

EWG
Junior High
Handbook
2023-2024



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PHONE NUMBERS

Mary Slattery, Principal	397-6893	(210)
Craig Main, Dean of Students/Athletic Director	397-6893	(209)
Stacy Haines-Mayne, Student Support Specialist	397-6893	(218)
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Liz Lurgio, School Psychologist	397-6893	(219)
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EXETER-WEST GREENWICH JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

Dream . . . Reach . . . Succeed . . .

MISSION

The mission of Exeter-West Greenwich Junior High School is to empower students to contribute to school and community by providing substantial learning experiences in a safe, trusting, and motivating environment.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students have rights that should be recognized and respected. Students have the right to a quality education that will provide them with essential knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in their chosen path. All students have the right to be accepted and respected as unique individuals with differing personalities, abilities, and needs. Students have the right to pursue their education in a clean and safe environment.

Students' rights carry with them certain responsibilities. Students have the responsibility to put forth their best efforts in all areas of their education. Students have the responsibility to respect the rights of all other students. Students must behave in a manner that does not interfere with the education of other students. Students have the responsibility to respect all school staff and to follow school rules. Students have the responsibility to behave in such a way that keeps the school neat and clean, and prevents damage to school property. Most importantly, students must believe in their individual worth and have respect for themselves.

If the rights and responsibilities of all individuals are clearly understood, the elements of respect and cooperation will result in a harmonious and constructive environment for education. To ensure every individual's rights, a discipline policy outlining standards of acceptable behavior shall be developed, established and maintained.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District that no discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or handicap will exist in any area of the school. **(Refer to Policies 2150 and 2151 in the Appendix)**

SAFE SCHOOLS

Each student, staff member, teacher, and administrator has a right to attend and/or work at a school which is safe, secure, and peaceful, which is conducive to learning, and which is free from the threat, actual or implied, of physical harm by a disruptive student.

A disruptive student is a person who is subject to compulsory school attendance, who exhibits incorrigibly bad conduct, and who has failed to respond to corrective and rehabilitation measures presented by staff, teachers, or administrators.

ACADEMICS

ACADEMICS

REPORT CARD INFORMATION

GRADING

A + 97-100	A 93-96	A- 90-92
B + 87-89	B 83-86	B- 80-82
C + 77-79	C 73-76	C- 70-72
D 65-69	F below 65	
I Incomplete	S Satisfactory	U -Unsatisfactory

If a student receives a grade of incomplete, it must be made up within two weeks of the close of the marking period. Incomplete grades may not be issued without permission of the Principal, and only for special circumstances.

HONOR ROLL

Honors No grade below B- for marking period

PROMOTION—RETENTION POLICY

Junior High School Promotion Policy: Aligned with SC Policies 7605 and 7800:

All students must earn **4 credits** by the end of each school year to be promoted:

- **2 credits must be English Language Arts and Mathematics**
- **1 credit must be either Science or Social Studies**
- **1 total credits must be from the Specialists areas**
- **A summer school program may be available for any student who does not earn 4 credits required as listed above by the end of the school year. Students who do not meet the 4 credit requirement or who have outstanding incomplete major course assessments will be excluded from the Moving-up Ceremony (8th Grade). Only students certain of promotion to the next grade will be included in the Moving-up Ceremony (8th Grade) or any other end of the year promotion ceremonies/celebrations.**

A fee to be determined will be required for summer school. If a student's credit deficiency can be made up in the summer school program, as determined by school administration, this option may be available to families who wish to have their child promoted to the next grade at the successful completion of the summer school program. A full year course that meets daily or is blocked and meets every other day earns one (1) credit. A trimester course that meets daily earns .333 credits.

Academic Dishonesty (Policy [7802](#))

Students involved in academic dishonesty will face consequences consistent with Policy 7802.

STUDENT SERVICES

GUIDANCE 397-6893 Ex. 211

The services of the Guidance and Counseling Department of the Exeter-West Greenwich School District are an integral part of the total educational program. The School Counseling Program has been developed to ensure that all students will acquire the competencies (knowledge, attitudes, and skills) needed in academic, career and personal/social development in order to be productive citizens of a complex, diverse and global society. Emphasis is on a cooperative approach with counselors, teachers, parents, students and community members working together to enhance the growth and development of the individual student.

