

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

All persons on District grounds are expected to abide by applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and building regulations.

No person on District property may assault, strike, threaten, menace or use improper, indecent or obscene language toward a teacher, instructor, other employees of the schools or students.

Unless otherwise permitted by law, no person is permitted to bring deadly weapons or dangerous ordnances into a school safety zone.

No person may disrupt, disturb or interfere with the teaching of any class of students or any other activity conducted in a school building or upon the campus or grounds.

Whoever violates the above policy and building regulations will be asked to leave the property by whoever is in charge. Should that person refuse, the police will be called. If the offender should be a student, the person in charge should report the student to the appropriate principal. The administration cooperates in any prosecution pursuant to the criminal laws of the State of Ohio and local ordinances.

Public Conduct at Athletic Events

The Board wishes to ensure that athletic activities sponsored by the District will be free from disruption and that District employees who coach or assist in the coaching of such activities will, to the fullest extent possible, be free from verbal or physical abuse, threats or intimidation in the performance of their assigned duties. All persons on school grounds will be expected to abide by applicable laws, local ordinances, Board policies and building regulations.

1. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following terms shall have the meanings set forth below:

- A. "Incident" means an event or circumstance (including but not limited to verbal or physical harassment, assault, abuse, threats or the use of indecent or obscene language or gestures) which presents, in the opinion of the responsible athletic authority, a threat to the safety of any person or which causes the disruption of any athletic event, practice or other activity sponsored by the District.
- B. "Responsible Athletic Authority" means the highest ranking coach, assistant coach or other District employee (principal, assistant principal or athletic director) having responsibility for or present at any athletic event, practice or other activity sponsored by the District and who is present at the occurrence of an incident.

- C. “Persons” means any individual causing or participating in an incident. Students subject to the Pupil Discipline Code of the Hilliard City Schools who cause or participate in an incident will be subject to discipline in accordance with the Pupil Discipline Code.

2. Rule Regarding Prohibited Conduct

No person shall cause, participate or otherwise take part in an incident as defined herein. A violation of this rule will result in the imposition of one or more of the response actions set forth in paragraph 3 below.

3. Response Actions

- A. Upon the occurrence of an incident, the responsible athletic authority should:

- 1) If the incident takes place on the property of the Hilliard City Schools, request the person(s) causing and/or participating in the incident to immediately cease the conduct giving rise to the incident and leave the premises. If such person(s) do not immediately leave the premises, local law enforcement authorities having jurisdiction over the facility should be called and requested to remove such person(s) from the premises.

Under no circumstances should the responsible athletic authority attempt to forcibly remove such person(s) from the premises. If such person(s) causing or participating in an incident are under the age of 18, reasonable efforts should be made to contact the person’s(s) parents.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to limit the responsible athletic authority’s or any other person’s right to act in self-defense.

- 2) Submit a written report describing the incident to the Superintendent/designee. Such report should be filed as soon as possible after the occurrence of the incident and should include, but need not be limited to: (a) the name(s) of the person(s) causing or participating in the incident; (b) the nature and location of the incident; (c) any action taken as a result of the incident; (d) the names of any witnesses to the incident and (e) if the incident included personal threats against any school employee, Board member and/or their families, that fact should be included in the report together with any suggestions offered by such school employee or Board member. A copy of the incident report shall be provided to the appropriate administrative staff.

- 3) The incident report may be shared with the visiting school, if appropriate.
- B. Upon receipt of a copy of the report describing the incident or upon prior notification, the building principal should:
- 1) Investigate the incident and assimilate additional relevant facts, if any, to supplement the incident report. Such additional relevant facts should then be provided to the Superintendent/designee within a reasonable time.
- C. Upon receipt of the incident report and any additional relevant facts from the building principal, the appropriate administrative staff should:
- 1) Notify the District's attorney of the incident and provide copies of any documents concerning the incident.
 - 2) Contact the person(s) to which the incident was directed (i.e., the threatened or assaulted individual(s) in order to verify the facts surrounding the incident and to inform such person(s) of the steps which are being taken by the District.
 - 3) Notify the person(s) involved in the incident of the action being taken by the District as a result of the incident. Such notification should be in the form of a letter, sent via registered mail. The notification should designate the assistant superintendent as the "contact person" with respect to the investigation of the incident and should advise such person(s) that other school representatives have been advised not to comment on the incident.
- D. Upon receipt of the incident report and following a conference regarding the incident with the building principal and the assistant superintendent, the Superintendent/designee may take one or more of the following actions:
- 1) Notify the law enforcement authorities of the incident and/or oversee the filing of a complaint or criminal charges. This policy shall not be construed to limit the right of a school employee to initiate a civil complaint for damages or to file criminal charges where appropriate.
 - 2) Provide additional security measures for the future as may be appropriate. Any expense resulting from the provision of such additional security shall not be paid out of the budget for the Athletic Department.

- 3) After consultation with legal counsel, initiate legal action to obtain a court order barring the person(s) from future attendance at athletic events or from taking any other actions which might jeopardize the safety of any school employee.
- 4) Refer the matter to the city or county prosecuting attorney, city law director or as otherwise may be appropriate for investigation for possible prosecution under State law or local ordinances.
- 5) Take other additional action deemed to be appropriate and reasonable in the opinion of the Superintendent/.

[Adoption date: August 14, 2001]

[Re-adoption date: July 26, 2004]

[Re-adoption date: October 13, 2008]

[Re-adoption date: May 11, 2015]

LEGAL REFS.: Gun-Free Schools Act; 20 USC 1751
Gun-Free School Zones Act; 18 USC 922
ORC 2903.13; 2903.22
2911.21
2917.11
2923.1212; 2923.122
3313.20

CROSS REFS.: GBCB, Staff Conduct
IGD, Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)
KG, Community Use of School Facilities (Equal Access)
KGC, Smoking on District Property
KK, Visitors to the Schools