

## CODE OF CONDUCT (SUMMARY)

### Purpose

The Lake Shore Central School District Code of Conduct is intended to:

- encourage appropriate behavior;
- provide a school environment free of harassment, bullying, and discrimination as per the Dignity For All Students Act;
- ensure the safety and security of all members of the school community; and
- promote a safe and effective learning environment.

The Code governs the conduct of students, school personnel, parents, and other visitors while on school property or attending school functions. It includes the range of penalties that may be imposed for code violations and defines the roles of essential partners (teachers, administrators, other school personnel, the board of education and parents) in maintaining safe, orderly schools.

### Student Dress Code

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students who violate the dress code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering, changing, or removing the offending item.

### Prohibited Student Conduct

Behavior that is disorderly, insubordinate, disruptive, violent, or endangers others is prohibited. Plagiarism, cheating, copying, altering records, or assisting students in such actions is considered academic misconduct and, therefore, prohibited.

### Reporting Violations

All students are expected to report violations of the Code of Conduct to those in authority. District staff not authorized to impose disciplinary actions are expected to report violations to their supervisor. Any weapon, alcohol, or other illegal substance will be confiscated immediately. Code violations that constitute a crime will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

### Disciplinary Penalties and Procedures

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair, and consistent. As a general rule, discipline will be progressive. That is, a student's first offense will usually merit a lesser penalty than subsequent violations of the same disciplinary rule. The Code of Conduct contains levels of discipline ranging from verbal warning to permanent suspension from school. Regardless of the penalty

imposed, school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary procedure must inform the student of the alleged misconduct. Students subject to more severe penalties have additional rights as set forth in the Code of Conduct.

### Alternative Instruction

When applicable, a student who is removed from class or is suspended from school, the District will take immediate steps to provide alternative means of instruction for the student.

### Discipline of Students with Disabilities

While all students are subject to the same Code of Conduct, the Board of Education recognizes that students with disabilities are entitled to additional procedural protections. The 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 laws and regulations.

### Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is defined as an act of physical force upon a student and is forbidden except in cases where persons or property are placed in danger.

### Student Searches and Interrogations

School officials may question a student about an alleged violation of law or the District Code of Conduct. Students are not entitled to a "Miranda" type warning, nor are school officials obligated to contact a student's parents before questioning. School officials, however, will tell students why they are being questioned. In addition, the Board authorizes certain school officials to conduct searches of students and their belongings if there is reasonable suspicion that such a search will result in evidence that the student violated a law or the District Code of Conduct. Searches will be limited to the extent necessary to locate the evidence sought. The rules regarding searches of students and their belongings do not apply to student lockers, desks, and other school storage places. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy with respect to areas considered school property. This means that student lockers, desks, and other school storage places may be subject to search at any time by school officials without prior notice to students and without their consent.

### Visitors to the Schools

All visitors to a school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival and register. Visitors attending school

functions that are open to the public, such as PTG/PTA meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules of public conduct on school property as contained in the Code of Conduct.

### Public Conduct on School Property

All persons on school property or attending a school function, including athletic events, 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. The District may prohibit any visitor who violates the rules of public conduct from being on school property or attending school functions. **Use, distribution or the possession of tobacco products, e-cigarettes/vaporizers, alcohol or other illegal substances is prohibited on school property.**

*Please refer to your child's student agenda for a complete version of the Code of Conduct.*

*You may also download the Code of Conduct from our District web site ([www.lakeshorecsd.org](http://www.lakeshorecsd.org)).*

*Please report any concerns regarding harassment, bullying or discrimination to the Dignity Act Coordinator:*

<i>District Coordinator</i>	<i>Christine Starks</i>	<i>926-2210</i>
<i>Sr. High School Coordinator</i>	<i>Chris D'Anna</i>	<i>926-2309</i>
<i>Middle School Coordinator</i>	<i>Katy Berner-Wallen</i>	<i>926-2403</i>
<i>A. J. Schmidt Coordinator</i>	<i>Jill Clark</i>	<i>926-2351</i>
<i>Highland Coordinator</i>	<i>Colleen Polutowski</i>	<i>926-2461</i>
<i>J. T. Waugh Coordinator</i>	<i>Paula Eastman</i>	<i>926-2341</i>