The goals of the program are to help students:

- Understand the school environment
- Understand self and others
- Understand the effects of attitude and behavior
- Develop decision making and problem solving skills
- Develop interpersonal skills and communication skills
- Develop career awareness and educational goals
- Develop a sense of community

The primary delivery methods for implementation of the school-counseling program are described below:

Counseling

Individual Counseling – the guidance counselor conducts a personal and private interaction with a student in which they work together on a problem or topic of interest.

Small Group Counseling – The counselor works with a small group of students together which usually ranges in size from two to eight members. Group discussions may be relatively unstructured or may be based on structured learning activities.

Consultation

The counselor as a consultant primarily helps parents and teachers to become more effective working with others. Consultation helps parents and teachers think through problems and concerns, acquire more knowledge and skill, and become more objective and self-confident. Also included in this area is the interpretation of testing.

Coordination

Counselors serve as a liaison between teachers, parents, and support personnel, and community resources to facilitate successful student development

Case Management
Counselors provide the necessary monitoring of individual student's progress towards achieving success in academic, career, and personal/social areas.

Guidance Curriculum

Counselors developmentally and sequentially provide information, knowledge, and skills through academic, career, and personal/social development often delivered in group/classroom meeting. Counselors develop and present special guidance units, which give attention to particular developmental issues or areas of concern.

Program Evaluation and Development

Counselors continually assess the needs of their students, evaluate their programs, and make changes in the school counseling program to better meet the current, identified needs of students.

In addition to the department's initiatives referred to above, students, parents and staff are encouraged to initiate individual meetings with the counselor as needed.

NURSE/HEALTH OFFICE

(Please refer to Policy [8701](#))

The Health Office is located off the Junior High School entrance. Students must obtain a pass from a teacher or an administrator to visit the health office. The certified nurse-teachers monitor and help maintain the health and safety of students and educate them on health issues. Only the nurse-teacher may administer medication.

Students are not to possess any medication – including over the counter medication.

All accidents, injuries, or illnesses must be reported. The school nurse will provide medical attention and will notify a parent or guardian if necessary. Screening for vision is done annually and referrals made in accordance with RI State Law. Parents are asked to inform the nurse of any medical concerns, allergies, or medications for their children.

LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

[Click here](#) for information regarding the library/media center.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE COUNSELOR

The Student Assistance program is a prevention and early intervention service for substance abuse and related problems. Counselor is available to all students, their parents, or as a consultant to any faculty or staff member of the Exeter-West Greenwich School System. You may refer yourself or a friend anytime. The Student Assistance Office is located in a private office outside the JHS Guidance office.

TECHNOLOGY ACCESS AND USE

Knowledge and skills related to computer applications are essential parts of an education that prepares students for life after high school. In addition, computers provide access to tremendous amounts of information via the Internet. In order to take advantage of the opportunities presented by computer technology each student will be given a personal computer account including a password to access the system. Students are to remember and keep their password confidential because the office does not have a list. **(Please refer to Policy [8508](#))**

OBTAINING AND MAINTAINING ACCESS: In order to obtain and maintain access to the computer system each student must:

1. Complete the Acceptable Use form and have it signed by both the student and the parent/guardian.
2. Follow appropriate rules of conduct at all times at all computers.

LOSS OF ACCESS: Computer privileges may be revoked under any of, but not limited to the following circumstances. In addition, any of the following violations may result in further disciplinary action:

1. Intentional damage to EWG computers.
2. Accessing the computer system using another student or teacher password.
3. Altering another student's or teacher's files or programs without permission.
4. Installation of any software on home directories or file servers without permission.
5. Maintaining executable or program files on home directories or file servers without permission.
6. Misuse of the Internet including accessing pornographic, terroristic or other inappropriate material.
7. Misuse of email, including sending false information, use of profanity, threats, or any other acts of harassment

Student Employment and Working Papers (Policy [8615](#))

Qualifications.

Any student who has no more that one failing grade and has a grade point average of 2.0 or more during the previous three marking periods shall qualify for a work permit.

Satisfactory School Attendance.

Any student who has been referred to and entered into the Truancy Court program due to excessive, unexcused absences during the previous three marking periods shall not qualify for a work permit. Students must also not be socially suspended to receive working papers.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

If you are an athlete, you must purchase school insurance. Brochures detailing these plans are available in the office and from the Athletic Director.

All athletes other than Football players are to make their checks out to ACE Insurance.

*****Football Participants are to make their checks out to Exeter-West Greenwich Public Schools for reimbursement of the cost differential.**

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

When a student participates in extracurricular activities the student is held to the same standard of behavior as expected during the school day. Such activities include, but are not limited to, clubs, dances, field trips, athletic events, and practices, etc.

If a student is socially suspended, out-of-school suspended, or expelled he/she may not attend, practice, or participate in extracurricular activities. Any disciplinary action such as detention or extended day that a student faces has priority over extracurricular activities.

A student who behaves inappropriately during an extracurricular activity will face disciplinary action. Depending on the circumstances, the student may be banned from all extracurricular activities as both a participant and as a spectator for up to one calendar year.

PARTICIPATION IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING ATHLETICS (Please refer to Policy [8607](#) in the Appendix)

Extra-curricular activities provide space, outside of the structured academic process, where students can readily realize self-appreciation for their accomplishments. Participating individually or as a team member teaches social skills, builds student confidence and motivates enthusiasm for achieving academic success. Team sports greatly raise morale in school. For these obvious benefits, the Exeter-West Greenwich School committee regards participation in extracurricular activities as an essential element of education.

Policy Proclamation

The school committee proclaims that eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities, including athletics, shall be administered by school principals in accordance with the standards herein. The standards shall also appear in student handbooks. For Athletic eligibility, these shall be in addition to the District Athletic Handbook, and the applicable requirements of the Rhode Island Interscholastic League or the Junior High School Principal's League, as appropriate.

Scope of Policy

This policy sets forth the academic eligibility standards that students must achieve to participate in Senior High School (SHS) extracurricular activities including athletics, and the attendance and department standards required for Junior High School (JHS) students to participate in extracurricular activities and the additional academic eligibility standards that JHS students must achieve to participate in athletics. The policy also provides the opportunity to regain eligibility for students who have fallen below standards. Student participation in co-curricular activities is not subject to eligibility requirements.

Academic Eligibility Standards—Junior High Student Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

Academic eligibility for JHS students to participate in athletics shall be determined by the grades received on their trimester report cards and the completeness of their schoolwork assignments. For JHS students the effective marking periods shall be the first and second trimesters. All students shall be eligible to participate in athletics during the first trimester marking period. To maintain eligibility during subsequent trimesters, the academic standards requires that students shall have no more than one failing grade on the previous trimester report card or no more than one incomplete grade in the previous trimester.

Students who have more than one failing grade on a trimester report card or who have more than one incomplete grade during the previous trimester shall be suspended from athletics until the academic

standards are achieved in a subsequent trimester; provided however, the principal may use an academic probation program in which students who have performed below the standards may regain eligibility.

V. Academic Probation

Principal's Academic Probationary Period

A two-week principal's academic probation period will be available for junior high student-athletes who have no more than one failing grade on their previous trimester report card.

Probation will be available to each student only one time per school year. The terms of probation are listed below:

- SHS students will be excluded from extra-curricular activities, including athletics,
- JHS students will be excluded from athletics and extracurricular activities
- Students, working with the principal, will formulate and mutually agree to a plan to elevate the deficient grades,
- Students will submit weekly progress reports to the principal, and
- Students' eligibility will be restored at the end of the probation period provided the principal is satisfied that the deficient grades have been corrected.

APPEAL PROCESS: Every eligible student shall be afforded equal opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities and the athletic program. Students who feel that they have been unfairly denied eligibility to participate may appeal. Appeals for denial of academic eligibility must begin with the principal, then the superintendent, and school committee. The appeal procedure for athletic disciplinary suspension is set forth in the District Athletic Handbook.

ATHLETIC STANDARDS: (athletics only)

Athletic standards are set forth in the District Athletic Handbook. These standards require that all students who participate in athletic practices or contests shall have their own health insurance, and shall also purchase the District Student Accident Insurance Plan. In addition, a physical examination shall be required before beginning each year of participation in athletics.

SCHOOL BEHAVIOR POLICIES

DISCIPLINE STATEMENT

Exeter-West Greenwich Junior High School has a population of approximately 270 students. The purpose of the student discipline policy is to establish and maintain a school climate in which learning for those students can take place. Students in junior high school need to learn not only academic skills, but social skills as well. Students are expected to exhibit appropriate social skills by respecting the rights of fellow students, respecting teachers, administrators, and staff, and by displaying manners that are socially acceptable.

Sometimes a student's behavior interferes with the education of other students. Disrespect, disorderly conduct, vandalism, violence, and other inappropriate behaviors on the part of a few students can lead to an unhealthy educational climate for many students. The student discipline policy is intended to minimize those inappropriate behaviors in order to ensure a healthy educational climate for the majority of students.

In general, our society often requires that individuals are where they are supposed to be when they are supposed to be there, and doing what they are supposed to do. One of the functions of the high school is to develop these skills in our students so that they may be successful in society after graduation. In order to develop those skills in our students the discipline policy addresses such behaviors as tardiness, cutting class, attendance, and truancy.

By the time our students leave high school, many of them will have reached the age of adulthood. The decisions that they make may have far-reaching effects on their lives. The discipline policy is intended to develop in our students the ability to make mature, responsible decisions about their behavior so that they may be successful and productive participants in our society.

The entire community helps in the implementation of proper school behavior as follows:

- The family, which traditionally has the responsibility for the discipline of its members in and out of school.
- Students, who have the responsibility to respect the rights of their fellow students, to pursue their education without disturbance or interference, and who also have the responsibility to follow school rules.
- The school, which has the responsibility to offer a meaningful curriculum, to present relevant subject matter, and to teach students not only to make a living but how to live.
- Enforcement and social agencies which have the responsibility to work with those students who perform acts of violence or vandalism.

ATTENDANCE

TARDINESS AND DISMISSALS Students are *required* to report to school on time and remain in school the entire time that school is in session. Any student who is late to school or leaving school early must report to the RECEPTION AREA to sign in and out.

Students are given a combination of 3 Tardies and/or Dismissals per semester that do not require a doctor's note. After the third tardy and/or dismissal, he or she will be assigned **a one –hour office detention**.

Students who are late to school TO THE POINT WHERE THEY MISS THEIR FIRST PERIOD CLASS WILL RECEIVE A 1.5 HOUR DETENTION. Unexcused Tardiness beyond period(s) will be treated as class cuts i.e. tardy beyond 1 period = 1 class cut 1.5 hour detention. Tardy beyond 2 periods = 2 class cuts, Extended Day etc.

Students who are late to school and fail to sign in the main office will receive **a two hour office** detention.

Students who are late to school or are dismissed early will not be allowed to participate in after-school activities that day unless approval to do so is given by an administrator.

Tardiness and frequent dismissals will result in combinations of:

- **Lunch Detention**
- **Office Detention**
- **Social Suspension**
- **Referral to Truancy Court**

ABSENCE According to Rhode Island Law, students "shall...attend... school during all of the days and hours that the public schools are in session." Rhode Island 16-19-1 Whenever a student is absent, a parent or guardian must call between 7:30 AM and 9:00 AM (397-6893 ext. 201) to report the absence.

Make Up work procedures will follow Grading Policy 7800.

DRESS

Exeter-West Greenwich Junior High School students are expected to dress and groom themselves in an appropriate manner. Any dress or appearance that constitutes a threat to the health and safety of students or disrupts the educational process will be prohibited. Students who are dressed inappropriately will be required to remedy the situation either by covering up, and/or changing the clothing or accessory. Acceptability will be determined by the administrator. The guidelines are as follows:

- Students will not wear coats, jackets, hats or visors inside the school building.
- Students must wear clothing that is free from obscenities or sexually suggestive statements and does not imply the use of alcohol, drugs or tobacco.
- Students must dress in a manner appropriate for school. Midriff area and torso must be **covered at all times**. Muscle shirts will not be allowed. Shirts' straps must be at least three fingers' width. Pants, shorts, and skirts must be worn at the waistline. **Undergarments must not be exposed, nor visible through clothing.**
- Students must wear shirts with appropriate necklines, which should extend no lower than a hand's width below the top of the sternum.
- Students must not wear bandanas and/or colors perceived to be gang-related.
- Students may not wear any clothing or accessory that can be considered to be a **weapon**: e.g. **spiked collars**.
- Students **may not wear clothes that are torn, ripped or that have holes that that would violate other provisions of the dress code (#9 supersedes #10 in this case).**
- Students may not wear sunglasses inside the school building.
- **Skirts and shorts must extend to the student's thumb tip in length, and must provide sufficient coverage of their backside. The discretion of administration can be used to determine if an article of clothing is too short for school.**
- Any student wearing leggings, tights, or other similar tight-fitting pants must be wearing a shirt or top that provides sufficient coverage of their backside. Leggings must be opaque and not see through.
- Students may not wear clothing that distracts the attention of others from the learning process.
- **Administration reserves the right to use its discretion regarding all of the above.**

BUS RULES

When a student rides the bus the student is held to the same standard of behavior as expected during the school day. The basic bus rules are as follows:

1. Students must obey all instructions given by the bus driver.
2. Students must stay in their seats at all times. They are not permitted to change seats without permission.
3. Students must keep the aisle clear at all times. What is brought on the bus must be kept at the student's feet or in the student's lap.
4. Students must speak quietly.
5. Students must keep hands and objects to themselves.
6. Unsafe objects are not allowed on the bus. (examples: animals, glass, skateboards etc.)
7. Eating, drinking, or chewing gum is not allowed on the bus.
8. All school rules apply on the bus.

The process for bus rule violation is as follows:

1. First and Second Violation: bus slip sent to administrator for disciplinary action, parents contacted.
2. Third Violation: Temporary bus suspension.
3. Subsequent Violations: Referral to the superintendent for disciplinary action, up to and including referral to the school committee for long-term removal from the bus.
 - **Administration reserves the right to use discretion regarding all of the above.**

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Students' personal electronic devices must be put away and not used or seen during class time.
2. Students may NOT use headphones or earbuds during passing time. They are permitted once students enter the cafeteria or courtyard during their lunch.
3. Students must bring their school-issued chromebooks to school every day. While the library has loaner devices available, these are intended for those whose Chromebooks are out for repairs. Disciplinary consequences may be issued to students who borrow one because they did not bring theirs.
4. Consequences relating to electronic devices will follow EWG's [Electronic Device Policy 8517](#).

CONDUCT LEADING TO DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

Students have the right to a quality education that will provide them with essential knowledge and skills necessary for them to succeed in their chosen path after graduation. In order to gain knowledge and skills students need to be in the appropriate place at the appropriate time, and the classroom environment needs to be free of disruptive behavior. The following actions will lead to detention, extended day, suspension, and/or other consequences depending on the situation. **Repeated infractions will result in more substantial consequences.** These are not the only unacceptable behaviors.

1. Arriving late to class without an acceptable pass
2. Disrespectful behavior towards any staff member
3. Lying or being untruthful to a staff member

4. Unauthorized wandering including wandering the corridors, leaving the building (or courtyard during lunch) without permission
 5. Swearing, obscenity, profanity, or vulgarity
 6. Disruptive behavior outside of the classroom
 7. Unexcused tardiness to school
 8. Truancy - Unexcused absence (truancy): 2 extended days (5 hours)
 9. **Leaving school building and/or grounds without permission**
- Repeated infractions may result in more severe penalties such as suspension**
10. Cutting class: detention(s) and/or extended day equal to time missed.
 11. Violation of any of the policies listed in the School Behavior Policy section of the handbook: detention, extended day, or suspension depending on the situation.
 12. Possession of a weapon or an object deemed likely to be used as a weapon other than a firearm.
 13. Fear instilled in others related to weapons.
 14. Any activity that violates the law.
- **Administration reserves the right to use discretion regarding all of the above.**

TEACHER DETENTION

It may sometimes become necessary for teachers to assign lunch or after-school detention to promote discipline, and to maintain an atmosphere in the classroom in which learning can take place. Teacher detention is assigned in response to inappropriate behavior by a student. If a student wants to avoid teacher detention, it is recommended that the student avoid behaviors that lead to detention.

- a. **SCHEDULING:** When a student is assigned teacher detention, the teacher will determine the date and time of the detention. Students will be given at least a 24-hour notice so that they will have time to make arrangements. Students are required to serve the detention on the date confirmed by the teacher/parent/student. It is the responsibility of the student to remember and plan to serve the detention.
- b. **APPEAL OF SCHEDULING:** If a student feels that there are acceptable reasons why that student cannot serve on the specified date, the student may appeal to an administrator. If the administrator accepts the appeal, the administrator may trade the teacher detention for an office detention on another day. If the administrator rejects the appeal, the student will be required to serve the teacher detention on the day specified by the teacher.
- c. **FAILURE TO SERVE:** Failure to stay for teacher detention will result in the student being assigned a two-hour office detention.
- d. **ABSENCE:** If a student is absent on the day of the assigned detention, the student will be required to serve the detention on the day that the student returns to school.

OFFICE DETENTION

Office detention will be assigned in response to various behaviors listed in the Discipline section of the handbook. It may sometimes become necessary to assign office detention to promote discipline, and to maintain a safe and respectful environment within the school. If a student wants to avoid office detention, it is recommended that the student avoid behaviors that lead to detention.

- a. **TIME:** Office detention runs from 1:40 to 1:50. Students will be required to be in the office detention room on time and for the entire duration of the detention. An administrator may allow a student to perform community service rather than staying in the room to reduce a student's time in detention.
- b. **SCHEDULING:** When a student is assigned office detention an administrator has the right to assign detention within the next two days that office detention is scheduled. Students will be given at least a 24-hour notice so that they will have time to make arrangements. Students are required to serve the detention on the date specified by the administrator. An administrator may grant an exception if a student presents evidence that the student has an urgent medical, legal, or family matter that conflicts with the detention. It is the responsibility of the student to remember and plan to serve the detention.
- c. **FAILURE TO SERVE:** Failure to stay for office detention may result in the student being assigned lunch detention daily until the office detention is served. If a student is removed from office detention due to failure to follow detention room rules then the student may be required to repeat the detention or may be suspended out of school.
- d. **LATE:** Students are REQUIRED to report to office detention ON TIME. They should use the lav and get what supplies they need to complete school work at the end of the school day, prior to the start of detention at 1:40
- e. **ABSENCE:** If a student is absent on the day of the assigned detention, the student will be required to serve the office detention on the day that the student returns to school. If there is no office detention scheduled that day, the student will be required to serve on the next day that office detention is scheduled.

- **Administration reserves the right to use discretion regarding all of the above.**

Social Suspension

Social Suspension means exclusion participating in any and all extra curricular activities. Examples may include but are not limited to: Athletics, dances, talent shows, clubs, and attendance at any events/shows etc.

Conduct leading to social suspension may include, but is not limited to: excessive tardiness, repeated inappropriate behavior at school sponsored events, or repeated disciplinary infractions, failure to complete major course assessments, etc.

A student who has received detention or suspension, as a consequence of referral to the principal's office, at any time during three weeks prior to an extracurricular activity may be suspended from the activity. Such suspension shall be at the discretion of the principal in consideration of the severity or frequency of the student's offenses. (Please refer to [District Policy 8607](#))

- **Administration reserves the right to use discretion regarding all of the above.**

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (Please refer to District [Policy 8506](#))

Out-of-school suspension means that the student is excluded from school privileges including classes and all extracurricular activities for the duration of the suspension. Out-of-school suspension will be assigned when a student's behavior is so inappropriate that it becomes necessary to indicate to that student that he or she is not welcome at the school for a specified amount of time. Some students may feel that out-of-school suspension is a vacation from school, however the lesson of out-of-school suspension is that in our society there are some behaviors that will result in an individual being excluded from a group. It is hoped that during the suspension the student will reflect on his or her behavior, and will choose to return after the suspension and behave as a cooperative and productive member of the school community. Out-of-school suspension will be assigned by an administrator in accordance with district policy. The length of time may not exceed ten consecutive school days.

All students have the right to be accepted and respected as unique individuals. Students have the right to pursue their education in an environment that is both safe and clean. Behaviors that interfere with these rights will not be tolerated, and may result in suspension.

The following conduct on school property, school transportation, or at any school-sponsored activity on or off school property will be considered for suspension. Some of these offenses may warrant expulsion and/or prosecution, depending on the severity.

1. Repeated violation of school rules will result in more severe consequences.

2. Disruptive behavior.
3. Harassment or hazing as defined in Policy [8518](#).
4. Extortion, blackmail, inciting, threatening or intimidation of students or staff members.
5. Deliberate refusal to obey a directive from a member of the school staff.
6. Disrespectful behavior towards any staff member. This includes obscenity by use of language and/or gestures directed to a staff member.
7. Unauthorized possession, selling, or use of tobacco, alcohol, or illicit drugs; or, representing a substance as tobacco, alcohol or illicit drugs for possession, sale or use.
8. Vandalism and/or destruction of property including school property and property of staff or students. **This includes the use of paint, silly string etc. during spirit week or school activities.**
9. Theft and/or stealing of any nature.
10. Striking or assaulting a student or staff member. This includes any type of physical contact with the intent of causing bodily harm. It also includes the throwing of objects at or towards other students or staff members.
11. Possession of a firearm, or transporting a firearm to school or a school event as defined in section 921 and title 18 of the US Code and RIGL 16-21-18 and RIGL 16-21-19.

