**CODE OF CONDUCT**

**WHY DO WE HAVE A CODE OF CONDUCT?**

1. Students need to be supported and engaged in school in order to promote strong character and appropriate conduct. It is also essential that students are able to take age-appropriate responsibility for their own behavior.

Student engagement is developed when students are provided with multiple opportunities to participate in a wide range of positive social activities while interacting with caring, supportive adults. This helps to ensure that students are better able to:

* recognize and manage emotions;
* develop caring and concern for others;
* establish positive relationships;
* make responsible decisions; and
* handle challenging situations constructively and ethically.
1. Effective and engaging instruction and positive behavioral supports are the foundations of a positive school climate. School teachers, administrators, and other staff are encouraged to set high expectations for student success, build positive relationships with students, as well as teach and model appropriate behaviors for success. Modeling respectful, positive behavior is especially critical during disciplinary interventions.
2. All adults – teachers, principals, administrators, school staff, parents, and the larger community – have an obligation to help students become good citizens and lead productive lives by modeling desired behaviors and cultivating those behaviors in students.
3. Appropriate conduct and strong character are reflected in a civil, respectful, healthy and caring environment.

Student discipline and support policies and practices will be implemented in a manner which is caring and equitable, respectful and based on trust among administration, staff, students, and families and holds all individuals accountable, but is restorative and solutions oriented, rather than punitive. This will help students:

* learn from their mistakes;
* understand why their behavior was unacceptable;
* acknowledge the harm they caused or the negative impact of their actions;
* understand what they could have done differently;
* take responsibility for their actions;
* learn pro-social strategies and skills to use in the future; and
* understand that further consequences and/ or interventions will be implemented if their unacceptable behavior persists.

5) The District will continuously monitor results in an effort to determine strategies for improvement.

Adopted: