

SMOKE-FREE SCHOOL PROPERTIES

Background

Our Catholic school system has the responsibility to educate students in a safe learning environment. It also has the responsibility to set standards and expect that these standards be modeled in the school environment.

Medical research clearly indicates the harmful effects of smoking both for the user and others who are exposed to residual second-hand smoke. School age children are strongly influenced by peer and adult role models. These two factors considered, it is imperative that children should not be exposed to health risks associated with smoking or the influence that is associated with individuals who are allowed to smoke on school property.

Procedure

1. All school property shall be smoke-free.
2. E-cigarettes are prohibited on school property.

Reference: Section 20, 60, 61, 113 School Act
Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Act
Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use Regulation AR 13/2003

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Background

Students benefit from and mature with the opportunity to attend a Catholic school.

The Division's primary aim is to help students develop into mature individuals and to help them develop to the maximum extent of their potential. A safe and caring attitude will be displayed, keeping in mind that we are living examples of Jesus and our actions will be as such.

The basic purpose of discipline is to develop, as far as possible, in every student, the capacity for intelligent self-control where students are held accountable for their actions. A second, but no less important purpose, is to provide classroom conditions which will make effective learning possible.

Procedures

1. Disciplinary procedures shall be established requiring students to conduct themselves so as to reasonably comply with the following:
 - 1.1 Be diligent in pursuing their studies;
 - 1.2 Attend school regularly and punctually.
 - 1.3 Cooperate fully with everyone authorized by the Division to provide education programs and other services.
 - 1.4 Comply with school rules.
 - 1.5 Account to their teachers for their conduct;
 - 1.6 Respect the rights of others.
 - 1.7 Ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging;
 - 1.8 Refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behavior directed toward others in school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means;
 - 1.9 Positively contribute to the student's school and community.
2. Each school must develop a Code of Conduct which must be made known to students, staff and parent(s)/guardian(s). Students and parents will sign their acknowledgement of having read and understood the School Code of Conduct. Principals will annually review with staff.
3. Administrative Procedure 350 and the school's Code of Conduct apply to students at school as well as on any school sanctioned activity.

4. Any student or staff member is required to report incidences of hazing to school authorities.
5. Any student who reports an incident to school authorities or who cooperates with the Division's investigation of an incident is fully protected by the law and Division procedures from any form of retaliation, retribution, ostracism, verbal abuse or harassment.
6. In establishing consequences for bullying, teachers and Principals will use corrective interventions that consider the context of the circumstance, the behavioural history of the students involved, and the age/stage of development of the student.
7. The School Code of Conduct shall reflect the procedures of the Division.
8. School staff shall practice such discipline as would be exercised by a kind and judicious parent/guardian. In particular, school staff shall:
 - 8.1 Avoid punishment calculated to injure the self-respect of the student.
 - 8.2 Avoid uncomplimentary references, however indirect, to the home of the student, any member of his/her family or the neighborhood.
 - 8.3 Prohibit all forms of corporal punishment; such as strapping, pulling or boxing the ear, slapping with the hand, striking with a foreign object or any form of physical intimidation.
9. Suspension of a student shall be in accordance with the School Act.
 - 9.1 Suspension and the temporary removal of a student from school or from classes are at the discretion of the Principal and members of the teaching staff except where specifically directed otherwise by Board policy or administrative procedures.
 - 9.2 In general, a teacher may suspend a student from class; the Principal may suspend a student from a class, school or riding on a school bus.
10. The Board has retained the sole authority to expel a student from school or the Division.
- * 11. Where a student has evidenced unacceptable behavior, the following are grounds for suspension or proposed expulsion and in some instances the police will be contacted:
 - 11.1 Open opposition to authority.
 - 11.2 Willful disobedience.
 - 11.3 Habitual neglect of duty.
 - 11.4 Use of improper or profane language.
 - 11.5 Conduct potentially injurious to other students and/or school staff members.
 - 11.6 Willful damage to school property.
 - * 11.7 Use of tobacco/e-cigarettes on school property.

- 11.8 Activities which interfere with or threaten the orderly functioning of school activities or activities sponsored or approved by the Division.
- 11.9 Use of or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs at school or school functions.