EXPULSION

Expulsion means that the student is excluded from school privileges including classes and all extracurricular activities for more than ten days. The philosophy and purpose is similar to that of out-of-school suspension, however expulsion is intended to address more severe behaviors. Expulsion will be assigned by the School Committee in accordance with district policy. The School Committee may expel a student from school if the committee finds that the student's conduct endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive to the educational process, or is in violation of a School Committee policy.

- **Administration reserves the right to use discretion regarding all of the above.**

SUBSTANCE ABUSE (Please refer to [Policy 8509](#))

To ensure the highest possible standards of learning as well as the safety, health, and well-being of students, the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District adopts a substance abuse policy which will: assist students in abstaining from the use of tobacco, alcohol and other illicit drugs, and unauthorized possession of legal drugs (prescriptions); intervene early when student use is detected; take corrective disciplinary action when necessary; and, provide aftercare educational support for students.

I. PREVENTION

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District will provide students with information and activities focused on preventing the use of tobacco, alcohol and other illicit drugs and unauthorized use of legal drugs. Prevention activities will be fostered through the instructional program, guidance and counseling, school climate, and family and community involvement.

II. INTERVENTION

The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District shall use a cooperative approach to establish and maintain an assistance program which will aid students who are using or abusing alcohol and other illicit drugs and unauthorized use of legal drugs to address their harmful involvement with alcohol and other illicit drugs and to continue in a school program. The Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District will work cooperatively with the student, parent(s), and community treatment personnel with an aftercare plan.

III. DISCIPLINE

Students have the right to attend school in an environment free of tobacco, alcohol and drugs. Students are not to possess, sell, or use tobacco, alcohol and other illicit drugs, unauthorized legal drugs, drug-related paraphernalia, or items represented as prohibited substances. They shall not be under the influence of alcohol or other drugs on school premises or at any school sponsored activity. They shall not be present where such activities are occurring. Violations of this policy will be dealt with according to the following protocol.

1. In all instances there shall be:
 - Evidence taken into custody.
 - An informal hearing with an administrator.
 - Parent notification.
 - Police notification of all suspected violations of the law.
 - Mandatory referral to a treatment counselor or program.
2. Students found to have violated this policy should expect the following consequences:
 - Up to a ten-day out-of-school suspension for first and second offenses.
 - Up to a ten-day out-of-school suspension and consideration for expulsion for third offenses.
 - Up to a ten-day out-of-school suspension and consideration for expulsion for any offense involving sale or distribution.

SMOKING/VAPING

Rhode Island Law 92-23-, states that the use of tobacco and all tobacco products is prohibited on school property. In accordance with state law possession or use of tobacco products by students at Exeter-West Greenwich Junior High School is prohibited.

The areas covered by this policy include, but are not limited to school buildings, school grounds, facilities including school busses and school bus stops, at school functions outside of the district, and field trip sites which are under the jurisdiction of the School Committee.

Possession or use of tobacco products includes but is not limited to actual smoking, holding or displaying of cigarettes, **VAPES**, Electronic Cigarettes, Nicotine Gum, cigars, pipes, chewing tobacco, etc. whether they be lighted or not.

Students who possess or use tobacco products will have them confiscated and will be subject to disciplinary action. Violation of this policy will result in the following consequences.

FIRST OFFENSE

- Custody of evidence.
- Informal hearing with the administrator. The administrator shall inform the student of the Smoking Restrictions in Schools Act.
- Referral to Smoking Facilitator for one on one education and counseling.
- Referral to Smoking Cessation Program offered to students on a voluntary basis.
- One Extended Day.
- Parental notification.

SECOND OFFENSE

- Repeat the first four consequences for First Offense.
- Out-of-school-suspension up to three days.
- Mandatory parental conference.

THIRD OFFENSE

- The first four consequences for First Offense.
- Out-of-school-suspension up to five days.
- Referral to Superintendent.

FOURTH OFFENSE

- Repeat of consequences 1-2 for First Offense.
- Out-of-school-suspension up to 10 days.
- Referral to Superintendent
- Subject to expulsion
- **OPTIONAL** Participation in a smoking cessation program at the parent's expense through an outside agency may be acceptable as an alternative to expulsion, provided that the student voluntarily requests to participate.

