

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT



Success for All!

2024 - 2025

Superintendent of Schools
www.yourcharlotteschools.net

The School Board of Charlotte County, Florida

Cara Reynolds, Chairman
District One

John LeClair, Vice-Chairman
District Four

Kim Amontree
District Two

Wendy Atkinson
District Five

Bob Segur
District Three

Prepared by:
Dr. Michael Desjardins
Assistant Superintendent of School Support

This document was approved by the School Board of Charlotte County on **May 7, 2024**

Copies of official School Board Rules which relate to student conduct are available in all schools, as well as the district offices and on our website yourcharlotteschools.net.

The School Board of Charlotte County does not discriminate (including anti-Semitism [as defined in

Signature Page Statement of Academic Honesty and Plagiarism	53
Student Conducted Surveys.....	27
Student Dress Code	23
Student Eligibility Standards for Participation in Interscholastic and Intrасhоlаstіс Extra-curricular Activities	29
Student Grievance Procedure (Anti-Harassment)	3
Student Records.....	9
Student Rights and Responsibilities	2
Student Out-of-School Suspension and Expulsion/SERT.....	31
Student/Parent Acknowledgment Form	2

STUDENT/PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

- A. A student will be given both written notice of his/her suspension and the reasons along with the opportunity to appear and respond to the charges against him/her prior to the suspension. An appeal may be addressed to the principal whose decision will be final.
- B. A student and his/her parent or guardian must be given written notice of the intention to expel and the reasons with an opportunity to appear with a representative before the Superintendent/designee to answer the charges.

These rights and responsibilities are not absolute and may be limited when necessary, at the discretion of the principal, to prevent the disruption of the orderly operation of the school.

Name and/or Title	Assistant Superintendent of School Support, Dr. Michael Desjardins
Address	1445 Education Way Port Charlotte, Florida 33948
Telephone No.	(941) 255-0808, ext. 2145
Email	Mike.Desjardins@yourcharlotteschools.net

PROHIBITION OF DATING VIOLENCE

All students should have an educational setting that is safe, secure, and free from dating violence or abuse of any kind. Dating violence by any student is prohibited on school property, during any school-related or school-sponsored program or activity or during school-sponsored transportation

Definition: Teen dating violence is a pattern of behavior or school

Ensure that your child is in attendance and on time to school each day

-school

activities

screen time

RESOURCES

Helping Your Child Become A Responsible Citizen

Ed.gov/parents/academic/help/citizen/index.html

Setting Goals

Encourage your child to set short and long-term educational goals

Celebrate academic accomplishments

RESOURCES

Help Kids Start To Think About Careers

Kids.usa.gov/teens/jobs/

Financing Future Education Goals

Floridashines.org/go-to-college/pay-for-college

School To Home Communication

& Spæ6" — 1Å ©. < ñ „,6fP ` Sp #P 1 àO ™8Ch5 & Sp ! 5 ñ „,6fP ` Sp cA#P 1 W G •L Q

email or writing

Prepare for and attend parent-teacher meetings, such as Individualized Educational Plan(IEP) or Academic Improvement Plan meetings

Attend open houses, science fairs, plays and musical performances, field trips, sporting events, curriculum nights and other school activities

Volunteer in the school settings when possible

Resources

The Parent Teacher Conference

Readingrockets.org/pdfs/edextras/19842-en.pdf

Cheating is generally defined as the inappropriate and deliberate distribution or use of information, notes, materials, or work of another person in the completion of an academic exam, test or assignment which includes plagiarism. Plagiarism is the act of taking ideas or writings

Cheating is wrong.

As students develop values through their school years, virtue and honor will be emphasized as the cornerstone to a prosperous, abundant career and personal life. Therefore, instances of cheating, in any form, will be considered a critical breach of character and integrity as well as a serious violation of the *Code of Student Conduct*

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

School Resource Officers (SROs) are employees

Police Department who are housed at all Charlotte County Public Schools. As sworn law enforcement officers, the SROs work with the school administration and staff to maintain a safe and lawful environment for all students and staff. Since SROs are governed by state statute, they cannot, by law, ignore any criminal acts that may come to their attention and as such are required to respond appropriately within the law. School Administration will report any potential violation of the law to local law enforcement.

Florida Statute 1006.12

REPORTING SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES, WEAPONS, OR THREATS

Students, parents, CCPS employees, and members of the community have a responsibility to report suspicious activities, weapons, and potential threats to schools. Any suspicious activity, weapon, or threat shall be promptly reported to one of the following individuals, agencies or reporting tools:

If you witness an act of bullying you should do the following:

Refuse to join in

Never fight the bully

Get others to help you speak out against the bullying

Distract the bully

Report all bullying to administration

ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SCHOOL RELATED VIOLENT CRIME

The School Board promotes a safe and supportive learning environment in all schools by protecting students

District school boards may assign the student to a disciplinary program for the purpose of continuing educational services during the period of expulsion. District school superintendents may consider the 1-year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis and request the district school board to modify the requirement by assigning the student to a disciplinary program or second chance school if the request for modification is in writing and it is determined to be in the best interest of the student and the school system. If a student committing any of the offenses in this subsection is a student with a disability, the district school board shall comply with applicable State Board of Education rules.

The Principal shall notify all school personnel of their responsibility to report zero tolerance incidents or any _____, or the School Resource Officer.

The principal or the principal's designee shall notify a local law enforcement agency when a zero tolerance, violent crime has been committed. Law enforcement notification will also include potential violations of the law which may be criminal in nature. If the offense involves a victim, the victim and the victim's parents or legal guardian shall also be notified of the offense and of the victim's right to make a statement to law enforcement officials. The principal will take all steps necessary to protect the victim of any violent crime from further victimization.

Students who have been subjected to an incident of: battery, harassment, hazing, bullying, kidnapping, physical attack, robbery, sexual offenses, assault, threat, or fighting are eligible to participate in the Hope Scholarship Program. Please contact your school principal for additional information pertaining to the Hope Scholarship Program.

State Board Rule 6A-1.0404, Florida Administrative Code, provides for teachers and other school personnel to file charges against a student if a crime has been committed against a teacher or other instructional personnel on school property, on school sponsored transportation, or during school sponsored activities.

Florida Statute 1006.13
School Board Policy 5500
SBER 6A-1.0404
Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1994

PROHIBITION OF FIREARMS

In accordance with Section 18 U.S.C.s. 921, please note the following as it pertains to the *Code of Student Conduct* for elementary and secondary schools:

"Notice that any student w 164.32is te 164.MC /P A/CID 16BDC q'h0(c)4(h)-6(re5wDC q0.0007re5wD350.0007

Simulating a firearm while playing, wearing clothing as accessories depicting weapons or expressing an opinion regarding gun ownership rights are not necessarily grounds for disciplinary action unless those aforementioned behaviors cause a substantial disruption to the learning environment.

Students are required to immediately report knowledge of weapons and threats of violence by students and staff to the building administrator. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to immediate suspension and potential expulsion from school.

Examples of weapons include but are not limited to the following:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Fixed blade knives | Chinese stars |
| Folding knives | Billy clubs |
| Switchblade knives | Chemical irritants |
| Common pocketknives | Mace |
| Razor blades | Tear gas |
| Sharp cutting instruments | Pepper spray |
| Ice picks | Poisonous gases |
| Dirks | Sling shots |
| Chains | Electrical weapons or devices |
| Pipes | Stun guns |
| Nunchucks | BB guns |
| Blow darts | Propellant guns |
| Brass knuckles | Pellet guns |
| | Look alike or toy guns |

Dangerous Instruments

Dangerous instruments are anything not specifically designed to do harm to another person but used to do harm, to cause or to attempt to cause injury, or to put someone in reasonable fear of injury either intentionally or unintentionally including but not limited to belts, belt buckles, pencils, pens, compasses, combs, or hair brushes. Items used in such a way may result in a referral for mental health services and/or a recommendation for expulsion.

Florida Statute 1006.07(2)

OFF CAMPUS FELONIES

In accordance with Section 1006.09 (2), Florida Statutes, suspension proceedings may be initiated against a student who is formally charged with a felony for an incident that allegedly occurred on property other than public school property. If, in an administrative hearing, the incident is shown to have an adverse impact on the educational program, discipline, or welfare of the school, the student may be suspended until the disposition of his or her case by the courts. As a result of such a hearing, the student may be suspended for longer than 10 days; however, such a suspension that exceeds 10 days shall not affect the delivery of educational services to the student and the student shall be immediately enrolled in a daytime or evening alternative education program where appropriate. If the court finds that the student did commit the felony, the School Board shall have the authority to expel the student.

