

2023 PLS Updates
08-21-2023

<u>GCS Policy #</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>	<u>Adopt</u>	<u>Revise</u>
3101	Dual Enrollment		X

In its effort to provide a rigorous expanded curriculum that will adequately prepare students for future educational and workplace endeavors, the board will support high school students who also wish to enroll in classes taught by a college, university, community college, or other approved entity in accordance with the requirements of this policy, state law, and State Board of Education policy.

CAREER AND COLLEGE PROMISE

course, and the student must complete any forms required by the school system.

**PREGNANT AND PARENTING
STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES**

Policy Code: **4025/7505**

A. STUDENTS

The board will provide all pregnant and parenting students with the same educational instruction as other students or its equivalent. Pregnant and parenting students will not be discriminated against or excluded from school or from any program, class, or extracurricular activity because they are pregnant or parenting students. School

administrators shall provide assistance and support to encourage pregnant and parenting

**PREGNANT AND PARENTING
STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES**

Policy Code: 4025/7505

has need to express milk. The principal at each school and the site supervisor at other school system buildings and facilities will designate a place, other than a bathroom, that the employee can use to express milk.

INTEGRITY AND CIVILITY

Policy Code:

4310

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 11/10/01 BY 1043/STW

[REDACTED]

**STUDENT
CODE OF CONDUCT**

**GASTON COUNTY SCHOOLS
2023/2024**

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

1. The purpose of the Student Code of Conduct is to provide a fair and equitable environment for all students and staff members.

safe and orderly environment, which must prevail if learning is to take place. The term "school"

Table of Contents

Rule 1: General Provisions 1

Rule 2: Disruption of School 4

Rule 3: Bomb Threats, Communicating a False Bomb Report, or Perpetuating a Bomb Hoax 5

Rule 4: Student Threats 5

Rule 5: Gangs 6

Rule 2: Disruption of School.....4

Rule 3: Bomb Threats, Communicating a False Bomb Report, or Perpetuating a Bomb Hoax..... 5

Rule 4: Student Threats 5

and With School Rules

Students shall comply with the directives of all school personnel at all times while a student is at school.

Consequences

<u>Elementary School</u>	<u>Middle School</u>	<u>High School</u>
Ranging from in-school disciplinary action up to 5 days OSS.	Ranging from in-school disciplinary action up to 10 days OSS, alternative placement and/or long-term suspension.	Ranging from in-school disciplinary action up to 10 days OSS, alternative placement and/or long-term suspension.

RULE 3: Bomb Threats, Communicating a False Bomb Report, or Perpetrating a Bomb Hoax
(See policy 4333 for complete policy)

Students are prohibited from making calls and/or e-mails in making a bomb threat or

The Board strives to create a safe, orderly, caring and inviting school environment. Gangs and gang-related

RULE 6: Bullying *(See policy 4040 for complete policy)*

Students shall not bully or harass other students;

Harassment or bullying behavior is any pattern of gestures or written, electronic or

that:

(1) _____ places a student or school employee in actual and reasonable fear of harm

RULE 7: Student Conspiracy or Plotting to Cause Harm to Other Students or Staff

Students shall be prohibited from conspiring with others or plotting individually regarding harmful acts of violence against other students, faculty or staff. In addition, students are prohibited from violent acts against the property of other students, faculty or staff.

<u>Elementary School</u>	<u>Middle School</u>	<u>High School</u>
Ranging from in-school disciplinary action up to 10	Ranging from in-school disciplinary action up to 10	Ranging from in-school disciplinary action up to 10

Students shall not steal, attempt to steal, knowingly be in possession of stolen property, vandalize, intentionally damage, or attempt to damage any school or private property while under school jurisdiction.

Consequences

Elementary School	Middle School	High School
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RULE 11: Physical Abuse of School Employees or Other Persons *(See policy 4331 for complete policy)*

Principal, assistant principals, teachers

substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, coaches, advisors, counselors, media specialists, bus drivers



RULE 13: Weapons and Dangerous Instruments *(See Policy 4333 and 5040 for complete policy)*

The Board will not tolerate the presence of weapons or destructive devices, bombs or terrorist threats, or actions that constitute a clear threat to the safety of students or employees.

Category I

As required by law, a student who brings or possesses a firearm or destructive device on school property or at a school-sponsored event must be suspended for 365 days, unless the superintendent modifies the

1965-1966 - Section 1391 - Part 1391.1 - Category I - (1) a weapon, including a starter gun that

Rule 14: Substance Abuse and Drug Paraphernalia

(See policy 4315 and 4325 for complete policy)

(See policy 6130 "Administering Medications" for complete policy)

No student shall possess, use, distribute, sell, possesses 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, or any substance containing cannabidiol (CBD) or

tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) regardless of whether it constitutes a controlled substance under state or federal law. Students are

Rule 15: Tobacco Policy *(See policy code 4320 for complete policy)*

Students are prohibited from the use and/or possession of tobacco products and shall not possess, smoke, dip, chew or otherwise use any tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes and all lighted and smokeless tobacco products at any time while a student is at school.

Consequences

Elementary School	Middle School	High School
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Sexual harassment means and includes any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and

RULE 18: Use of Wireless Communication Devices *(See policy 4318 for complete policy)*

It is the policy of the district that cell phones and other wireless communication devices be kept on

Therefore, students are permitted

Students shall not violate any policies adopted by the Board of Education regarding student Internet and electronic mail usage or the terms of Gaston County Schools Network and Internet Responsible Use Guidelines or individual school policy. Students must not access inappropriate materials on the Internet.

RULE 22: Walkouts and Boycotts

Walkouts or boycotts by a student or group of students, or the urging of others to exercise these tactics,

Speeches and Seizures (See also 4306 and 4310 for complete policy)

Notification of Law Enforcement Officials

Under North Carolina General Statute §115C-288(g) principals must report immediately to law

Expulsion *(See 4353 for complete policy)*

Upon the recommendation of the principal and Superintendent, The Board of Education may expel a student who is fourteen years of age or older if the student's behavior indicates that his or her continued presence in school

The student's conduct need not result in the filing of criminal charges and need not have taken place on school premises or at a school activity in order for expulsion to be considered.

_____ of the student, the student's intention in committing

ATTENDANCE

Policy Code: **3480**

Attendance in school and participation in class are integral parts of academic achievement and the teaching-learning process. Through regular attendance, students develop patterns of behavior

8. pregnancy and related conditions or parenting, when medically necessary; or
9. visitation with the student's parent or legal guardian, at the discretion of the superintendent or designee, if the parent or legal guardian (a) is an active duty member of the uniformed services as defined by policy 4050, Children of Military

returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting.

D. EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

Class attendance and participation are critical elements of the educational process and may be taken into account in assessing academic achievement. Students are expected to be at school on time and to be present at the scheduled starting time for each class.

When a student reaches ten (10) or more cumulative absences, a letter may be sent requiring a doctor's note to excuse future absences. Students with excused absences due

- By the third absence in a course where no contact has been received from the parent/guardian, the school official will contact the parent/guardian using telephone,

parent/guardian of the number of absences and the Gaston County Board of Education Policy on high school student attendance.

- After not more than six absences in a course, the parent/guardian will be contacted using telephone, email, letter or automated telephone message. The school official will remind the parent/guardian of the number of absences, the Policy on high school student attendance and specifics regarding the appeal process. After not more than six absences from a course, the classroom teacher will notify the school's Student Services

This law applies to all North Carolina students under the age of 18 who are eligible for a driving permit or license. This law also applies to students who hold a high certificate, social security card and Driver Education

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[REDACTED]

Safety is of paramount concern in the transportation of students and others. Consistent with the board's safety goals, all drivers involved in transporting students or operating any vehicle in the course of carrying out their employment duties must comply with the following board requirements, as applicable.

A. SCHOOL BUS AND ACTIVITY BUS DRIVERS

School bus and activity bus drivers must:

1. possess required licenses and all other qualifications required by law;

occurred while driving a school vehicle; and

12. comply with the requirements of policy 6335/7270, Drug and Alcohol Testing of Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

B. OTHER DRIVERS

Other drivers who transport students, including volunteer drivers, and drivers who operate

1. possess required licenses and all other qualifications required by law;
2. report to the principal by the next working day any moving violation citations received while operating any motor vehicle, whether on or off duty; and

**INSURANCE
FOR STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Policy Code:

6380

No school bus, activity bus, or other school-owned vehicle will be operated without bodily injury and property damage protection provided through the provisions of the State Tort Claims Act through locally purchased liability coverage. School buses will not be used for any purpose or in any circumstance not covered by the State Tort Claims Act unless liability coverage has been

purchased to cover such purpose or circumstance. Only activity buses and other vehicles meeting

VOLUNTARY SHARED LEAVE

Policy Code:

7530

The purpose of voluntary shared leave is to enable employees and other authorized individuals to donate earned leave to a fellow employee or other authorized individual who has exhausted all

earned leave and continues to be absent due to serious medical conditions.

Donations made pursuant to this policy are voluntary. No employee should feel pressured or

EVALUATION OF LICENSED EMPLOYEES

Policy Code:

7700

The board recognizes that an effective staff is critical to the smooth operation of the school system

that students will not excel in performance unless those who most directly affect students, including school administrators, teachers, and other licensed professionals excel in their

1. Evaluators must clearly identify exemplary performance as well as deficiencies in performance.
2. Evaluators are encouraged to use supplementary means of assessing and documenting performance in addition to the state performance standards, assessment rubrics, and evaluation instruments including, but not limited to, additional formal observations

informal observations, conferences, reviews of lesson plans and grade books, interactions with the employee, plans of growth or improvement, and any other accurate indicators of performance.

2. Student performance and growth data will be considered as a component of

EVALUATION OF LICENSED EMPLOYEES

Policy Code:

7700

10 The employee is a _____

11

distinguished performance and to capitalize on the abilities of such exemplary employees

The board believes a strong relationship exists between the quality of education provided to

students and the competency and training of all personnel employed by the school system. The board places a high priority on securing the most competent personnel available and, once they are employed, providing them with opportunities for professional growth and development throughout their careers. The goal of professional and staff development programs and opportunities for licensed professional employees and support staff is to improve the instructional program and create a safe learning environment for all students by improving and expanding the skills of the professional staff and support personnel.

A. PROFESSIONAL AND STAFF DEVELOPMENT

The superintendent shall provide ongoing development opportunities for licensed and support staff and shall require participation by such personnel as appropriate. The superintendent shall seek input from employees when developing system-wide programs.

D. PAYMENT OF COSTS

The school system will consider paying reasonable costs within budget limits for any

The Board attaches a high priority to securing the most competent personnel available and, once they are employed, in assisting them in their growth and development throughout their careers. Regular evaluation of non-licensed employees is encouraged. The following board directives apply to the evaluation of non-licensed employees.

1. Exemplary performance as well as deficiencies in performance should be clearly identified.
2. Supervisors and principals should facilitate open communication with employees about performance expectations.