

**SUMMARY OF THE DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT and
CODE OF CONDUCT**

The C-PP Area School District has adopted policies to support the Dignity for All Students Act which went into effect July 1, 2012. This represents significant change and all parents and students are urged to read the summary below as out-of-school harassment, intimidation and bullying is subject to school discipline.

The Dignity for All Students Act requires school districts to put in place procedures for the creation of school environments free of discrimination and harassment. Any type of harassment on school property and at school functions is prohibited. Harassment is defined as the creating of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being. It also includes conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably cause or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety.

The Dignity for All Students act prohibits student harassment by school employees or students on school property or at a school function. This prohibition extends to cyber-bullying; verbal or written threats through an internet service such as e-mail, chat room, discussion group, instant messaging, or social networking sites on or off school property; and student discrimination by school employees or students based on a person's actual perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.

Reporting discrimination or harassment. Any person having reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been subjected to discrimination or harassment, who acts reasonably and in good faith in reporting such information or initiates informal or formal proceedings, has immunity from any civil liability that may arise. No school district or employee may take, request or cause retaliatory action against a person who, acting reasonably and in good faith makes a report or initiates informal or formal proceedings.

Requirements of School Districts. The Corning-Painted Post Area School District is committed to creating school environments that are free from discrimination and harassment. A version of the Anti-Bullying and Harassment policy is available at your child's school and online at www.corningareaschools.com (0115-Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying). Trained professionals in each building support programs to discourage discrimination or harassment. Furthermore, guidelines are designed to: Raise the awareness and sensitivity of school employees to potential discrimination or harassment, enable employees to prevent and respond to discrimination or harassment, and support the development of nondiscriminatory instructional and counseling methods. At least one member of each school's staff must be trained to handle human relations in the areas in which discrimination and harassment are prohibited. In Corning-Painted Post, the team consists of the school principal, a social worker or guidance counselor.

If you or anyone you know is knowledgeable of discrimination or harassment, please contact the building principal of your child's school.

For further information, please contact the Superintendent, Michael Ginalski; Director of

Secondary Education, Michelle Caulfield or Director of Elementary Education, Kerry Hochreiter at 936-3704.

SUMMARY OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

This Code applies to all students, school personnel, parents and other visitors when on school property or attending a school function.

"Disruptive student" is an elementary or secondary student under the age of 21 who is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom.

"Violent student" is a student under the age of 21 who:

1. Commits an act of violence upon a school employee, or attempts to do so.
2. Commits, or attempts to commit, while on school property an act of violence upon another student, or any other person, lawfully on school property or at a school function.
3. Possesses, while on school property or at a school function, a weapon.
4. Displays, while on school property or at a school function, what appears to be a weapon.
5. Threatens, while on school property or at a school function to use a weapon.
6. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys the personal property of any school employee or any person lawfully on school property or at a school function.
7. Knowingly and intentionally damages or destroys school District property.

"Weapon" is a firearm as defined in 18 USC §921 for purposes of the Gun-Free Schools Act. It also means any other gun, BB gun, pistol, revolver, shotgun, rifle, machine gun, disguised gun, dagger, dirk, razor, stiletto, switchblade knife, gravity knife, brass knuckles, sling shot, metal knuckle knife, box cutter, cane sword, electronic dart gun, Kung Fu star, electronic stun gun, pepper spray or other noxious spray, explosive or incendiary bomb, or other device, instrument, material or substance that can cause physical injury or death when used to cause physical injury or death.

STUDENT RIGHTS

All students have the right to:

1. Seek participation in all District activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, creed, age, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
2. Schools that are safe, orderly, and free of tobacco, alcohol and drugs.
3. Clearly-stated and challenging academic curriculum.
4. Courtesy and respect from each other and from staff.
5. An explicit and consistently administered discipline code.
6. Present their version, at an appropriate time, of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

All students have the responsibility to:

1. Contribute to maintaining a safe, supportive, and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.

2. Be familiar with and obey all school codes and local, state and federal laws, including those pertaining to illegal substances and weapons.
3. Attend school every day, unless they are legally excused, and be in class, on time, and prepared to learn.
4. Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
5. Accept consequences for individual actions, whether alone or in a group.
6. Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
7. Conduct themselves as representatives of the District when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.

STUDENT DRESS CODE

A student's dress, grooming, and appearance shall:

1. Be safe, appropriate and not disrupt or interfere with the educational process.
2. Ensure that undergarments are completely covered with outer clothing.
3. Include footwear at all times. Footwear that presents a safety hazard will not be allowed, including shoes, sneakers, or other footwear which have wheels or other devices which can be adjusted to allow sliding or rolling, rather than walking or running.
4. Not include the wearing of hats, scarves, bandanas, hoods, or head coverings in the building except for a medical or religious purpose.
5. Not include items that are vulgar, obscene, libelous or denigrating to others on account of race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
6. Each building principal, or his or her designee, shall be responsible for informing all students and their parents of the student dress code at the beginning of the school year and any revisions to the dress code made during the school year.
7. Students who violate the student dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item and, if necessary or practical, replacing it with an acceptable item. Any student who refuses to do so shall be subject to discipline, up to and including out of school suspension.
8. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the dress code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out of school suspension.
9. Not promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities, including use of weapons.
10. Recognize that extremely brief garments such as tube tops, net tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines (front and/or back) and see through garments are not appropriate.
11. Student attire at after-school and evening activities, including dances, should be appropriate and display good taste in accordance with this policy.

PROHIBITED STUDENT CONDUCT

Students will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when they:

- A. Engage in conduct that is disorderly.** Examples of these behaviors include, but are not limited to the following:
1. Running in the hallways.
 2. Making unreasonable noise.



3. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
4. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
5. Engaging in any willful act which disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
6. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building, other than the one they regularly attend, without permission from the administrator in charge of the building.
7. Computer/electronic communications misuse, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites; or any other violation of the District's acceptable use policy.

B. Engage in conduct that is insubordinate.
Examples of insubordinate conduct include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees in charge of students or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
2. Lateness for, missing or leaving, class or school without permission.
3. Skipping detention.

C. Engage in conduct that is disruptive.

Examples of disruptive conduct include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school personnel in charge of students.

D. Engage in conduct that is violent.

Examples of violent conduct include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, pushing or shoving and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other school employee or attempting to do so.
2. Committing an act of violence upon another student or any other personnel lawfully on school property or attempting to do so.
3. Possessing a weapon. Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on school property or at a school function.
4. Displaying what appears to be a weapon or any other object which would appear to cause bodily injury.
5. Threatening to use any weapon.
6. Intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student teacher, administrator, other District employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
7. Intentionally damaging or destroying school District property.

E. Engage in conduct that endangers the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.

Examples of such disruptive conduct include:

1. Lying to school personnel.
2. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person on school property or attending a school function.
3. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them.
4. Discrimination, which includes the use of race, color, creed, age, national origin, ethnic group, religion, gender, sexual orientation, weight or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner.
5. Harassment and bullying.
6. Intimidation, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with, or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
7. Hazing, which includes any intentional or reckless act directed against another for the

purpose of initiation into, affiliating with, or maintaining membership in any school sponsored activity, organization, club or team.

8. Selling, using, or possessing obscene material.
9. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing, inappropriate language or swearing.
10. Smoking and/or possessing a lighted or unlighted cigarette, electronic cigarette, cigar, pipe, or similar devices, or using chewing or smokeless tobacco.
11. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or being under the influence of either. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, e-liquids, including, liquid nicotine, marijuana, synthetic marijuana, liquid nicotine, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike or "counterfeit" drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs."
12. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs.
13. Gambling.
14. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
15. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.

F. Engage in misconduct while on a school bus. It is crucial for students to behave appropriately while riding on District buses to ensure their safety and that of other passengers and to avoid distracting the bus driver. Students are required to conduct themselves on the bus in a manner consistent with established standards of classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving, and fighting will not be tolerated.

G. Engage in any form of academic misconduct. Examples of academic misconduct include:

1. Plagiarism.
2. Cheating.
3. Copying.
4. Altering or falsifying records.
5. Assisting another student in any of the above actions.

PENALTIES

Students who are found to have violated the District's Code of Conduct may be subject to the following penalties, either alone or in combination:

1. Oral warning.
2. Written warning.
3. Written notification to parent.
4. Detention.
5. Suspension from transportation.
6. Suspension from athletic participation.
7. Suspension from social or extracurricular activities.
8. Suspension of other privileges.
9. In-school suspension/In-school planning.
10. Removal from classroom by teacher.
11. Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school.
12. Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school.
13. Permanent suspension from school.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

This Code of Conduct affords students with disabilities subject to disciplinary action no greater or lesser rights than those expressly afforded by applicable federal and state law and regulations.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal punishment is any act of physical force upon a student for the purpose of punishing that student. Corporal punishment of any student by any District employee is strictly forbidden. However, in situations where alternative procedures and methods that do not

involve the use of physical force cannot reasonably be used, reasonable physical force may be used to:

1. Protect oneself, another student, teacher or any person from physical injury.
2. Protect the property of the school or others.
3. Restrain or remove a student whose behavior interferes with the orderly exercise and performance of school District functions, powers and duties, if that student has refused to refrain from further disruptive acts.

The District will file all complaints about the use of corporal punishment with the Commissioner of Education in accordance with Commissioner's Regulations.

STUDENT SEARCHES, Student Lockers, Desks and Other School Storage Places

Students may be assigned lockers in which they are allowed to store their personal property. These lockers are school property and can be inspected or searched at any time. While students are assigned a lock or combination, this lock is for the purpose of protecting the students' property and does not create an expectation of privacy. Lockers, like all parts of a school building, including desks and other areas in which students are allowed to store their personal property, remain school District property and are subject to inspection and search at any time. This also applies to desks, computer files, vehicles on school property, backpacks and any other school storage.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS

The following rules apply to visitors to the schools:

1. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
2. All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal or designated area. There they will be required to sign the visitor's register and will be required to wear a visitor's identification badge which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor must return the identification badge before leaving the building.
3. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.
4. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s), so that class disruption is kept to a minimum.
5. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
6. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this Code of Conduct.

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

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

For a complete copy of the Code of Conduct, you may call your building principal or the District Office at 936-3704, Ext. 1004. The Code of Conduct is also located on the District website. www.corningareaschools.com