

Roanoke Rapids Graded School District
Student Code of Conduct 2023-2024

Rules of Conduct

NCDPI/PowerSchool codes are listed in italics. These are state approved codes that are utilized in reporting discipline data to the state. Administrators or other authorized school personnel should select one or more when inputting incidents into PowerSchool. Offenses marked as UB are unacceptable behavior, RO are Reportable Offenses, and PD are police department.

Aggressive Behavior

Level I, Level II, Level III (*UB: Aggressive Behavior, UB: Bullying, UB: Harassment-Verbal*)

A student shall not approach another person in a confrontational, provocative or bullying manner or exhibit any form of aggressive physical or verbal action against another student, staff member or any other adult at school. This can include but is not limited to minor incidents of hitting, biting, spitting, shoving, kicking or throwing objects at a student or adult.

Attendance

Level I, Level II, Level III (*UB: Excessive Tardiness, UB: Leaving School without permission, UB: Leaving Class without permission, UB: Truancy, UB: Skipping School, UB: Cutting Class, UB: Late to Class*)

A student must attend every class every day unless there is an excused reason for the absence. Students who are tardy, cut school or class, or have excessive unexcused absences (more than 10) are in violation of this rule and are subjected to adjudication as an undisciplined youth in Juvenile Court. In addition to any administrative response, students with excessive absences may be required to comply with the district's credit recovery procedures.

****Level III: situations where the student is putting him/herself or staff members in harm's way (ie: running into a busy highway/road when trying to run away from campus).**

Arson

Level III, Level IV, Level V (*RO: Burning of a School Building, UB: Unlawfully setting a fire; UB: Inappropriate Item on School property, UB: Property damage*)

A student will neither set fire nor attempt to set fire to anything on school property or participate with others to damage or destroy school property through the use of fire. This includes striking matches, flicking cigarette lighters or using any instrument capable of producing fire on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity that is on or off school property.

Assault

Level III Offense

Students are prohibited from assaulting, physically injuring, attempting to injure, or intentionally behaving in such a way as could reasonably cause injury to any other person. An assault should be reported when an unprovoked physical attack occurs or when a physical response to an altercation is disproportionate. When an altercation involves somewhat similar levels of violence by both (or multiple) parties it is appropriate to cite both with the incident type of Fighting.

- **Assault on a Student** (*UB: Assault on Student, PD: Physical attack with a firearm, PD: Assault Resulting in Serious Injury, UB: Violent Assault Not Resulting in Serious Injury, PD: Assault involving the use of a weapon, UB: Assault on student without the use of a weapon and not resulting in serious injury, UB: Assault - Other, UB: [Affray \(G.S. 14-33\)](#))*
- **Assault on a Staff Member** (*RO: Assault on School Personnel not resulting in serious injury, PD: Assault Resulting in Serious Injury, PD: Assault involving the use of a weapon, UB: Assault - Other, UB: [Affray \(G.S. 14-33\)](#), UB: Assault on a non-student without a weapon and not resulting in serious injury*)

Bullying or Harassment - [RRGSD Policy 4329/7311](#)

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Bullying, UB: Harassment-Racial, UB: Harassment-Disability, UB: Inappropriate Language/Disrespect, UB: Cyber-bullying, UB: Harassment- Sexual Orientation, UB: Harassment- Religious Affili RRGSD Policy 4329/7311ation, UB: Discrimination, UB: Hazing*)

Harassment, bullying and cyberbullying are prohibited. Harassment or bullying includes any pattern of gestures or written, electronic, or verbal communications, or any physical act or any threatening communication, that:

- Places a student or school employee in actual and reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; or
- Creates or is certain to create a hostile environment by substantially interfering with or impairing a student's educational performance, opportunities, or benefits. For purposes of this section, "hostile environment" means that the victim subjectively views the conduct as bullying or harassing behavior and the conduct is objectively severe or pervasive enough that a reasonable person would agree that it is bullying or harassing behavior.

Cyberbullying is bullying via the internet or other electronic means. This policy prohibits cyberbullying that has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment, regardless of whether the bullying communications are written or accessed on school property.

