

## Code of Conduct Summaries for Elementary School Students and Families 2024-25

The complete Code of Conduct can be found online at [www.wappingersschools.org](http://www.wappingersschools.org)

### Introduction

The Wappingers Central School District is committed to maintaining a safe and effective learning environment for all students in our schools. A school's primary concern in establishing a Code of Conduct is to enable our young people to feel and be safe as well as become responsible, respectful and caring citizens within the school and community settings. An orderly educational environment requires that everyone in the school community play a role in contributing to an effective learning environment.

### Dignity for All Students Act (DASA)

The Dignity for All Students Act focuses on ensuring that our schools are a safe place and that students know they are protected from certain types of behavior. All students are expected to behave respectfully toward each other and toward school staff.

All students have the right to enjoy their education without worrying about unkind words or actions from others. No student should be discriminated against based on actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex on school property or at any school function.

If anyone is making a student feel unsafe, bullied, threatened or harassed we urge the student or parents to contact the schools Dignity Act Coordinator as listed above, or you can report incidents to any adult in the school and they will follow up with the Dignity Act Coordinator.

### Reporting

Students are expected to tell an adult whenever you see another student not following the Code of Conduct. It is important our young learners understand the difference between **Telling** and **Tattling**. **Telling is when you want to help either yourself or others**, as opposed to **Tattling, which is reporting an issue just to get someone in trouble**. Teachers, Assistant

Principals, authorized school officials, and the building Principal will give out consequences for breaking the rules of our Code of Conduct. Parents and guardians will be notified about the rules a student has broken.

The mission of the Wappingers Central School District is to empower all of our students with the competencies and confidence to challenge themselves, to pursue their passions, and to realize their potential while growing as responsible members of their community.

#### Dignity Act Coordinators:

- **Daren Lolkema**, District DASA Coordinator & Title IX Officer
- **Domonique Cooper**, BES
- **Andrew McNally**, FES
- **Amy Fazio**, FPES
- **Lauren Hernandez**, JEES
- **James Daley**, GES
- **Adam Gerson**, KES
- **Sydney Goldstein**, MCES
- **Angelina Rooney**, OGES
- **William Rund**, SRES
- **Richard Dominick**, VRES

#### RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS:

Students attend school so that they may realize their potential. With this in mind, each student is expected:

1. to be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations pertaining to student conduct;
2. to work to the best of his/her ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward the highest level of achievement possible;
3. to be in regular attendance at school and in class;
4. to contribute to the maintenance of an environment that is conducive to learning and to show due respect to other persons and to property;
5. to dress in accordance with standards promulgated by the Board and the Superintendent;
6. to make constructive contributions to the school, and to report fairly the circumstances of school-related issues.

## Dress Code

Students and their parents have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. The purpose of a dress code is to ensure student safety and to maintain a focus on the educational process. The following are considered to be inappropriate and are prohibited in school or at school functions:

1. Any dress or appearance which advocates discrimination or denigrates others based upon race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability;
2. Any dress or appearance which encourages or advocates the use of drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco;
3. Any dress or appearance which encourages illegal or violent activities;
4. Any dress or appearance which construes a threat or danger to the health and safety of students;
5. Any dress or appearance which allows sight of any undergarments;
6. Length of shirts/tops must meet the tops of pants;
7. Any dress or appearance, exclusive of religious or medical reasons, that hides or changes a student's identity (ex. Masks, sunglasses, hoods, etc.);
8. Any dress or appearance which, in the judgment of the school administration, may be reasonably forecast to cause a material or substantial disruption;

## Student Discipline

Wappingers CSD operates under a progressive discipline model. School officials who are authorized to discipline students may question a student about any alleged violations of the law or Code of Conduct. In addition, school property is subject to search by school officials at any time. Elementary schools are committed to cooperating with police officials and Child Protective Services. Students who are found to have violated the District's Code of Conduct may be subject to a range of penalties as outlined in the Discipline section of our Code of Conduct.

## Cell Phones and Personal Electronic Devices

It is the policy of the Wappingers Central School District that students in grades Pre K through 6 will be prohibited from possessing smart phones, smart watches (i.e., internet enabled devices), and other electronic devices and related accessories (e.g., earbuds) on their person during the school day without permission from the Building Principal. Smart devices and related accessories may be stored in a school bag (turned off) for before or after school use.

## Visitors

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. All persons visiting our schools must scan their photo ID in the provided visitor management system to sign-in, and be issued a visitor's permit which must be displayed at all times. Visitors whose identity cannot be confirmed will be asked to leave the premises. Visitors are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that does not disrupt the academic process, violate the privacy rights of others, and are in accordance with the law, and our Code of Conduct.

- This summary document has been distributed to all students and parents pursuant to New York State Education Law.
- The complete Code of Conduct is posted online at [www.wappingersschools.org](http://www.wappingersschools.org)
- Copies of this summary and the complete Code of Conduct can also be found in each school's main office.
- An abbreviated student Code of Conduct is distributed to students at the start of each school year.