

WALTON-VERONA HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL-BASED DECISION MAKING COUNCIL POLICY

Policy Number: 04.01

POLICY TOPIC DESCRIPTION

Discipline, Classroom Management, and School Safety Policy

POLICY STATEMENT

PURPOSE

This policy:

- Provides the basic expectations and responsibilities for our school to be a safe, happy, productive learning environment.
- Addresses the legally required components for the school council policy.

BELIEFS

- Every individual in the school community has value and should be treated with dignity and respect.
- The approach to discipline in our school is not to catch and punish students, but to help students learn from mistakes, solve problems, and handle disagreements in a way that is consistent with being a productive member of society.
- To empower students and adults with the skills needed to be the best version of themselves — contented, caring, responsible, thoughtful, successful learners, friends, family members, colleagues, community members, and citizens, our school will prioritize social and emotional learning throughout all we do.

DISCIPLINE AND CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

Walton-Verona High School follows the District's Code of Conduct and our School Safety Plan.

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Principals and assistant principals are responsible for:
2. Modeling and promoting a respectful, kind learning and work environment.
3. Disseminating and interpreting the behavioral and discipline standards and guidelines of the district and school.
4. Ensuring that all staff and students adhere to the District Code of Conduct.
5. Providing support and guidance to teachers in the implementation of the district and school behavioral and discipline standards and guidelines.
6. Working with parents and guardians when issues arise that involve behavior and/or discipline of a student.

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Teachers are responsible for:

1. Modeling and promoting a respectful, kind learning and work environment.
2. Clearly establishing classroom standards of conduct that:
 - include clearly defined consequences when standards are not met,
 - are communicated to parents,
 - are posted in plain view of the students in the classroom, and
 - are reviewed with students during the first two weeks of school and taught and retaught throughout the year.
3. Ensuring that:
 - Teacher-student interactions demonstrate general caring and respect.
 - Interactions among students are generally polite and respectful.
 - Disrespectful behavior among students is responded to successfully in a polite and respectful but impersonal way.
 - Students are engaged during small-group work.
 - Classroom routines work efficiently and function smoothly including smooth transitions between large and small-group activities.
 - Students are held to the classroom standards and appropriate consequences are issued when the standards are not met.
4. Frequently monitoring student behavior including effective responses to student misbehavior as well as acknowledgment of good behavior.
5. Making sure the classroom is safe, that all students can see and hear, and that the room is arranged to support learning/instructional goals and activities.

Counselors are responsible for:

1. Modeling and promoting a respectful, kind learning and work environment.
2. Providing support and guidance to help students and parents understand, correctly interpret, accept, and follow the behavioral standards and guidelines of the district, school, and classrooms.
3. Providing support and guidance to teachers in the implementation of classroom management techniques and strategies.

Students are responsible for:

1. Exhibiting respect for school staff, students, families, visitors, and themselves.
2. Interacting with peers in a polite and collaborative way.
3. Expending effort to complete work of high quality.
4. Accepting and following the behavioral standards of conduct expected by the district, school, and each classroom.
5. Asking for help when they do not understand the behavioral expectations or feel that they are unable to comply.

Parents and Guardians are asked to:

1. Contribute to a respectful, kind learning and work environment.
2. Become familiar with documents related to district and school standards of behavior and discipline and ask the school questions when they do not understand language or details in these documents.

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3. Work with the school when issues arise involving their child's behavior or consequences given to their child by the school or teacher.

BULLYING:

A. STUDENT BEHAVIOR

In order to prevent the disruption of the educational process and the ability of all students to take advantage of the educational opportunities offered at Walton-Verona High School the following student behaviors, as defined by law, will not be tolerated:

- Hazing
- Bullying
- Taunting
- Menacing
- Intimidating
- Threatening behavior
- Verbal or physical abuse of others
- Using lewd, profane, or vulgar language

This policy extends to any/all student language or behavior including, but not limited to, the use of electronic or online methods.

These provisions should not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate protected under the state or federal constitutions where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process or intrude upon the rights of others.

B. VIOLATIONS AND REPORTING

Students who violate this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action as outlined in the District Code.

Students wishing to report a violation or who believe they are victims may report it to any staff member of Walton-Verona High School who will take appropriate action as defined by the Code. Staff will refer the report to the principal (or designee) for further action when the report involves an offense that may warrant suspension or expulsion of a student, any felony offense, or a report that may be required by law, including reports to law enforcement.

When a complaint is received that does not appear to be covered by this policy, the administrators will review other policies that may govern the allegations and take appropriate action.

C. RETALIATION

Other students and employees shall not retaliate against a student because he/she reports violation of the Code or assists or participates in any investigation, proceedings, or hearing regarding the violation. The Superintendent (or designee) shall take measures needed to protect students from such retaliation.

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As provided in the Code, students who believe they are victims of these behaviors will be provided with a process to enable them to report such incidents to personnel for appropriate action.

DISTRICT CODE OF ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

A. DISTRIBUTION TO STUDENTS

Walton-Verona High School will follow the Walton-Verona Independent School's Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline.

During the first week of school, the principal (or principal's designee) will:

1. Provide each student with a copy of the District Code of Conduct.
2. Require each student to return a signed Acknowledgement Form from his or her parent or guardian showing that the parent or guardian has seen and reviewed the Code.
3. Follow-up as needed with any student who has not returned the signed acceptance, or assign other staff members to do so.

The principal (or principal's designee) will follow steps 1 – 3 above for all students new to the school during the year.

B. COMMUNICATION WITH SHAREHOLDERS

By the end of the first week of school, the District's Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline will be posted at the school, referenced in our school handbook, and provided to all school employees, parents, and legal guardians, or other persons exercising custodial control or supervision of students including those students who enroll during the school year.

Before the beginning of each school year, the principal (or designee) will work with the district to develop a process to train employees, when necessary, in the use of the Code and/or to provide updated information to the staff, students, and parents concerning this Code.

SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

Our school will maintain a School Safety Plan addressing procedures to provide a supportive, safe, healthy, orderly, and equitable learning environment for both students and staff. This plan will also address any issues identified by our shareholders and issues required by state law.

School Safety Plan Review

- Our School Safety Plan will be reviewed every school year by the Code of Conduct Committee using the following procedures:
- A data review of the overall trends in student disciplinary referrals and consequences for the previous year including trends disaggregated by gender, race, disability, and participation in free and reduced-price lunch.

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- An analysis of the implementation and impact of the activities in the plan.
- A full report to the council including, but not limited to:
- An overview of the trends in the disciplinary referrals and consequences data.
- A report of the status of each activity that should be started or completed.
- Recommended adjustments needed in the plan to ensure progress toward the school's safety goals.
- The council will be responsible for approving and adopting any changes to the School Safety Plan.

DRESS CODE

All students at Walton-Verona High School will follow a dress code. Attire that is disruptive to the educational process will not be permitted. The details of this code may be found in the District's Code of Conduct.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students must follow the District's Acceptable Use Policy. Walton-Verona High School, its staff, or employees, are not liable for any device lost, stolen or damaged on school grounds. Specific rules and guidelines for appropriate use and consequences for inappropriate use can be found in the District's Acceptable Use Policy and the District's Code of Conduct.

Date Adopted: 01-08-07

Date Amended: 08-21-12; 09-19-23



Chairperson Signature