Bus Misconduct

Level I or Level II Offense (*UB: Bus Misbehavior, UB: Being in an unauthorized area*)

School transportation service is a privilege, not a right. Students at all times while riding a school bus or other school vehicle shall observe the directives of the bus or vehicle driver. The following conduct is specifically prohibited

- stopping, impeding, delaying or detaining a bus or school vehicle;
- disturbing the peace, order or discipline on a bus or school vehicle;
- refusing to obey the driver's instructions;
- tampering with or willfully damaging the bus or school vehicle;
- getting off a bus at an unauthorized stop;
- distracting the driver's attention by participating in disruptive behavior while the vehicle is in operation;
- failing to observe established safety rules and regulations;
- willfully trespassing upon a school bus or school vehicle; and
- fighting, smoking, using profanity, possession or using drugs or intoxicating beverages, or otherwise violating any other board policy or school rule while on a school bus or other school vehicle.

Consequences for engaging in prohibited behavior may result in temporary or permanent suspension from school transportation services and/or school, in addition to other consequences for violating other student behavior policies. bus or other school vehicle.

Bomb Threats - [RRGSD Policy 4333](#)

Level III, Level IV, Level V; Contact Threat Assessment Team (*RO: Bomb Threat*)

Students are prohibited from:

1. making a bomb threat, regardless of whether the student intends to or has the means to carry out the threat;
2. perpetrating a bomb hoax against school system property by making a report, knowing or having reason to know the report is false, that a bomb or other device designed to cause damage or destruction by explosion, blasting, or burning is located on school system property or at a school system event;
3. perpetrating a bomb hoax by concealing, placing, or displaying any device on school system property or at a school system event, so as to cause any person reasonably to believe the same to be a bomb or similar device intended to cause injury to persons or property; and
4. knowingly or willfully causing, encouraging, or aiding another student to make a bomb threat or perpetrate a bomb hoax.

Any student who becomes aware that another student or other person intends to use a bomb, make a bomb threat, or perpetrate a bomb hoax must notify a teacher or the principal immediately.

Buying, Selling, or Trading Items

Level I Offense (*UB: Inappropriate Behavior*) **This does not include the selling/buying of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco products. Please refer to *Drugs and Alcohol*

Students shall not buy, sell, or trade merchandise at any time on school property or at any school-sponsored or school-related event on-campus or off-campus, or at any other time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel.

Cheating or Falsification

Level I or Level II Offense (*UB: Honor Code Violation, UB: Falsification of Information*)

Students shall not cheat, lie, plagiarize, falsify notes, projects and papers or other documents, or provide false information to school officials with regard to any report card, attendance matter, grades or progress reports, discipline matters, or any other school business.

- Cheating is producing academic work by means of dishonesty or deceit.
- Plagiarism is copying the language, structure, or idea of another and representing it as one's own work.
- Falsification is the verbal or written statement of any untruth, including forged signatures or other forgeries.

Communicating Threats

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense; Contact Threat Assessment Team (*UB: Communicating Threats, UB: Threat of a physical attack with a weapon, UB: Threat of physical attack without a weapon, PD: Threat of physical attack with a firearm*)

No student shall make any threat through written or verbal language or act which conveys a serious expression of intent to cause harm or violence. Furthermore, no student shall make a false threat of harm or violence, even in jest, which causes or is reasonably likely to cause fear or a disruption to school activities. The Level will be determined by the level of risk presented by the threat, whether the threat could have reasonably been carried out and whether the threatened person was made fearful.

Disrespectful Behavior

Level I, Level II, Level III Offense (*UB: Disrespect of faculty/staff*)

Students shall exhibit appropriate respect towards school personnel, volunteers, and other students.

Disruptive Behavior

Level I or Level II Offense (*UB: Disruptive Behavior, UB: Repeat Offender, UB: Disorderly Conduct ([G.S.14-288.4\(a\)\(6\)](#))*)

Students shall not initiate or join in any physical or verbal conduct which disrupts the school environment and/or interferes with teaching or orderly conduct of class or school activities.

Dress Code Violation [RRGSD Policy 4316](#)

Level I or Level II Offense (*UB: Dress Code Violation*)

The board believes that the dress and personal appearance of students greatly affect their academic performance and their interaction with other students. The board requests that parents outfit their children in clothing that is conducive to learning. Generally, dress and grooming standards as determined by the student and his or her parents will be deemed acceptable. Parents and students should consult their school's handbook for specific standards of dress. However, the board prohibits any appearance or clothing that does the following:

- violates a reasonable, nondiscriminatory dress code adopted and publicized by the school;

- is substantially disruptive (for information on gang-related attire, see [RRGSD Policy 4328 Gang-Related Activity](#));
- is provocative or obscene; or
- endangers the health or safety of the student or others.

Before receiving disciplinary consequences, a student who is not in compliance with this policy or a school dress code will be given a reasonable period of time to make adjustments so that he or she will be in compliance.

Drugs and Alcohol - [RRGSD Policy 4325](#)

No student shall possess, use, distribute, sell, possess with intent to distribute or sell, or conspire or attempt to distribute or sell, or be under the influence of any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, anabolic, steroid, other controlled substance, any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine, other intoxicating liquor, drug paraphernalia, counterfeit controlled substance, any unauthorized prescription drug, or any other chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration, euphoria, or otherwise altering the student's or other persons' mood or behavior. No student shall distribute, sell, possess with intent to distribute or sell, or conspire or attempt to distribute or sell any prescription drug whether or not the student possesses a valid prescription for the drug.

For the purpose of the Code of Conduct the following definitions apply:

- Possess: Having the power or intent to control a prohibited substance and shall include, but is not necessarily limited to the possession of a prohibited substance in a student's automobile, locker, book-bag, desk, or on a student's person.
- Use: The consumption, injection, inhalation or absorption of a prohibited substance into a student's body by any means.
- Under the influence: The use of any prohibited substance at any time or place when the prohibited substance would influence a student's mood, behavior, or learning to any degree.
- Sell: exchange of a prohibited substance for money, property, or any other benefit or item of value.
- Distribute: To give, share, or pass a prohibited substance.
- Possess with intent to distribute/sell: Intent to distribute or sell may be determined from the amount of the prohibited substance found, the manner in which it was packaged, the presence of packaging materials such as scales, baggies or other containers, or from statement or actions of the student that demonstrate an intent to distribute or sell.
- Counterfeit Controlled Substance: Any substance that is described or presented with the intention of deceiving another into believing that it is a substance prohibited under this policy.
- Unauthorized Prescription Drug: drug or medication that has not been prescribed for the student, or use of a drug prescribed to the student in a manner not consistent with the prescription.
- Prohibited substances: include any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids/THC compounds, anabolic, steroid, other controlled substance, counterfeit controlled substance, any unauthorized prescription drug, or any other chemicals or products with the intention of bringing about a state of exhilaration, euphoria, or otherwise altering the student's or other persons' mood or behavior.

Alcohol

Level III (RO: *Alcohol Possession, RO: Use of Alcoholic Beverages*)

A student shall not possess, use or be under the influence of alcohol on school property or at a school function. For distribution of alcohol see Sale or Distribution (below).

Paraphernalia

Level II, or Level III (UB: *Possession of chemical or drug paraphernalia, UB: Possession of Vaping (Non-tobacco) Device*)

Students are prohibited from possessing, using, selling, delivering, or manufacturing drug paraphernalia, including but not limited to rolling papers, roach clips, lighters, matches, vaping devices, vape liquid containers, pipes, syringes, and other delivery devices for prohibited substances.

Use, Influence, or Possession of Drugs

Level III, Referral to Substance Abuse Family Education (SAFE) Program (RO: *Use of Controlled Substances, RO: Use of Narcotics, UB: Use of Counterfeit items, UB: Possession of Counterfeit Items, RO: Possession of Controlled Substance-Other, RO:*

Possession of Controlled Substance-Ritalin, RO: Possession of Controlled Substance-Cocaine, RO: Possession of Controlled Substance-opioid, RO: Possession of Another Person's Prescription Drug, UB: Possession of student's own prescription drug, UB: Under the influence of alcohol, UB: Under the influence of controlled substances, UB: Use of Vaping (Non-Tobacco) Device)

A student shall not use or be under the influence of narcotic drugs, illegal drugs, controlled substances, or prohibited substances or possess such substances (including prescription or non-prescription medications without meeting conditions prescribed by the Board of Education) on school property or at a school function.

Sale or Distribution (Attempt or Actual)

Level III, Level IV (RO: Distribution of a Prescription Drug, RO: Sale of Controlled Substance in violation of law-Other, RO: Sale of controlled substance in violation of law-marijuana, RO: Sale of controlled substance in violation of law-Ritalin, RO: Sale of controlled substance in violation of law-opioid, RO: Sale of Controlled substance in violation of the law-Cocaine)

A student shall not distribute, sell, attempt to sell, or possess with intent to sell any prohibited drug or controlled substance as defined above. Possession of a large amount of or more than one individually wrapped package of a controlled or illegal substance will be considered evidence that the student intended to sell or distribute the product.

