

#109819

STUDENT CONDUCT

One of the goals of the St. James-Assiniboia School Division is to provide a safe, secure and caring learning environment, which fosters students' personal growth, self-respect, and a sense of belonging and prepares them to be responsible citizens. The Public Schools Act (PSA) requires the principal of each school, in consultation with the school's parent advisory committee/council, to establish a school code of conduct for students and staff. The school code of conduct must be consistent with the [Provincial Code of Conduct: Appropriate Interventions and Disciplinary Consequences](#). The principals must ensure that the school's Code of Conduct is reviewed annually by October 31 of each year.

As per the [Provincial Code of Conduct: Appropriate Interventions and Disciplinary Consequences](#) all schools are expected to engage in preventative practices—through the use of instruction and programs that focus on social responsibility and positive behaviour. This will assist in developing positive school climate with a collaborative school-wide approach to preventing and addressing challenging behaviours.

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division recognizes that disciplinary measures may be necessary when other approaches to challenging behaviour have not been successful. In these situations interventions and disciplinary consequences may have to be implemented. Interventions and consequences must be consistent with the *Provincial Code of Conduct* and must take into consideration the frequency, severity of the unacceptable behaviour and the student's age and stage of development. Reasonable accommodation for students who have exceptional learning needs must be considered and also take into account the student's ability to comply and the amount of support required.

[Provincial Regulation: Appropriate Disciplinary Consequences in Schools](#) states that the principal has disciplinary authority

- over the conduct of students while they are at school
- over students in terms of their conduct towards one another on their way to and from school, and while travelling to and from school on division transportation and while on school-prescribed activities
- to address unacceptable student conduct including bullying, cyber bullying and abuse of a student by another
- to determine which consequence is appropriate in a given situation.

Principals will administer such discipline as might be exercised by a kind, firm and judicious parent. Discipline should at all times be administered with dignity and professional judgment in order to promote and maintain student self-respect, self-discipline and hold students accountable for unacceptable behaviour. Working to

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develop a safe and positive school climate is a shared responsibility that will involve cooperation between the school and parents. The school will notify parents/guardians of situations involving their child in disciplinary situations. Parents are encouraged to contact their school any time they have a concern regarding a disciplinary matter.

Appeals of Disciplinary Decisions

Every school code of conduct must include a process to appeal a disciplinary decision. Students and parents must follow the appeal process. This involves an appeal to the teacher who made the disciplinary decision, then to the school principal if not resolved, then to the superintendent of schools if not resolved, and finally to the Board of Trustees. Exceptions are suspensions in excess of five days and expulsions; in these cases, the appeal goes directly to the Board of Trustees.

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