

The Board of Education, School District No. 48 (Sea to Sky) recognizes its responsibility to provide a safe, caring and positive learning environment for all students. The establishment of a District Code of Conduct is intended to promote such an environment by providing students with guidance and direction on expectations for acceptable conduct.

In order to provide the necessary guidance, the Board of Education expects schools to develop school cultures that foster optimal learning environments for learning, as outlined in the Diversity in BC Schools: a Framework. Therefore schools will strive to:

- develop positive school cultures and focus on prevention
- use school-wide efforts to foster respect, inclusion, fairness and equity
- set, communicate and consistently reinforce clear expectations of conduct
- teach, model and encourage socially responsible behaviors that contribute to the school community, solve problems in peaceful ways, value diversity and defend human rights
- assume responsibility, in partnership with the wider community, for resolving-safety concerns
- work together to better understand issues such as bullying, harassment, and intimidation, racism, sexism and homophobia, and to learn new skills to respond to them
- respond consistently to incidents in a fair and reasoned manner, using interventions that repair harm, strengthen relationships and restore a sense of belonging
- participate in the development of policies, procedures and practices that promote school safety
- monitor and evaluate their school environments for evidence of continuous improvement
- recognize and celebrate achievements, while acknowledging areas that need improvement

(Diversity in BC Schools: A Framework; p. 22)

However when students violate the District Code of Conduct despite proactive measures by schools, the Board then recognizes the need for appropriate forms of intervention which whenever possible will focus on consequences that are restorative in nature rather than punitive.

### **Policy**

The Board of Education, School District No. 48 (Sea to Sky), expects students to treat others with respect and courtesy and to conduct themselves in a manner which contributes to and promotes a safe, caring and orderly learning environment in schools and at school activities.

The Board shall consider the conduct of any member of the school community that adversely affects the school environment to be a breach of the District

Code of Conduct and to warrant appropriate forms of intervention. Special consideration may apply to students with special needs if these students are unable to comply with a code of conduct due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

**BC Human Rights Code**

The Board of Education believes all individuals in the school district have the right to an environment free from discrimination and acknowledges that certain kinds of discrimination as prohibited by the BC Human Rights Code must be a part of a district and schools code of conduct.

The Board of Education therefore expects students to not, without a bonafied and reasonable justification, publish, issue or display, or cause to be published, issued or displayed, any statement, publication, notice, sign, symbol, emblem or other representation that:

- (a) indicates discrimination or an intention to discriminate against a person or class of persons
- (b) expose a person or group or class of persons to hatred or contempt because of race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.

The prohibited grounds for discrimination are to be addressed by schools in their code of conduct.

**District Code of Conduct****Expected Behavior**

- i) **Respect**  
Students are expected to show respect for people, property, and the school's code of conduct. They are expected to act in a responsible manner and be respectful of the rights of others at school and school activities wherever held.
- ii) **Responsibility**  
Students are expected to gradually assume more responsibility for themselves, as individuals and members of society. They are expected to become more responsible for undertaking, organizing and completing their school work and for contributing to and promoting a safe, caring and positive school environment.
- iii) **Commitment**  
Students are expected to strive for excellence in all their school endeavours and comply with school expectations and rules for student work, attendance, behaviour, and deportment.

iv) Attitude

Students are expected to participate willingly and diligently in their assigned work and to undertake school activities with a spirit of cooperation and fair play.

**Compliance with the District Code of Conduct**

It is expected that students will abide by the District and School Code of Conduct going to and from school, on school buses, at school, and at school activities wherever held.

**Retaliation Concerns**

Schools and the district will take necessary measures to prevent retaliation by an individual against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of code of conduct.

**Reference Documents to Support the District Code of Conduct**

The following Policies support the District Code of Conduct and shall be considered as an extension of the Code.

SD48 Policy 100.4            Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

SD48 Policy 502.2            School Code of Conduct

SD48 Policy 502.4            Suspension Procedures

*School Act, sections 85(1.1) 168 (2) (s.1)*

*Human Rights Code, Sections 7 & 8*

Adopted: July 1994

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