LEAVING CLASS (HALL PASS, TELEPHONE, VENDING MACHINES)

In order to maximize learning and minimize disruptions, students need to be in class as much as possible. The following policies are intended to minimize wandering

HALL PASSES: Students must ask permission to leave a class, and state where they are going. If the teacher grants permission, the student must carry the classroom pass with them. The student is to go directly to the location that he or she indicated, and must return directly to the classroom.

TELEPHONE: Students may use the school telephone before school or after school. Students may use the school telephone during lunch after obtaining a pass from an administrator.

If an emergency arises during the school day a student is to request a pass to the office to obtain permission from the office to use the school phone. Students are not allowed to use the school telephone during school hours unless they have permission.

FOOD OR BEVERAGES

All food (breakfast) must be purchased before 7:22 a.m.

SNACK/BEVERAGE MACHINES: Students are allowed to use the snack/beverage machines before school, during lunch, and after school.

In order to minimize disruptions, eating and/or drinking in the classroom is not allowed. In addition, food and/or drinks are not allowed in the auditorium, hallway, library, gymnasium, guidance office, main office, or music room. Exceptions to this may be granted by the administration depending on the type of class, or the occurrence of a special event.

MISCELLANEOUS

BUILDING USE

The Exeter-West Greenwich Junior High School is for you. Treat it with respect, as you would any public place that many people use, such as a library or town hall. Many people visit and use our building. It is their building, too. Behave politely toward one another and toward visitors. EACH OF YOU represents ALL OF US! Promote EWG in a positive way.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

By RI State Law we must have fire drills, lockdowns, and evacuations each school year. In the event of an alarm sounding, everyone must treat the alarm as an actual event.

1. Follow faculty/staff members outdoors in a quiet, orderly manner and follow all instructions given.
2. Students in the corridor during an alarm should exit by the nearest door and stay with a class and teacher.

LOCKERS

Lockers and locks are the property of the Exeter-West Greenwich School District and are loaned to students. Students are **NOT** allowed to **SHARE** lockers. The student assigned to the locker is responsible for its contents at all times. Administrators have the right to examine lockers, with reason. Keep lockers neat, clean and locked. Students will be charged a replacement fee for missing locks. EWG is not responsible for any lost or stolen personal items.

FUNDRAISING GUIDELINES

Any school club or organization must request and receive permission from the Principal to engage in fundraising activities. The club's or organization's sponsor must make the request in writing. Plans should be made well in advance of the event.

Support EWG's opportunity to earn cash through **Stop & Shop**. All you have to do is:

Log on to www.stopandshop.com/aplus select Customer Registration to register online using your Stop & Shop card or fill out a form in the main office requiring your 13 digit card number, name, and telephone number.

After you register your card, each shopping trip at Stop & Shop using your Stop & Shop card earns CASH for our school. Each month, the amount of CASH awarded will be updated on the Stop & Shop website. You can track the amount of points you earn for our school by checking your grocery receipt and online when you create an account at www.stopandshop.com. Our school will receive a check at the end of the program. The money can be used for any of our school's educational needs.

If you don't know your 13 digit Stop & Shop card number, call the Card Hotline at 1-877-366-2668 and select option #2. If you registered your card last year, you do not have to re-register this year. Lastly, please encourage your friends to do the same so that our school can receive more money.

APPENDICES

RELEVANT SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICIES

[Policy 7603 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS](#)

[Policy 7604 GRADUATION](#)

[Policy 7802 HONESTY AND INTEGRITY IN ACADEMIC WORK](#)

[Policy 7805 VACATION HOMEWORK POLICY](#)

[Policy 8506 SUSPENSION EXPULSION POLICY](#)

[Policy 8508 COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL REHABILITATION AND DISABILITIES ACT](#)

[Policy 8509 MANAGING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IN SCHOOL](#)

[Policy 8518 BULLYING](#)

[Policy 8607 PARTICIPATION IN EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES INCLUDING ATHLETICS](#)

[Policy 8701 ADMINISTERING STUDENT MEDICATION](#)

[Policy 8901 CONFIDENTIALITY OF STUDENT RECORDS](#)

[Policy 8905 PUBLICATION OF STUDENT IMAGES](#)