

CODE OF CONDUCT: PUBLIC CONDUCT ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

The District is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on District property and at District functions. For purposes of this section of the code, "public" shall mean all persons when on District property or attending a District function including students, teachers and District personnel.

The restrictions on public conduct on District property and at District functions contained in this Code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The District recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the District. The purpose of this Code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others.

All persons on District property or attending a District function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on District property or attending a District function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on District property.

I. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

- A. Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.
- B. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other District employee or any person on District property, including graffiti or arson.
- C. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, District programs or other District activities.
- D. Distribute or wear materials on District grounds or at District functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the District program.
- E. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, ethnic group, gender, genetic predisposition, marital status, national origin, parental status, physical characteristics, race, religion, religious practice, sex, sexual orientation, or weight.
- F. Enter any portion of the District premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
- G. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this Code applies.
- H. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles;
- I. Possess, consume, sell, distribute, manufacture or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or synthetic versions thereof whether specifically illegal or not, or be under the influence of such substances on District property or at a District function.
- J. Possess or use weapons in or on District property or at a District function, except in the case of law enforcement officers or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
- K. Loiter on or about District property.
- L. Gamble on District property or at District functions.
- M. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
- N. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.
- O. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board policy while on District property or while at a District function.
- P. Smoke a cigarette, cigar, pipe, electronic cigarette, or use chewing or smokeless tobacco.

II. Penalties

Persons who violate this Code shall be subject to the following penalties:

- A. Visitors: Their authorization, if any, to remain on District grounds or at the District function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection.
- B. Students: They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
- C. Tenured faculty members: They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Education Law §3020-a or any other legal rights that they may have.
- D. Staff members in the classified service of the civil service entitled to the protection of Civil Service Law §75. They shall be subject to immediate ejection and to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with Civil Service Law §75 or any other legal rights that they may have.
- E. Staff members other than those described in subdivisions 3 and 4. They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

III. Enforcement

The building principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code whenever school is in session and at all school related functions. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee (e.g., Chief of Security) shall be responsible at all other times.

When the building principal or his/her designee sees an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his/her judgment does not pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his/her designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or his/her designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop. If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his/her designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person.

The District shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the Penalties section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

Great Neck Public Schools

Adopted: 6/25/01

Amended: 10/15/12; 4/8/13; 7/6/16