to direct unreasonably the attention of other students or otherwise to cause disruption or interference with the operation of the school. The principal or other duly authorized Board personnel shall determine whether any particular mode of dress, apparel, grooming or use of emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols results in such interference or disruption as to violate this rule.

**Rule 33 Electronic Communication Devices**

Students are permitted to possess and use a cellular phone or other ECD's during school hours, on school property, at after-school activities, and at school-related functions as long as such usage and or possession does not interfere with the educational process or safety/security. A student shall not be permitted to use an ECD during classroom instructional time. As a condition of this permission, the student must assume all risk of loss, damage, and or theft of the cellular phone or other ECD.

**Rule 34 Failure To Do Work**

A student shall not fail or refuse to do assignments as directed by any Board employee.

**Rule 35 Forgery**

A student shall not forge the signatures of parents or school system personnel.

**Rule 36 Gambling**

A student shall not participate in any type of gambling activity.

**Rule 37 Insubordination**

A student shall not refuse to obey or engage willfully in repeated attempts to violate the rules of the classroom, school or Board.

**Rule 38 Light/Reflective Devices**

A student shall not use mirrors, lasers, flash cameras, or any other lights or reflective devices in a manner that interferes with the school bus driver's operation of the school bus.

**Rule 39 Obscene Language/Materials**

A student shall not use words or gestures, engage in activities, or possess materials that are profane, vulgar, or obscene.

**Rule 40 Physical Assault**

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause physical injury or behave in such a way as could reasonably cause physical injury to any person at any time or any place.

**Rule 41 Property Damage**

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to private property or to property of the Board.

**Rule 42 Property Theft**

A student shall not steal, attempt to steal or be in possession of private property or property of the Board.

**Rule 43 Truancy**

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 providential cause, except with written permission of the teacher, principal, or other duly authorized Board personnel nor shall any student encourage, urge, or counsel other students to violate this rule.

**Rule 44 Tardy**

A student shall not be tardy to school or to any class or other required school function, except with written permission of the teacher, principal, or other duly authorized Board personnel nor shall any student encourage, urge, or counsel other students to violate this rule.

**Rule 45 Terroristic Act**

A student shall not engage or attempt to engage in any behavior of a terroristic nature, such as bomb threats. Students may not knowingly make comments, whether oral or written, that reasonably could be perceived as a threat of school violence including comments made in a joking manner.

**Rule 46 Unacceptable Computer Use**

A student shall not engage or attempt to engage in a computer related crime as defined in the Georgia Computer Systems Protection Act (O.C.G.A. 16–9–90) including, but not limited to, computer invasion of privacy, computer forgery, computer password disclosure, or the transmission of misleading data through a computer or telephone network.

**Rule 47 Unacceptable Internet Use**

A student shall not violate or attempt to violate the Internet Acceptable Use Policy of the Walker County Board of Education (IFBGA).

**Rule 48 Unauthorized Area**

A student shall not be in any area of the school campus without the permission of the teacher, principal, or other duly authorized Board personnel.

**Rule 49 Unpaid Debt**

A student shall not fail to pay all monies owed to the school.

**Rule 50 Unserved Detention**

A student shall not fail to serve all detentions assigned by the teacher, assistant principal, or principal.

**Rule 51 Verbal/Written Assault**

A student shall not assault verbally or in writing any person or attempt to cause psychological injury by any means to any person.

**Rule 52 Bus Disruption**

A student shall not continuously and intentionally behave in any manner so as to interfere with the bus driver's ability to drive the bus safely.

**Rule 53 Conflicts**

A student shall not engage or attempt to engage in verbal or physical conflicts, such as calling other students inappropriate names or pushing/shoving other students.

**Progressive Discipline Procedures**

Violation of the code of conduct or school rules or any other act of misconduct or insubordination on the part of a student may result in disciplinary action. Teachers and principals have the opportunity to take customary and reasonable measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed under their care and supervision. This behavior code allows a 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 learn appropriate behaviors and the character traits from the Character Curriculum. Such discipline measures shall not include reduction of grades or loss of credit previously earned by the student.

