

The Vanguard School

POLICY: Vanguard JICDA – Conduct and Discipline Code (with Consequence Groups)

POLICY ADOPTED: 6-10-26

Proper behavior of students occurs as a result of a partnership between home and school. Students, parents, teachers, and the principal all play a vital role in assuring the school fosters a sound educational environment that encourages productive learning. This environment must be safe and free from unnecessary disruption. It must also foster a positive attitude toward self-discipline and socially acceptable behavior. Generally, Consequence Groups will be progressively administered (lowest group for first offense, the next group on the second offense, etc.) However, administration may assign a higher Consequence Group based upon the severity of the conduct, safety concerns, prior disciplinary history, or other relevant circumstances.

SPECIFIC RULES OF CONDUCT

Students of The Vanguard School are expected to obey the following rules of conduct. The Board of Directors has adopted these rules and the consequences concerning those rules. This policy applies to conduct occurring on school property, at school-sponsored activities, during school transportation, and when off-campus conduct substantially disrupts the educational environment or school operations.

1. Attendance and Truancy

Students shall be in their assigned classrooms promptly at the beginning of each school day and/or at the beginning of each class period. Failure to attend school without a legal excuse is prohibited.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 5

2. Conduct while at School

Students shall not disrupt or interfere with the educational process. They shall move in an orderly manner while in the hallways and not loiter, congregate, or roam. While in an orderly manner, maintain appropriate behavior during the assemblies and remain at the assemblies until they are dismissed. Students shall maintain appropriate behavior at all times and follow all rules of conduct as established by the school administration.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 5

3. Academic Integrity

Students are expected to be academically honest. Students shall refrain from cheating, including without limitation, such actions as using crib notes on tests, submitting another's work as their own, submitting AI generated work as their own, or copying word for word from published material without crediting the author.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 2 through 4

4. Respect for Property

Students shall respect the real and personal property of others and shall refrain from intentionally causing or threatening damage or unnecessary wear and tear to books, facilities, school equipment, and furnishings. Students shall also refrain from the stealing of any property of others. Students will not vandalize any school property. Students shall use school technology and personal electronic devices in accordance with school rules. Unauthorized recording, photographing, hacking, impersonation, misuse of technology, or disruption of school operations through electronic means is prohibited.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 5

5. Respect for Persons

Students shall respect others. Students shall refrain from causing or threatening harm or personal injury to others on or off school property. Students shall further refrain from creating disturbances, creating unreasonable risks or harm to others, harassing others, or instigating mistreatment of others. Bullying, cyberbullying, intimidation, and retaliation are prohibited. Students shall not engage in written, verbal, electronic, or physical conduct that substantially interferes with another student's educational opportunities, creates a hostile educational environment, or disrupts school operations.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 5

6. Language

Students shall refrain from using profane or abusive language at school or at school-sponsored activities or events. Students shall refrain from harassing comments to other students or school personnel.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 5

7. Dress and Personal Appearance

Students shall maintain an acceptable standard of appearance and dress at all times. Student appearance and dress shall not adversely affect the welfare or safety of another or the right of another to work or study without interference. Further, student appearance and dress shall not create or promote disorder in the classroom.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 4

8. Unlawful Behavior

Students shall not engage in criminal behavior, including without limitation robbery, assault, extortion (demanding something of value, with threat of physical force or intimidation), and gambling. Students will not knowingly make false allegations of criminal behavior against other students, staff, coaches, volunteers, or administration.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 3 through 5

9. Public Displays of Affection

Students shall maintain discretion in display of affection. Excessive physical display of affection distracts from the educational atmosphere and is prohibited on school premises.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 4

10. Cooperation with Persons in Authority

Students are expected to cooperate with persons in authority. Disobedience of a person in authority, or the use of abusive or disrespectful language or action toward any person in authority, including any administrator, staff member, or volunteer, shall constitute defiance and will not be tolerated.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 1 through 5

11. Welfare and Safety

Students shall not carry, bring, use, possess, or threaten the use of any weapon, dangerous instrument, or facsimile weapon as defined by applicable law and school policy in the school building, at school-sponsored activities or events, or in or on district vehicles, where the actual or intended use of the object may be detrimental to the welfare or safety of students or school personnel.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 4 through 5

12. Health

Students shall not possess, use, buy, sell, or trade alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, or other controlled substances on school property, at school-sponsored activities or events, or in or on district vehicles. Students shall not come on school property, come to school-sponsored activities or events, or be in or on district vehicles after having consumed alcohol or illegal drugs.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 4 through 5

13. Gang-related Behaviors and Dress

Students may not engage in gang-related activity/behavior or display symbols, signs, apparel, or conduct reasonably determined by administration to promote gang activity or threaten school safety.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 2 through 4

14. Student Sexual Harassment

A learning environment that is free from sexual harassment will be maintained. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome conduct based on sex that is sufficiently severe, pervasive, or objectively offensive that it interferes with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from school programs or activities.

Consequences: Progressive from Groups 2 through 5

Initial Approval: 8-13-19

CONSEQUENCE GROUPS

These groups provide a sequence of consequences for unacceptable student behavior. Repeated misbehavior will result in progressively more serious consequences based on the seriousness of the offense. The administration is provided latitude in assigning consequences from the discretionary category. The administration need not employ all the consequences in a given group before selecting one from another group in disciplining any given student.

A parent/guardian will receive notice of student discipline problems and the consequences administered for any infraction in a consequence from Groups 2-5. Records shall be maintained at the school for any infraction resulting in a consequence from Groups 2-5. Progressive discipline consequences will generally reset at the beginning of each school year; however, administration may consider prior disciplinary history involving serious misconduct when evaluating subsequent violations. With the exception of the Graduation Honors, consequences are reset each school year.

Prior to the imposition of significant disciplinary consequences, students shall be afforded notice of the alleged misconduct and an opportunity to respond consistent with applicable law and school procedures.

Parents or guardians may request review of disciplinary decisions through procedures established by the school administration. Decisions involving suspension, expulsion, or withdrawal shall be subject to the school's applicable appeal procedures.

GROUP 1

Mandatory: Staff, teacher, or administrator warning

Discretionary: Notification of parents
Confiscation

GROUP 2

Mandatory: Notification of parent or guardian
Administrator/student conference
5 consecutive school days that students are ineligible for all after-school activities (athletics, drama, clubs, etc.) / (secondary students only). The five days will begin once punishment has been determined, not the date of the infraction unless punishment is determined on the day of infraction.

Discretionary: Assignment of work detail at the school
Billing of parent for damages to property
Disqualification for Graduation Honors (high school students only)

GROUP 3

Mandatory: Conference with parent or guardian
10 consecutive school days that students are ineligible for all after-school activities (athletics, drama, clubs, etc.) / (secondary students only). The ten days will begin once punishment has been determined, not the date of the infraction unless punishment is determined on the day of infraction.

Discretionary: Development of an expectations contract
Disqualification for Graduation Honors (high school students only)

GROUP 4

Mandatory: 5 days out-of-school suspension
Alternative to suspension (parental attendance at school)
Remedial discipline plan
Disqualification for Graduation Honors (high school students only)
Removal from all after-school activities for the remainder of the school year (secondary students only)

Discretionary: Letter of restraint
Charges filed or report made to law enforcement officials

GROUP 5

Mandatory: Administrative recommendation that the student voluntarily withdraw in lieu of formal expulsion proceedings
Recommendation for expulsion. Expulsion will be determined by the Executive Director.
Disqualification for Graduation Honors (high school students only)
Removal from all after-school activities for the remainder of the school year (secondary students only)