Student Code of Conduct

(revised 8/2025)

Standards of Behavior & Code of Conduct

Authority of School Personnel

Discipline is the responsibility of all school personnel. The principal will assign authority roles. The school principal has the authority and responsibility to investigate and take appropriate action regarding any antisocial or criminal student behavior and any other behavior appropriately referred to him/her.

The teacher has the authority and responsibility to manage student behavior in the classroom and while students are under his/her supervision. Any physical or verbal disturbance within the learning environment which interrupts or interferes with the teaching and learning process or with the orderly conduct of school activity is prohibited. Students shall behave respectfully towards and in the presence of school employees and other students. Students will comply with all directions of the principal, teachers, substitute teachers, student teachers, teacher assistants, bus drivers, and all other school personnel who are authorized to give such directions during any period of time when they are subject to the authority of such personnel. No school employee shall be civilly liable for using reasonable force in conformity with State law, State or local rules, or State or local policies regarding the control, discipline, suspension, and expulsion of students.

General Discipline Philosophy

At TCS, we believe good discipline is essential to good learning; each student has the right to be free from distractions caused by others' inappropriate behavior. We believe this can be established using the principles of a democratic community and restorative justice. A democratic community approach to classroom management involves attention to relationships with and among learners and an intentional effort to create a climate of mutual caring and respect; a positive view of learners, including their inclination toward and motivation for learning and their responsiveness to kind and respectful treatment, consideration of each learner and his/her subsequent behavior within the social context of the classroom. Day to day practices that generate community in the democratic classroom involve learners, teachers, and school personnel getting to know each other; involve learners setting mutually agreed upon classroom expectations for behavior, and teachers and peers support learners in meeting expectations through teaching expectations, reminding, redirecting and re-teaching expectations as needed. Regular classroom and school meetings are designed to foster school community involvement. Through problem-solving and sharing experiences, students learn and practice social skills such as listening to and responding positively to each other, showing empathy, and generating solutions to problems. Class meetings involve the following:

- Share acknowledgment and appreciation for positive behaviors that sustain and enhance the learning community.
- Acknowledge and generate solutions for problems and concerns that affect the learning community. Solutions are ideas generated by students that support learners in the community and work to resolve and prevent problems from reoccurring. The focus is on solutions rather than consequences or punishment. students share their life experiences.
- Students plan classroom experiences such as field trips and service-learning opportunities.

For problems that interfere with the learning community and the health and well-being of individual students beyond that which can be handled through class meetings or staff/student conferences, staff will work to identify early warning signs of problems that interfere with learning and the functioning of the learning community, safety, health and well-being of students. Staff will develop personalized growth plans to prevent problems from escalating and/or remediate problematic behavior. When individuals in the learning community display disrespectful, hurtful or harmful behavior to their peers or the community at large, the teacher and student work together to identify appropriate restitution to make amends.

TCS expects its students to behave in a socially acceptable and responsible manner and believes there must exist a climate conducive to learning and respect for oneself, other people, and property for a school to meet student needs satisfactorily. TCS staff will maintain a positive behavior support system to model and encourage constructive methods of correcting and managing student behavior. When possible, TCS will engage and involve resources from the university, public school system, and community resources and organizations to identify and correct root problems of behavior and disruption of the educational process. It is a goal of TCS to have students in school as much as possible and avoid drop- outs, suspensions, and expulsions.

This code of conduct is based on these principles and is provided to students and parents (including legal or custodial guardians) in an effort to ensure a safe and wholesome learning environment for all students. The principal or designee may reduce or increase the penalty when there is a finding of mitigating circumstances, except in cases where law or policy requires suspension. All decisions related to student behavior are guided by the objectives to teach responsibility and respect for cultural and ideological differences and by a commitment to create safe, orderly, and caring schools where learning continuously occurs. Students have the responsibility to comply with school rules, to pursue a prescribed course of study, and to submit to the lawful authority of teachers, staff, school officials, and the law.

While this Policy is intended to provide notice to students and parents of general expectations for behavior and consequences for misconduct, it must be

understood that discretion will be used in dealing with a wide range of age and maturity of students. Consideration must also be given to the seriousness of the infraction(s) when determining the consequences' severity. Other inappropriate behavior not covered in this document will be dealt with by the principal and/or designee.

Please refer to the following policies. Go to the drop-down menu for General Policies & Handbook on the Catamount School Information page.

- Student Code of Conduct and Behavior Policy
- Suspension/Expulsion Policy
- Student Discipline Hearing Procedures Policy
- Bullying and Non-Discrimination Policy
- Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures
- Students Discipline-Restraint - Disability Discipline Policy
- Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disabilities
- Rights of Students with Disabilities
- Weapons and Explosives Prohibited Policy
- Threat Safety Policy

Administration Responsibilities

When a student has been suspended (ISS or OSS), they may not participate in extracurricular/school activities with TCS during the suspension. Corporal punishment shall not be used at TCS. Corporal punishment is the intentional infliction of physical pain upon the body of a student as a disciplinary measure. It includes, but is not limited to, spanking, paddling, and slapping.

Short-Term Suspension

A short-term suspension is the disciplinary exclusion of a student from attending school for up to 10 school days. A student who is placed on a short-term suspension will not be permitted to be on school property or to take part in any school function during the period of suspension without prior approval from the principal. Short-term suspension procedures:

- The principal must first provide the student with notice of the opportunity for an informal hearing. The principal may hold the hearing immediately after giving the student oral or written notice of the charges against him or her. At the hearing, the student has the right to be present, be informed of the charges, and the basis of the accusation, and make statements in defense or mitigation of the charges.
- The principal may impose a short-term suspension without providing notice and the opportunity for a hearing if the presence of the student creates a direct and immediate threat to the safety of other students or staff, or substantially disrupts or interferes with the education of other students or the maintenance of discipline at

the school. In such cases, the principal shall give the student notice of the charges and an informal hearing opportunity as soon as practicable.