Excessive Displays of Affection

Level I or Level II Offense (UB: *Excessive Display of Affection*)

No student shall engage in behavior which is indecent, overly affectionate, or of a sexual nature, including displays of affection which are disruptive to the learning environment.

Extortion

Level III (UB: *Extortion*)

Students shall not extort through verbal, written or physical threats, coercion, or intimidation anything of value from any other student or school employee.

False Alarm

Level II or Level III (UB: *False Fire Alarm, UB: Disruptive Behavior*)

In the absence of an emergency, a student shall not call 911, signal, or set off an automatic signal indicating the presence of an emergency.

Fighting

Level III (UB: *Fighting, UB: [Affray \(G.S. 14-33\)](#)*)

Students shall not fight or attempt to cause bodily harm to another student. If a student is attempting to involve another student in a fight, the other student should walk away and report it to a teacher, assistant principal, or principal. Students who instigate fights will be subject to the same consequences as those who are actually involved in fighting.

Firearms or Destructive Devices - [RRGSD Policy 4333](#)

Level V; Contact Threat Assessment Team (RO: *Possession of a Firearm or powerful explosive: PD: Robbery with a firearm or powerful explosive, UB: Threat of physical attack with a firearm, PD: Physical attack with a firearm or explosive device*)

Students shall not bring onto school property or possess a firearm or destructive device [NC GS 115C-390.1](#).

- A firearm is any weapon, including a starter gun, which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, or any firearm muffler or firearm silencer. The definition of firearm under this rule does not include an inoperable antique firearm, BB gun, stun gun, air rifle, or air pistol.

- A destructive device is an explosive, incendiary, or poison gas bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge or more than one-quarter ounce, mine, or similar device.

Gambling

Level I or II Offense (UB: Gambling)

Students shall not engage in any form of games of chance or gambling for money and/or objects of value. This does **not** include students participating in the buying or selling of tickets/ raffles for fundraising activities associated with school-based organizations.

Gang Related Activity [RRGSD Policy 4328](#)

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (UB: Gang Activity)

Gang-related activity is strictly prohibited within the schools. For the purposes of this policy, “gang-related activity” means:

1. any conduct that is prohibited by another board policy and is engaged in by a student on behalf of an identified gang or as a result of the student’s gang membership; or
2. any conduct engaged in by a student to perpetuate, proliferate, or display the existence of any identified gang.

Conduct prohibited by this policy includes:

1. wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, or other items with the intent to convey membership or affiliation in a gang;
2. communicating either verbally or non-verbally (gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.) with the intent to convey membership or affiliation in a gang;
3. tagging, or otherwise defacing school or personal property with symbols or slogans intended to convey membership or affiliation in a gang (see policy 4330, Theft, Trespass, and Damage to Property);
4. requiring payment of protection or insurance or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity (see policy 4331, Assaults, Threats, and Harassment);
5. inciting others to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity (see policy 4331);
6. soliciting others for gang membership; and
7. committing any other illegal act or other violation of school system policies in connection with gang-related activity.

Each school will maintain a list of current examples of gang-related activities, symbols, clothing, etc., developed by the Superintendent’s office in consultation with law enforcement. Parents, students, and staff may view the list in the school’s main office upon request.

Before receiving disciplinary consequences for a violation #1 or #2 above, a student shall receive an individualized warning as to what item or conduct is in violation of this policy and shall be permitted to immediately change or remove any prohibited items. A student may only be disciplined if he or she previously received notice that the specific item or conduct is prohibited.

Minor Infractions of Classroom and School Rules

Level I Offense (UB: Inappropriate Behavior)

Students may be disciplined for violations of classroom or school rules. Teachers will follow a classroom discipline procedure, appropriate to the infraction.

Noncompliance

Level I, Level II, Level III Offense (UB: Insubordination)

A student will comply with the lawful direction of any authorized staff member while in school, participating in a school activity or on school property. All students are expected to behave in a respectful manner. This includes, but is not limited to, complying with the direction or instruction of a staff member, not walking away from a staff member while being spoken to, and speaking to staff in an appropriate manner.

Possession of Contraband

Level I, Level II, Level III Offense (*UB: Inappropriate Item on School property*)

Students may not bring to school or possess at school objects which disrupt or distract from the learning process or pose safety hazards, including but not limited to lighters, matches, toys, and games. Possession of a toy gun that could be mistaken for an actual weapon should be treated as Possession of a Weapon or Dangerous Instrument.

Pornographic, Profane and/or Violent Material

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Inappropriate Item on School property, UB: Harassment-Sexual*)

A student shall refrain from having any pornographic or profane material in his/her possession, on school property or at school sponsored event, including but not limited to pictures, magazines, CDs, DVDs, electronic text or images and sexually explicit or graphically violent materials (including but not limited to documents or instructions concerning the creation of and/or the use of weapons). Violations of this rule that are coded as *UB: Harassment-Sexual*, must also be reported to the district's Title IX Coordinator.

Sexual Activity

A student shall not engage in any sexual behavior on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. All reports of sexual misconduct must be reported to the district's Title IX Coordinator.

Mutual Sexual Activity

Level II or Level III Offense (*UB: Mutual Sexual Contact between two students*)

A student shall not engage in sexual activity on school campus or at school activities.

Sexual Harassment - RRGSD Board Policies: [1736/4026/7236](#), [1725/4035/7236](#)

Level II or Level III Offense (*UB: Harassment-Sexual*)

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when:

1. submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's employment, academic progress, or completion of a school-related activity; or
2. submission to or rejection of such conduct is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual, or in the case of a student, submission to or rejection of such conduct is used in evaluating the individual's performance within a course of study or other school-related activity; or
3. such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive so that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an employee's work or performance or a student's educational performance; limiting a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or environment; or creating an abusive, intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment.

Examples of sexually harassing conduct include, but are not limited to, deliberate, unwelcome touching of a sexual nature or that takes on sexual connotations; suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment or threats; pressure for sexual activity; continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions; continued or repeated verbal remarks about an individual's body; sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual; and the display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures.

Sexual harassment does not include personal compliments welcomed by the recipient or social interactions or relations freely entered into by employees or prospective employees, or appropriate interactions between students. In the case of consensual relations between students, there may be reason to question the consensual nature of the conduct if one or both of the students are very young or if there is a large age disparity between the students.

Indecent Exposure

Level II or Level III Offense (*UB: Indecent Exposure, UB: Harassment-Sexual*)

A student shall not intentionally expose private body parts, including but not limited to the intentionally display of the buttocks (moonng).

Sexual Assault (not involving rape or sexual offense)

Level III Offense (*PD: Sexual Assault not involving rape or sexual offense*)

A person is guilty of sexual battery if he/she, for the purpose of sexual arousal, sexual gratification, or sexual abuse, engages in sexual contact with another person by force and against the will of the other person, or if the person being assaulted is mentally disabled, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless and the person performing the act knows or should reasonably know that the other person is mentally disabled, mentally incapacitated, or physically helpless.

Sexual Battery

Level III or Level IV Offense (*PD: Rape, PD: Sexual Offense*)

A student shall not attempt or engage in non-consensual sexual penetration with another person.

Technology Responsible Use - [RRGSD Policy 3225/4312/7320](#)

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Misuse of school technology, UB: Honor Code Violation, UB: Communicating Threats, UB: Cyber-bullying, UB: Property damage*)

All students are expected to follow the guidelines outlined in the Technology Responsible Use Agreement and GCPS Board Policy Code: 3225/4312/7320. Students, employees, visitors, and other users have no expectation of privacy in anything they create, store, send, delete, receive, or display when using the school system's network, devices, Internet access, email system, or other technological resources owned or issued by the school system, whether the resources are used at school or elsewhere, and even if the use is for personal purposes.

Students shall not use school system technology to:

- Log on to a computer or website using another person's credentials.
- Use programs designed to circumvent network controls and monitoring.
- Use the network for commercial or for-profit purposes.
- Use the network for product advertisement or political lobbying, other than student offices.
- Intentionally seek access to protected data.
- Disrupt the use of the network for others.
- Destroy, modify or abuse hardware and/or software and/or network configurations.
- Maliciously use the network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computing system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system.
- Use the GCPS network to create, access, process or distribute images or text files that are obscene, pornographic, threatening, or otherwise threaten to disrupt the educational environment, or files dangerous to the integrity of the local area network.
- Install programs in such a way as to violate copyright and/or licensing agreements.
- Download, copying, otherwise duplicating and/or distributing copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright, except that duplication and/or distribution of materials for educational purposes is permitted when such duplication and/or distribution would fall within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law.
- Use profanity, obscenity, racist terms, or language that is reasonably likely to cause a substantial disruption in the school environment is prohibited.

Theft - [RRGSD Policy 4330](#)

Level I, Level II, Level III Offense (*UB: Theft, UB: Inappropriate Item on School property, UB: Robbery without a weapon*)

Students shall not steal or attempt to steal or knowingly be in possession of stolen property.

Tobacco and Vaping Products - [RRGSD Policy 4320](#)

Level II or Level III Offense (*UB: Possession of Tobacco, UB: Use of Tobacco*)

Students are prohibited from using or possessing any tobacco product (1) in any school building, on any school campus, and in or on any other school property owned or operated by the school board, including school vehicles; (2) at any school-related activity, including athletic events; or (3) at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of school personnel, including during school trips.

For the purposes of this policy, the term "tobacco product" means any product that contains or that is made or derived from tobacco and is intended for human consumption, including all lighted and smokeless tobacco products, as well as electronic cigarettes, vaporizers, and other electronic smoking devices even if they do not contain tobacco or nicotine.

Trespassing - [RRGSD Policy 4330](#)

Level II or Level III Offense (*UB: Being in an unauthorized area*)

Students are prohibited from trespassing on school property. A student will be considered a trespasser and may be criminally prosecuted in any of the following circumstances

- A student who is on the campus of a school to which he or she is not assigned during the school day without the prior knowledge and consent of the officials of the school the student is visiting;
- Any student who loiters at any school after the close of the school day without specific need or supervision (after parent notification); or
- Any student who has been suspended from school who appears on the property of any school during the suspension period without the express permission of the principal.

Unsafe Action

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Being in an Unauthorized Area, UB: Disruptive Behavior, UB: Insubordination*)

This rule will apply only when the unsafe behavior does not meet the standards of any other violation. A student shall not commit any action that has the potential to cause danger or physical harm to himself or to others, to include but not limited to: exiting a moving school bus, exiting a school bus by way of the emergency exit absent an emergency, attempting to elude school officials by running through an active vehicle traffic area, climbing on the roof of buildings, being in construction areas, boiler rooms, attics, or elevators.

Use of Wireless Communication Devices - [RRGSD Policy 4318](#)

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Cell Phone Use, UB: Inappropriate Item on School property*) ** Refer to each school level handbook for cell phone use policy

Wireless communication devices include, but are not limited to, cellular phones, electronic devices with internet capability, paging devices, two-way radios and similar devices. Except as permitted by this policy, no student shall use, display, transmit or have in the "on" position on school property any wireless communication device or personal entertainment device, including but not necessarily limited to cell phones, pagers, two-way radios, CD/ MP3 players, and electronic games or similar devices until after the conclusion of the instructional day.

Administrators may authorize individual students to use wireless communication devices for personal purposes when there is a reasonable need for such communication. Teachers and administrators may authorize individual students to use the devices for instructional purposes, provided that they supervise the students during such use. Electronic devices may be used by students for instructional purposes with the permission and under the personal supervision of the teacher within the classroom.

School employees may immediately confiscate any wireless communication devices that are on, used, displayed or visible in violation of this policy. Absent compelling and unusual circumstances, confiscated wireless communication devices will be returned only to the student's parent.

Vandalism

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Property Damage*)

Students shall not vandalize or damage or attempt to damage school property or property belonging to others. A student or parent/guardian will be held financially responsible, as allowed by law, for willful or malicious destruction of property.

Violations of NC Criminal Statutes

Level III, Level IV, Level V Offense (*UB: Other*)

Students shall not violate any criminal statute or local ordinance or commit any act which could result in criminal prosecution or juvenile proceedings not previously covered elsewhere in these rules at any time while a student is at school in any school building and on any school premises, attending school-sponsored activities, on or about any school-owned or operated vehicle, off school property at any school sponsored or school-approved activity or function or during any period of time when students are subject to the authority of school personnel, and at any time when the student's behavior has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline and protecting safety and welfare of students and staff.

Vulgar or Profane Language

Level I, Level II, or Level III Offense (*UB: Bullying, UB: Harassment-Racial, UB: Harassment-Disability, UB: Inappropriate Language/Disrespect, UB: Inappropriate Language-Racial, UB: Cyber-bullying, UB: Harassment- Sexual Orientation, UB: Harassment-Religious Affiliation*)

Students shall respect other students, visitors, school employees and other persons by utilizing appropriate language and behaviors at all times. The use of any language, whether written, oral or electronic, which is insulting, abusive, harassing, profane, obscene, or seriously disrespectful and which disrupts the learning process for any student or which demeans or degrades another person is specifically prohibited.

Weapons or Dangerous Instruments (Not Including Firearms) - [RRGSD Policy 4333](#)

Level III or Level IV Offense, Contact Threat Assessment Team (*RO: Possession of Weapon (excluding firearms and powerful explosives)*)

No student may knowingly or willfully cause, encourage, or aid another student to possess, handle, or use any of the weapons or weapon-like items listed above. A student who finds a weapon or weapon-like item, who witnesses another student or other person with such an item, or who becomes aware that another student or other person intends to possess, handle, or use such an item must notify a teacher or the principal immediately. Middle and high school students may also utilize the anonymous safety tip line for reporting risks to the school population.

Students are prohibited from possessing, handling, using, or transmitting, whether concealed or open, any weapon or any instrument that reasonably looks like a weapon or could be used as a weapon. Weapons or dangerous instruments include, but are not limited to the following:

- knives, including pocket knives, bowie knives, switchblades, dirks, and daggers;
- slingshots and slungshots;
- leaded canes;
- blackjacks;
- metal knuckles;
- BB guns;
- air rifles and air pistols;
- stun guns and other electric shock weapons, such as tasers;
- icepicks;
- razors and razor blades
- fireworks;
- gun powder, ammunition, or bullets;
- any sharp pointed or edge instruments

- mace, pepper spray, and other personal defense sprays.
- Examples of other objects that may be considered weapons are box cutters and other types of utility blades and blowguns.

Offenses by Level

Offense	Level I	Level II	Level III	Level IV	Level V
Aggressive Behavior	x	x	x		
Attendance	x	x	x		
Arson			x	x	x
Assault			x		
Bullying or Harassment	x	x	x		
Bus Misconduct	x	x			
Bomb Threats			x	x	x
Buying, Selling, or Trading Items	x				
Cheating or Falsification	x	x			
Communicating Threats	x	x	x		
Disrespectful Behavior	x	x	x		
Disruptive Behavior	x	x			
Dress Code Violation	x	x			
Drugs and Alcohol: Alcohol			x		
Drugs and Alcohol: Paraphernalia		x	x		
Drugs and Alcohol: Use, Influence, or Possession of Drugs			x		
Drugs and Alcohol: Sale or Distribution (Attempt or Actual)			x	x	
Excessive Display of Affection	x	x			
Extortion			x		
False Alarm		x	x		
Fighting			x		
Firearms or Destructive Devices					x
Gambling	x	x			
Gang Related Activity	x	x	x		
Minor Infractions of Classroom and School Rules	x	x			
Noncompliance	x	x	x		
Possession of Contraband	x	x	x		

Pornographic, Profane, and/or Violent Material	x	x	x		
Sexual Activity: Mutual Sexual Activity		x	x		
Sexual Activity: Sexual Harassment		x	x		
Sexual Activity: Indecent Exposure		x	x		
Sexual Activity: Sexual Assault (not involving rape or sexual offense)			x		
Sexual Activity: Sexual Battery			x	x	
Technology Responsible Use	x	x	x		
Theft	x	x	x		
Tobacco and Vaping Products		x	x		
Trespassing		x	x		
Unsafe Action	x	x	x		
Use of Wireless Communication Devices	x	x	x		
Vandalism	x	x	x		
Violations of NC Criminal Statutes			x	x	x
Vulgar or Profane Language	x	x	x		
Weapons or Dangerous Instruments (Not Including Firearms)			x	x	

Consequences by Level

Offenses are given a Level rating based on seriousness; a range of consequences for each level is set forth in this Handbook. If a particular offense may be classified in more than one Level, the administrator should select the appropriate level consequence based on the seriousness of the offense. This is also known as considering aggravating and mitigating factors. Aggravating and mitigating factors are relevant when, in the judgment of responsible school officials, they have a bearing on the student's level of responsibility for the behavior. When both aggravating and mitigating factors are present, principals should exercise their discretion in weighing and balancing them. Administrators should note any relevant aggravating or mitigating factors that led them to choose a particular consequence in the disciplinary write-up.