Florida Statute 1006.09(2)
School Board Policy 5500

VICTIMIZATION

In accordance with Florida Statute 1006.13(5), any person who is attending public school and who has committed certain felony violations can be prohibited by the court before, at the time of adjudication,

information will be made available to the parent/guardian with the understanding that the parent/guardian is fully responsible for student progress, attendance and behavior.

Students between the ages of 16 and 18 must file with the School Board a formal declaration of intent

(9) The principal must be notified at least five school days in advance of any planned trips with parents or special events such as State/National competitions, student conferences, education enrichment activities, important public functions and post-secondary educational institution visits. The principal may excuse the absence depending on an

(10) Absence is with knowledge and consent of the Principal.

Note: School-

whether a pattern of non-attendance exists. A student who has accumulated a combination of 15 unexcused tardies and/or early releases may be referred to the Truancy Intervention Program (TIP). Additionally, procedures for filing a Child In Need of Services (CINS) petition may be commenced.

Florida Statute 1003.24 (4); 1003.02 (1)(b); 1003.26 (1)(6)

B. Referral to Child in Need of Services (CINS) / Family in Need of Services (FINS)

A referral to the CINS/FINS provider may be initiated for additional case management and interventions when school based interventions have failed.

A student with fifteen (15) or more unexcused absences within ninety (90) calendar days will be considered habitually truant from school. In these cases, procedures for filing a (CINS) petition with the courts may be commenced.

When a parent is non-compliant with recommended interventions and with bringing their

C.

Students between 14 to 18 years of age who are habitually truant a



Out of School Suspensions

An out-of-school suspension is an administrative action that prohibits a student from attending school as compared to truancy. In order to avoid a double penalty, absences due to out-of-school suspensions will not be reported to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV).

Florida Statute 1003.27(2)(6)

Attendance and Suspension

Students shall not be suspended for unexcused absences, unexcused tardies, lateness or truancy.

School Board Policy 5200, 5500

CLOSED CAMPUS

Students are not permitted to leave school grounds during lunch unless they have permission from the principal.

Students are not permitted to order food for delivery to the school unless they have specific permission from the principal.

School Board Policy 5130

LOST BOOKS, SUPPLIES,

3. Hats, headgear, including hoods, or sunglasses may only be worn when students are out of doors during school hours.
4. In order to maintain a high level of student safety, students are required to wear school issued identification badges during regular school hours. Student identification badges must be worn around the neck using a school provided breakaway lanyard.
5. Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms, or safety gear and must be approved by the principal before being worn during the school day.
6. See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the minimum requirements of this dress code.
7. Gang paraphernalia, garments and/or jewelry, tattoos, or other insignias, which display or suggest sexual, vulgar, drug, alcohol, or tobacco-related wording/graphics or may tend to provoke violence or disruption in school shall not be worn.
8. Clothing must not state, imply, or depict hate speech or imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected class.
9. Clothing and accessories that endanger students or staff shall not be worn.
10. Individual schools are expected to use the state and district dress and grooming guidelines as minimum

apparel conforms to the dress code,

or is disruptive or inappropriate, a parent/guardian may be asked to bring an appropriate change of clothes to school, or a student may be sent home to change clothes.

Note: The principal may modify the dress code for extra-curricular school functions.

Effective July 1, 2011, Florida Statute prohibits a student, while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, from wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment.

Any student who violates this statute is subject to the following specified disciplinary actions as prescribed by Florida law.

First offense: A student must be given a verbal warning and the school principal/designee must call

Second offense: The student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a

parent or guardian.

Third and subsequent offense: A student must receive an in-school suspension for a period not to exceed 3 days. The student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed

-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.

Florida Statute 1001.43(1)(b);1006.07(2)(d)

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

Students are expected to display appropriate and respectful interpersonal physical contact at all times. Excessive interpersonal contact or inappropriate displays of affection may result in disciplinary action.

SCHOOL BUS SAFETY RULES

Safety Our First Concern

These rules have been developed to promote the safety of all students who have been granted the privilege of riding a Charlotte County Public School bus. Failure to comply with these rules could result in the permanent loss of riding privileges and suspension and/or expulsion from school. Students may be digitally recorded while riding the bus. Viewing of any digital video recordings are subject to School Board policy.

In addition to following the *Code of Student Conduct*, there are additional bus safety rules that must be followed in order to help ensure a safe ride on the school bus.

Bus Stops

Students will conduct themselves in an appropriate, safe, and courteous manner while at the school bus stop. Behaviors prohibited by the *Code of Student Conduct* which take place at the school bus stop will be referred to the school principal for action. State administrative code places the responsibility on parents

Safety is the FIRST consideration on the bus; therefore, use of electronic devices is permitted as long as

Any student wearing, carrying, displaying gang or secret society paraphernalia, exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang or secret society membership, causing and/or participating in activities which intimidate or affect the attendance of another student, may be suspended from school and recommended for expulsion.

Florida Statute 1006.14
School Board Policy 2430

MEDICATION MISUSE

MISUSE OF COMMON PRODUCTS

The use or possession of common products known to be alternatives to illicit drugs with the sole purpose of imitating the effects of a licit or an illicit drug (legal or illegal) will be dealt with as a drug-related offense.

school shall also be considered as a suspension from s

behavior in accordance with the *Code of Conduct*. PBIS is recognized at both the state and the federal level as an effective way to increase positive behaviors for the majority of our students.

The use of PBIS at all tiers is part of a comprehensive Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and data is used to develop interventions at the school wide, small group and individual levels. For more information on the use

Privacy

All computers, telephone systems, voice mail systems, electronic mail, and electronic communication systems, and other digital media resources are th
all electronic and voice mail, computer files, databases, and any other electronic transmissions contained in or
system, electronic mail system, voice mail

Note: CCPS is not financially responsible for electronic or wireless devices that are lost or stolen on campus, on district school buses, or on school sponsored transportation.
CCPS is not responsible for any data lost while connected to our network.
CCPS maintains the right to disable any device connected to the network.

Electronic or Wireless Communication Devices are defined as follows:

Electronic devices are those which provide communication by text, word, voice or picture.

Student use of cellular phones or other electronic or wireless devices is strictly prohibited during instructional time unless required within an IEP or 504 plan. If permission is granted to use electronic devices, students who concerns. Each school may develop individual usage rules. Cellular phones or other communication devices

Be aware that what you post online can impact you or others offline or in person. Consider how your posting could appear to your family, friends, and others.

or confidential information.

You should ask permission before posting pictures or videos of others.

promptly contact your school-based administration, your teacher, or other school staff.

Profane, obscene, or threatening language should not be used.

School or district logos, mascots, or images should not be used in your postings as those are usually copyrighted.

Be ready to be responsible for what you post.

Be aware and review your privacy settings.

Cyberbullying is considered an infraction of the CCPS *Code of Student Conduct*.

School Board Policies 7540, 7540.01, 7540.02, 7540.03

APPENDIX I **INTRODUCTION TO THE** **MATRIX OF INFRACTIONS AND** **POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES**

Students are expected to come to school prepared to learn and to participate in all learning activities. Any conduct which interferes with the orderly operation of a school and/or interferes with any student's ability to learn is considered inappropriate and may subject the student to disciplinary action.

The *Matrix of Infractions & Disciplinary Actions* specifically identifies prohibited student conduct and lists the range of consequences which may be imposed by the school administrative staff for each infraction.

In conjunction with the use of the matrix, on-going educational and behavioral interventions are to be used to address student conduct concerns. Schools are encouraged to use Restorative Justice practices when appropriate. Restorative Justice is a system of school discipline that provides school leaders and teachers with collaborative solutions for selected disciplinary violations. Such solutions include, but are not limited to Peer Mediation, Peer Accountability Boards, Conferencing and Circles.

Possible school level interventions include the following:

1. Conference with student;
2. Conference with parent;
3. Referral to the Student Assistance Team;
4. Student Contract (Behavioral/Attendance);
5. Peer Mediation;
6. Tobacco Cessation Class;
7. Substance Abuse Counseling;
8. OSSA - Out of School Suspension Alternative;
9. Referral to guidance counselor;
10. Assessment by school social worker;
11. Assessment by school psychologist;
12. Referral to SEA/AAP Program;
13. Referral to SOS Substance Abuse Program;
14. Functional Behavioral Assessment (ESE/Psychological Services);

15. Referral for Mental Health Services; and
16. Referral to the School Based Threat Assessment Team.
17. Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports;

When assigning a disciplinary action, the principal or the principal's designee shall give consideration to factors such as

Bus Rules/Procedures Violation - engaging in conduct or behavior which interferes with the orderly, safe, and timely transportation of students.

Cheating - the inappropriate and deliberate distribution or use of information, notes, materials, or work of another person, used as your own, in the completion of an academic exam, test or assignment.

Class Disruption - committing any act that disrupts the learning environment of the classroom.

Computer Misuse - the inappropriate use of a computer, including, but not limited to, breaking into restricted accounts or networks, modifying or destroying files without permission, illegally copying software, and entering, distributing or printing unauthorized files.

- **Contraband** - the possession or use of items, which are prohibited at school, including, but not limited to
Electronic
Communication and Laser Devices

Counterfeiting - falsely making, altering or forging a public record, document, or certificate, with the intent to defraud, injure or to gain advantage over another.

Criminal Mischief (Felony Vandalism- \$1,000 threshold)- willfully and maliciously injuring or

Electronic Communication Devices - devices which provide communication by text, words, voice or pictures such as cell phones, iPod, thumb drives, game machines, lap top computers, book readers, and the like.

Elopement - leaving school grounds without receiving the required prior approval or following established procedures for checking out of school.

Explosives (*Zero Tolerance*) - possessing, using, selling, storing, distributing, constructing, or detonating any combustible substance or destructive device, such as a bomb, letter bomb, pipe bomb, grenade, rocket, or similar device that is designed to explode.

Failure to Report for Detention/Saturday School - not attending an assigned detention or Saturday School.

Failure to Report Suspicious Activity, Threat to the School, Weapon or Dangerous Instrument- knowing of weapons, dangerous instruments, suspicious activity, or threats of violence by any students and not reporting to school administration or staff.

False Accusation - an untrue statement, either oral or written, known to be untrue and communicated intentionally and maliciously and when communicated injures or jeopardized the personal or professional reputation or credibility of a teacher,

Racial Harassment - all forms of discrimination prohibited by Title VI - race, color, and national origin, including any verbal, nonverbal, graphic, written, or physical conduct that denigrates or shows hostility or aversion toward any student based upon race, when such conduct substantially interferes with a student's academic performance, or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment. Racial harassment may include, but is not limited to, the following conduct which is based upon race:

- 1.

Student Refusal to Consent to a Search - knowingly and willfully refuses to submit to a search of his/her

in reasonable fear of serious harm. Items within this category include but are not limited to, fixed blade knives, folding knives, switchblade knives, common pocketknives, razor blades, sharp cutting instruments, ice picks, dirks, chains, pipe, nunchucks, blow darts, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, billy clubs, chemical irritants, mace, tear gas, pepper spray, poisonous gases, sling shots, electrical weapons or devices, stun guns, BB or pellet guns, propellants, and "look-alike" weapons.

APPENDIX IV
SCHOOL BOARD RULES

APPENDIX V

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT
2024-2025 REVIEW COMMITTEE

Burke, Eric.....	CCSO Representative
Christiansen, Kelli.....	Executive Secretary, School Support
Cox-McKimme y, Jennifer.....	Coordinator of District Health Services
Curtis, Paul.....	Assistant Principal, Port Charlotte High School
Desjardins, Michael.....	Assistant Superintendent for School Support
Flores, Susan.....	Coordinator of Social Work and Mental Health Services
Gauthier, Avery.....	Student, Port Charlotte High School
Gauthier, Rosalyn.....	Parent, Port Charlotte High School
Ham, Jack.....	Director of School Support
Jenkins, Deshon.....	Principal, The Academy
Marazon, Rebecca.....	Coordinator of Psychological Services
Melvin, Daniel.....	Teacher, Charlotte Harbor Center
Oberdier, Lisa.....	Director of Secondary Learning
Platt, Krissy.....	FSW Representative
Pyle, Kate.....	Assistant Principal, Charlotte High School
Smith, Andrew.....	Student, Lemon Bay High School
Smith, Steve.....	Assistant Principal, Lemon Bay High School

STUDENT/PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM

