

**JF – B**

**CODE OF REGULATIONS FOR CONDUCT OF PUPILS**

The Northwest Local School District recognizes its responsibility to provide all students with an environment conducive to the development of their maximum learning potential. The Code of Regulations for Conduct of Pupils supports this endeavor. This Code of Regulations is adopted by the Board of Education of the Northwest Local School District pursuant to Section 3313.661, Ohio Revised Code. The law requires that students are provided with a written notice of intent to suspend prior to being suspended. The statute also requires that students and parents are provided with a written notice of intent to expel.

The written notice of intent to suspend shall be given to the student at an informal hearing. The notice of intent to expel shall be sent to the student and the parents and the students and parents will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing prior to a decision to expel.

A student or the parents may appeal any decision of the Northwest Local School District administration to suspend a student from school to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee. A student or the parents may appeal an expulsion from school to the Board of Education or its designee. A student or parent must request an appeal in writing within 10 days after the discipline measure takes effect. The student and parents may be represented in all appeal hearings. Pursuant to Ohio law, a student or parents may further appeal an expulsion or suspension to the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas.

It is the policy of the Northwest Local School District Board of Education that students shall not be permitted to return to school pending any appeal process with the administration or the court. The school district will make every effort to promptly hear all appeals to minimize a student's absence from school. Should the Board of Education, the Superintendent, or their designees, reverse or modify a discipline decision and permit a student to return to school, such student shall be permitted ample time to make up all assignments and work missed as a result of his or her absence.

This Code of Regulations is adopted by the Board of Education of the Northwest Local School District pursuant to Sections 3313.661 and 3313.662, Ohio Revised Code. Any student engaging in the following types of conduct either specifically or generally like the kinds of conduct listed below is subject to suspension, expulsion, emergency removal or permanent exclusion from curricular or extracurricular activities pursuant to the Ohio Revised Code. This code of regulations applies while a student is in the custody or control of the school, on school grounds or closely proximate thereto, while at a school-sponsored function or activity or on school-owned or provided transportation vehicles. In addition, the Student Code of Conduct governs a student's conduct at all times, on or

**JF – B** (continued)

off school property, unless specifically limited to school property as stated in a regulation, when such student conduct is reasonably related to the health and safety of other students and/or school employees, or such conduct would unreasonably interrupt the educational processes of the Northwest Schools.

The types of conduct prohibited by this Code of Regulations are as follows:

General Statements:

101. Chronic misbehavior which disrupts or interferes with any school activity.
102. Disrespect to a teacher or other school authority.
103. Disrespect to a student.
104. Disregard of reasonable directions or commands by school authorities.
105. Any disruption or interference with school activities.
106. Willfully aiding another person to violate school regulations.
156. Failure to report the actions or plans of another person to a teacher or administrator where these actions or plans of another person, if carried out, could or did result in harm to another person or persons or damage property, when the student has information about such actions or plans.

Weapons and Drugs

107. Possession, conveyance or use of a firearm. Firearms are identified in Section 921 of Title 18, United States Code. (As provided in Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 and 3313.661 violations of the Code of Conduct involving firearms are subject to expulsion from school for one year.)

An exception to this rule shall be the lawful possession or use of a properly licensed firearm while under the direct supervision or control of a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult for the following purposes: lawful hunting, sporting or education purposes (which shall include instruction in firearms or handgun safety, care, handling or marksmanship). However, under no circumstances shall this exception allow a pupil to possess, convey or use a firearm on school property, on a school bus, or at a school function.

## POLICIES

### JF – B (continued)

108. Convey, attempt to convey, possess or use a weapon other than a firearm. The term “weapon” shall have the following meanings:

(a) Any instrument, device or object which is designed or is specially adapted for use as a weapon, or which is possessed, carried or used as a weapon. Examples of “weapons” shall include, but are not limited to: firearms, explosive devices, incendiary devices, ordnances, ammunition, knives, grenades, brass knuckles, sling shots, cross bows, arrows, blowguns, etc.

(b) The possession or use of objects which may render physical harm to another if improperly used, including, but not limited to: axes, hatchets, hammers, saws, chains, ice picks, screwdrivers and knives. An exception to this rule shall include the proper use of such objects while under the direct supervision and control of a duly authorized representative of the Northwest Local School District.

“Knives,” as defined in Northwest Board of Education policy JF-C-A-A include, but are not limited to, any instrument that possesses a pointed or sharp-edged blade of metal or other rigid material that is designed for or can be used for cutting, slicing, piercing, or stabbing. This definition shall include, but is not limited to straight razors, utility knives, box cutters, ice picks, pocket knives, switchblades, and buck knives. (As provided in Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 and 3313.661, violations of the Code of Conduct involving knives are subject to expulsion from school for one year.)

109. Sale/distribution of weapons. The term “weapon” shall have the following meanings:

(a) Any instrument, device or object which is designed or is specially adapted for use as a weapon, or which is possessed, carried or used as a weapon. Examples of “weapons” shall include, but are not limited to: firearms, explosive devices, incendiary devices, ordnances, ammunition, knives, grenades, brass knuckles, sling shots, cross bows, arrows, blowguns, etc.

(b) The possession or use of objects which may render physical harm to another if improperly used, including, but not limited to: axes, hatchets, hammers, saws, chains, ice picks, screwdrivers and knives. An exception to this rule shall include the proper use of such objects while under the direct supervision and control of a duly authorized representative of the Northwest Local School District.

## POLICIES

### JF – B (continued)

“Knives,” as defined in Northwest Board of Education policy JF-C-A-A include, but are not limited to, any instrument that possesses a pointed or sharp-edged blade of metal or other rigid material that is designed for or can be used for cutting, slicing, piercing, or stabbing. This definition shall include, but is not limited to straight razors, utility knives, box cutters, ice picks, pocket knives, switchblades, and buck knives. (As provided in Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 and 3313.661, violations of the Code of Conduct involving knives and guns are subject to expulsion from school for one year.)

110. Misuse of chemical sprays.
111. Buying, using, possessing, or being under the influence of any controlled substance (drugs, narcotics, marijuana, etc.); or buying, selling, using, possessing, or being under the influence of any counterfeit controlled substance (any substance that is made to look like a controlled substance, or is represented to be a controlled substance, or that you think is a controlled substance), or possessing drug paraphernalia.
112. Selling or distributing any controlled substance (drugs, narcotics, marijuana, etc.) or inhalant; or buying, selling, any counterfeit controlled substance (any substance that is made to look like a controlled substance, or is represented to be a controlled substance, or that you think is a controlled substance).
113. Buying, selling, transferring or using any drug, alcohol, medication, inhalant, paraphernalia or other substance which can be taken internally where the student or students involved cannot show a legitimate health or other reason for the use of such substances.
114. Possessing, using, or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind.
115. Sale or distribution of any alcoholic beverage or paraphernalia or intoxicant of any kind.
116. Smoking, using, or possessing any substance containing tobacco, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, a pipe, rolling papers, a clove cigarette, and chewing tobacco, or tobacco paraphernalia such as matches or lighters or use of tobacco in any other form. As provided in 3313.751, Ohio Revised Code, it shall be a violation of this rule to use or

**JF – B** (continued)

possess tobacco in any form while on school premises or at any school activity regardless of time or location.

117. Distributing any substance containing tobacco, including, but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, a pipe, rolling papers, a clove cigarette, and chewing tobacco, tobacco paraphernalia such as matches or lighters or use of tobacco in any other form. As provided in 3313.751, Ohio Revised Code, it shall be a violation of this rule to use or possess tobacco in any form while on school premises or at any school activity regardless of time or location.
118. Possession and/or discharge of any explosive substance or incendiary device.
161. Convey, attempt to convey, possess or use any instrument, device or object which is designed to look like a firearm.
162. Convey, attempt to convey, possess or use any instrument, device or object which is designed to look like any other type of weapon.
163. Sale/distribution of any instrument, device or object which is designed to look like a firearm.
164. Sale/distribution of any instrument, device or object which is designed to look like any other type of weapon.

Verbal and Physical Issues

119. Fighting.
120. Assault on school employee, student or other person.
121. Cursing.
122. Hazing, threatening, harassment, intimidation or bullying of students based upon personal attributes or beliefs on or off school grounds, or engaging in activities that may cause fear or panic in an individual or group. For purposes of this policy, the term “harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any intentional written, verbal or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once and the behavior both: (1) causes mental or physical harm to the other

## POLICIES

### JF – B (continued)

student; and (2) is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student.

123. Engaging in sexual acts, displaying excessive affection, inappropriate touching or other inappropriate behavior.
124. Use of indecent or obscene language in oral or written form.
125. Use of obscene gestures.
126. Indecent exposure.
127. Violation of the district's sexual harassment policy JF-B- B.
159. Hazing, threatening or harassment of school personnel based upon personal attributes or beliefs on or off school grounds, or engaging in activities that may cause fear or panic in an individual or group.

#### Written Communication

128. Forgery of school or school-related documents.
129. Cheating or plagiarizing.
130. Falsifying of information given to school authorities in the legitimate pursuit of their jobs.
131. Distribution of pamphlets, leaflets, buttons, insignia, etc., without the permission of the proper school authorities.
132. Placing of signs and slogans on school property or at school events without the permission of the proper authorities.
133. Publication or possession of obscene, pornographic or libelous material.

#### Attendance

134. Truancy.
135. Tardiness.

## POLICIES

### JF – B (continued)

- 157. Skipping class.
- 158. Upon initial arrival, leaving school property without permission.

#### Miscellaneous

- 136. Failure to abide by reasonable dress and appearance codes as established by administration and the Board of Education. This includes the prohibition of all clothing, jewelry, hairstyle and hair color, signs, etc. which at the discretion of the administration is reasonably related to or represents gang or gang-like activity or is a disruption or presents a genuine likelihood of disruption to the educational process.
- 137. Failure to abide by rules and regulations set forth by administration for student parking.
- 138. Disobedience of driving regulations.
- 139. Damage or destruction of school property on or off of school premises.
- 140. Damage or destruction of private property.
- 141. Presence in areas during school hours or outside school hours where a student has no legitimate business without permission of a school administrator or a teacher.
- 142. Leaving school during school hours without permission of the proper school authority.
- 143. Demonstrations by individuals or groups causing disruption to the school program.
- 144. Skipping detention.
- 145. Refusing to take detention or other properly administered discipline.
- 146. Turning in false fire, tornado, bomb, or disaster alarms. (As provided in Ohio Revised Code 3313.66 (A) (5), a student may be expelled for a period of up to one year for making a bomb threat to a school building or to any premises at which a school activity is occurring at the same time of the threat. The period of expulsion shall extend as necessary into the next school year.)

## POLICIES

### JF – B (continued)

147. Extortion of a pupil or school personnel.
148. Gambling.
149. Arson or other improper use of fire.
150. Theft or possession of stolen goods.
151. Inappropriate use of computers and other technologies. Inappropriate use includes: vandalism, theft, or misuse of the hardware, plagiarism, unauthorized access to files not belonging to the student, tampering with security software or network privileges; logging onto the network with a fraudulent ID or password; using the facilities without proper supervision, installation of software on a computer or network, or unauthorized use, copying, or downloading of programs, files and/or pictures. Violations may result in revocation of access privileges, suspension, expulsion, other school disciplinary actions and/or appropriate legal action.
152. Possession of a laser pointer without the permission of the proper school authorities.
153. Any type of prohibited activity listed herein engaged in by a student on school premises, on a school bus, or while in the control or custody of the school district regardless of whether on or off of school premises, or at a school-related activity regardless of location, shall be reason for expulsion, suspension or removal from school.
154. Commission by a pupil of any crime or infraction in violation of the Criminal Code, Traffic Code or Juvenile Code of the State of Ohio or, when applicable, of the State in which the crime or infraction was committed. This provision shall apply to any pupil while in the control or custody of the school district regardless of whether the act occurred on or off of school premises, or at a school-related activity regardless of location.
155. Any other activity by a pupil which the pupil knows or should know will disrupt the academic process or a curricular or extracurricular activity while on school premises or while in the control or custody of the school district regardless of whether on or off of school premises, or at a school-related activity regardless of location.

## POLICIES

### JF – B (continued)

160. Possession or use of pagers, beepers, cell phones, mobile phones, wireless phones or other forms of electronic communication devices while on school property during school hours without express permission from the Northwest Local School District.

The superintendent may apply any part or all of the suspension or expulsion to the following school year if there are fewer days remaining in the school year than were imposed in the suspension or expulsion.

The superintendent may permit a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of a suspension or expulsion if the suspension or expulsion extends into the following school year. Refer to Procedures JF for guidelines.

Reference: Procedures JF-B  
Revised: 4/27/92  
Revised: 6/10/96 Item #3  
Revised: 3/10/97  
Revised: 9/14/98  
Revised: 7/22/99 Item #50  
Revised: 05/08/00 9/01/00  
Revised: 02/12/01 Item #146  
Revised: 4/28/03 Preamble  
Revised: 5/10/04  
Revised: 4/23/07 Item #122