Examples of aggravating factors, or factors that make an offense more serious:

- Repeated instances of the same misconduct after prior warnings or discipline;
- Not telling the truth when questioned by staff about the incident, or falsely blaming another;
- Causing injury to another or destroying property of others;
- Inducing others to take part in the prohibited behavior;
- Repeated and blatant disrespect for school officials;
- Causing a significant disruption of the educational environment.

Examples of mitigating factors, or factors that may merit a lower level consequence:

- Age, maturity level, developmental level of the student;
- Lack of intent;
- Playing a passive or minor role in the offense;
- Truthfulness and taking responsibility;
- Repairing damage one has caused or making appropriate restitution;
- Respectful cooperation during the investigation and discipline process;
- Lack of recent prior offenses.

Description of Levels

Level I:

- Classroom interventions - These interventions aim to teach and correct behaviors so students can learn and demonstrate safe and respectful behavior. Teachers are encouraged to try a variety of instructional and classroom management strategies.
- MTSS Team interventions - These interventions often involve support staff, both school-based and from the community, and aim to engage the student's support system to ensure successful learning and consistency of interventions, and change the conditions that contribute to the student's inappropriate behavior or disruptive behavior.

Level II: These interventions can involve the school administration and aim to correct behavior by stressing the seriousness of the behavior while keeping the student in school.

Level III: These interventions may involve the short-term removal of a student from the school environment because of the severity of the behavior. The duration of the short-term suspension, if issued, is to be limited as much as practicable while adequately addressing the behavior.

Level IV and V: These interventions involve the removal of the student from the school environment because of the severity of the behavior. They may involve the placement of the student in an alternative learning program that provides structure to address behavior. These interventions focus on maintaining the safety of the school environment while supporting the student with ending dangerous behavior.

Level I Responses

This list contains some of the interventions that may be used by the classroom teacher or school administrator in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Classroom teachers or administrators may choose to use a combination of interventions.

Teacher Issued Consequence:

- Parent Contact
- Teacher Conference with Parent
- Teacher Conference with Student
- Confiscation of Unauthorized Items

- Reteach Expectation
- Student Written Warning
- Teach Replacement Behavior
- Verbal Warning

Administrative Issued Consequence:

- Administrative Conference with Parent
- Administrative Conference with Student
- After School Detention
- Behavior Contract
- Bus Suspension
- Confiscation of Unauthorized Items
- Lunch Detention, recess detention, after school detention, No power block, Jacket Time Detention
- Referral to MTSS Team
- Referral to School-Based Mental Health Services
- Referral to Student Services Team
- Refocus
- Restriction of School Privileges
- Reteach Expectation
- Student Written Warning
- Student Pays Restitution/Work Detail with Parent Permission
- Teach Replacement Behavior
- Verbal Warning

Level II Responses

This list contains some of the interventions that may be used by the school administrator in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Administrators may choose to use a combination of interventions.

Elementary

- Choice of Response from Level I
- ISS (In School Suspension) for Up to 5 Days
- ISS - Partial Day
- Sent Home Early

Middle and High School

- Choice of Response from Level I
- ISS (In School Suspension) for Up to 5 Days (Depending on the number of previous offenses and the severity of the incidence)
- ISS - Partial Day
- Sent Home Early
- Incident-related Training Module (First Offense)

Level III Responses

This list contains some of the interventions that may be used by the school administrator in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. Administrators may choose to use a combination of interventions.

Elementary

- Out of School Suspension (OSS) for Up to 10 Days
- Referral to Mobile Crisis
- Report to Law Enforcement for Offenses Labeled as PD and RO
- Short Term Placement at ACES

Middle and High

- Out of School Suspension (OSS) for Up to 10 Days
- Recommendation for Long-Term Suspension Based on Aggravating Factors
- Referral to Mobile Crisis

- Report to Law Enforcement for Offenses Labeled as PD and RO

Level IV Responses

- OSS with possible recommendation for Long-Term Suspension or long-term alternative placement
- Recommendation for OSS 365 days (Only for Specific firearm Offenses Under State Law)

Level V Response

- Expulsion: The indefinite removal of a student from school and all school properties for a student (age 14 or older) whose continued presence constitutes a clear threat to other persons or who is a registered sex offender. Expulsion requires a hearing before the Board of Education.