When it is necessary to discipline a student, school administrators and teachers shall adhere to a progressive discipline process. The degree of discipline to be imposed by each administrator or teacher shall be in proportion to the severity of the inappropriate behavior of the student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student, and other relevant factors. The least extreme disciplinary measure which will produce the desired effect shall be used. Students that are involved in the same incident or in a similar incident from time to time shall be entitled to equal protection under the rules and regulations of this school district. However, such students need not necessarily receive the same disciplinary treatment (whether imposed as punishment or as measures to protect the other student, school mission, or for other reasons) for the same offense. The following disciplinary actions may be imposed for a violation of the code of conduct rules:

- Warning by teacher or administrator
- Conference with student
- Counseling with student by teacher, guidance counselor, or administrator
- Loss of privileges
- Isolation or time out
- Temporary removal from class or activity
- Notification of parent
- Parent conference
- Development of written or graphic representation that Reflects an understanding of the misbehavior, the nature of the expected behavior, and the related character trait
- Participation in the cleaning/repairing of any damage caused to the school environment
- Financial restitution for the repair of any damage caused to the school environment
- Participation in a school-service project which enables the Student to learn the appropriate behavior and desired character trait
- Detention
- Assignment to Saturday school
- Suspension from school bus
- In-school suspension (ISS)
- Short term out-of-school suspension (OSS)
- Placement in an alternative education program
- Long term out-of-school suspension (by action of the Board or its designee)
- Referral to law enforcement officials
- Any other disciplinary technique that positively promotes appropriate behaviors and the desired character traits.
- Corporal punishment (only after many other disciplinary actions have been utilized)
- Permanent expulsion (by action of the Board or its designee)

The Walker County Board of Education believes that it is preferable to reassign disruptive students to isolated, individually oriented in-school suspension programs or alternative educational settings rather than to suspend or expel such students from school.

Students in grades 6 through 12 who have violated Rule 26 – Bullying for the third time in a school year shall be assigned to an alternative educational program. If a student in grades 6 through 12 violates Rule 26 - Bullying or engages in physical assault or battery of another person on the school bus, the parent or guardian of the student shall meet with a school administrator for the purpose of forming an age appropriate school bus behavior contract for the student.

Any student who is found by a discipline tribunal or the Board of Education to have committed any act of physical violence, as defined in O.C.G.A. 20-2-751.6, against an employee of the Walker County Board of Education is subject to the penalties described in Georgia Code Section 20-2-751.6 and shall, at its discretion, either be expelled from Walker County Schools for the remainder of the student's eligibility to attend public school or permitted to attend an alternative education program for the length of the expulsion as determined by the discipline tribunal or the Board of Education.

Nothing in this policy shall infringe on any right provided to students with Individualized Education Programs pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

**Chronic Disciplinary Problem Student**

A chronic disciplinary problem student is one who exhibits a pattern of behavioral characteristics which interfere with the learning process of students around him/her and which are likely to recur. Any time a teacher or principal identifies a student as a chronic disciplinary problem student the principal shall notify the parent or guardian of the disciplinary problem by telephone call or by mail (certified or first class), invite the parent or guardian to observe the student in a classroom situation, and request that at least one parent or guardian attend a conference to devise a disciplinary and behavior correction plan.

Before any chronic disciplinary problem student is permitted to return from an expulsion or suspension, the school to which the student is to be readmitted shall request by telephone call or by mail (certified or first class) at least one parent or guardian to attend a conference with the principal or his/her designee to devise a disciplinary and behavioral correction plan. Failure of the parent or guardian to attend shall not preclude the student from being readmitted to the school. At the discretion of the principal, a teacher, counselor, or other person may attend the conference. The principal shall ensure that a notation of the conference is placed in the student's permanent file.

**Rules for Removal of Dangerous Students**

A student who has been charged with the unlawful distribution of narcotics or other such serious violation of the criminal law may be removed from the school by the principal upon the approval of the Superintendent when it is necessary to protect other students or avoid substantial disruption to school operations. The school must be able to show that the continued presence of the student endangers other students or would substantially disrupt school operations.

COMMENT: Unlike the Code of Conduct Rules for serious student misconduct, this provision is not designed for punishment, but is solely to protect other students in circumstances where such protection is clearly necessary. Thus, the removal of dangerous students is a separate part of the code. This section is intended to deal with the problem of the student who has been charged with a serious violation of the criminal law, such as unlawfully selling narcotics or other serious felony, and immediate return to the school either would pose a substantial threat to other students or would probably cause substantial disruption to school operations because of the fear or intimidation that such presence creates for other students or teachers. Such situations will be rare, and the burden is placed on the

school to demonstrate that the student's continued presence endangers other students.

**Teacher Reporting Requirement**

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

**Behavior Support Process**

The behavior support process is a mechanism for addressing the behaviors and influences which may need to be changed in order to promote positive emotional, mental, social, and physical health needs of students. The Walker County Board of Education provides a variety of resources to help address student behavior problems. These resources, which are available at every school within the District, shall be utilized to help students eliminate unacceptable behaviors and learn appropriate behaviors and desired character traits. These resources include teachers, guidance counselors, school social workers, school psychologists, school nurses, student support teams, chronic disciplinary problem student plans, parent involvement program, special education services, referral to the Department of Family and Children's Services, referral to Lookout Mountain Community Services, referral to the Health Department, Juvenile Court, and any other resource or agency which can assist the student.

**Parental Involvement**

This Student Behavior Code is based on the expectation that parents, guardians, teachers and school administrators will work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance. Furthermore, it is expected that these individuals will communicate their concerns about, and actions in response to, student behavior that detracts from the learning environment. School personnel recognize that two-way communication is extremely important in order to improve the schools. Therefore, they provide information to parents as well as on-going opportunities for school personnel to hear parents' concerns and comments.

This Student Behavior Code specifies that school staff members may request that a parent or guardian come to the school for a conference. Parents are encouraged to visit schools regularly and are expected to be actively involved in the behavior support process designed to promote positive behaviors and character traits.

The General Assembly of Georgia requires the district to encourage parents and guardians to inform their children of consequences, including potential criminal penalties, of underage sexual conduct and crimes for which a minor can be tried as an adult.

**WALKER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BEHAVIOR CODE**

It is the purpose of the Walker County Board of Education to operate schools in a manner that will provide an orderly process of education and that will ensure the safety of all students who attend the schools within the district. The Board believes that in order for classrooms to be a satisfactory learning environment the conduct of students must be wholesome, orderly, and respectful of authority. Students shall behave themselves in such a way so as to facilitate the learning environment for themselves and other students, respect each other and school district employees, and obey student behaviors policies established by the Board and by each school. In addition, students are expected to attend class regularly, be prepared for class, demonstrate courtesy toward others, dress appropriately, cooperate with school officials, respect other's property, avoid violation of the student code of conduct and practice the traits taught in the character education curriculum (Board Policy IDAG).

The primary goal of schools is to educate students, not to punish them. When a student violates the rules of this behavior code corrective

action may be necessary in order for the student and the school as a whole to benefit. The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in concert with the school staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. The principal is responsible for the rules of this behavior code and may undertake corrective measures that s/he believes to be in the best interest of the student and the school. Additionally, the principal may discipline students for conduct off campus which is felonious or which may pose a threat to the school's learning environment or the safety of students and employees.

**Code of Conduct Rules**

The following code of conduct rules serve to guide the actions of principals and other appropriate district employees when disciplining students. These rules are in effect during the following times and in the following places:

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

**Rule 1 Alcohol**

A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or violate laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol.

**Rule 2 Arson**

A student shall not unlawfully and intentionally damage or attempt to damage any real or personal property by fire or incendiary device. This includes firecrackers, fireworks, and trash can fires if they are contributing factors to a damaging fire. Without a fire, firecrackers and fireworks are included under Rule 23, Weapons - Other.

**Rule 3 Battery**

A student shall not intentionally touch or strike another person against his or her will or intentionally cause bodily harm to an individual. For example, when one individual physically attacks or "beats up on" another individual. This includes an attack with a weapon or one that causes serious bodily harm to the victim. This category should be used only when the attack is very serious, serious enough to warrant calling the police or bringing in security, where the intent is to do bodily harm to someone.

**Rule 4 Breaking and Entering - Burglary**

A student shall not unlawfully enter into a building or other structure with the intent to commit a crime. This applies to school buildings or activities related to a school function.