- The principal's decision to impose short-term suspension is not appealable to the leadership team.
- The initial notice may be by telephone, but it must be followed by a timely written notice. The written notice must include all of the information listed above and may be sent by fax, email, or any other method reasonably designed to give actual notice.
- Any student who has received a short-term suspension (10 days or less) will be afforded the following: - The opportunity to take textbooks home for the duration of the suspension - The right to inquire about homework assignments for the duration of the suspension The opportunity to take any quarterly, semester, or grading period examinations missed during the suspension period.

Long-Term Suspension

A long-term suspension is the disciplinary exclusion of a student from attending his or her assigned school for more than 10 school days. Disciplinary reassignment of a student to a full-time educational program that meets the academic requirements of the standard course of study established by the State BOE and that provides the student with the opportunity to make timely progress toward graduation and grade promotion is not a long-term suspension requiring the due process procedures set out in this policy.

Upon the recommendation of the principal, the Dean of the College of Education & Allied professions (CEAP), who is the Chancellor's Designee, may impose a long-term suspension on a student who willfully engages in a serious violation of the Code of Student Conduct and the violation either threatens the safety of students, staff or school visitors or threatens to substantially disrupt the educational environment. The principal may recommend long-term suspension for a minor violation if aggravating circumstances justify treating the student's behavior as a serious violation.

Long-term suspension procedures: Only the Chancellor's Designee/Dean has the authority to long- term suspend a student. Long-term suspension may carry into the next school year if the offense occurs during the final quarter of the school year. The suspension may include a period up to the remainder of the school year in which the offense was committed and the first semester of the following school year. Before a student can be long-term suspended, the student must be provided with an opportunity for a hearing. Students who are long-term suspended must be offered alternative educational services unless the team has a significant or important reason for declining to offer such services. The following are considered significant or important reasons:

- Student exhibits violent or criminal behavior
- Student poses a threat or significant risk to staff or other students
- Student substantially disrupts the learning process
- Student otherwise engaged in serious misconduct that makes the provisions of alternative educational services not feasible
- Educationally appropriate alternative education services are not available in the local school administrative unit due to limited resources
- Student failed to comply with reasonable conditions for admittance into an alternative education program.
- If a teacher is assaulted or injured by a student and as a result, the student is long-term suspended or reassigned to alternative education services, the student shall not be returned to that teacher's classroom unless the teacher consents. Disciplinary reassignment of a student to a full-time educational program that meets the academic requirements of the standard course of study and provides the student with the opportunity to make timely progress toward graduation and grade promotion (i.e., alternative school) is not a long-term suspension requiring the long-term suspension due process requirement.

The team shall offer alternative education services to any student who receives a long-term or 365-day suspension unless the team provides a significant or important reason for declining to offer such services. Alternative education services are part-time or full-time programs that provide direct, written, or computer-based instruction to allow the student to progress in one or more core academic courses. See Catamount School Policies 4353 and 4370.

Expulsion

An expulsion is the indefinite exclusion of a student from school enrollment for disciplinary purposes. Upon the recommendation of the team, the school may expel a student who is 14 years of age or older for misbehavior.

Expulsion procedures: Prior to expelling a student, the principal, Chancellor's Designee/Dean, and potentially, a disciplinary panel, must consider whether to offer alternative education services to the student. If the Chancellor's Designee/Dean determines that there are appropriate alternative services, the student shall be under the supervision of school personnel and/or guardian at all times.

At the time the student is expelled, he/she shall also be provided with notice of the right to petition for readmission. During the term of expulsion, unless the committee provides the student with access to alternative education services, the student cannot be present on any of the lab school's property and is not considered a student within that school

system. See Catamount School Policies 4353 and 4370.

365 Day Suspension

A 365- day suspension is the disciplinary exclusion of a student from attending his or her school for 365 calendar days. The Team shall offer alternative education services to any student who receives a long- term or 365-day suspension unless the dean provides a significant or important reason for declining to offer such services. Alternative education services are part-time or full-time programs that provide direct or computer-based instruction to allow the student to progress in one or more core academic courses. See Catamount School Policies 4353 and 4370.

Notice to Parents for Long-Term Suspension, 365 Day Suspension, Expulsion

The principal must provide to the student's parent written notice of the recommendation for long-term suspension, 365-day suspension or expulsion by the end of the workday during which the long-term suspension or expulsion is recommended when reasonably possible or as soon thereafter as practicable.

Appeal Process for Long-Term Suspension, 365 Day Suspension, Expulsion

The student may appeal to the Dean the decision not to provide alternative education services, as permitted by GS 115C-45(c)(1). Any appeal to the Dean must be made in writing within five days of receiving the decision.

Readmission for Long-Term Suspension

365 Day Suspension, Expulsion Readmission procedures: Students suspended for 365 days or expelled may, after 180 calendar days from the date of the suspension or expulsion, petition in writing to be readmitted. The Dean may consider any petitions for readmission. The student shall be readmitted if he/she demonstrates that his/her presence in a school no longer constitutes a clear threat to the safety of other students or school personnel. If the Chancellor's Designee rejects the request for readmission, the notice will advise the parents of the right to appeal the decision. Any appeal must be made in writing within five days of receipt of the Dean's or designee's decision. See Catamount School Policies 4353 and 4370. If a teacher was assaulted or injured by a student, and as a result the student was expelled, the student shall not be returned to that teacher's classroom following readmission unless the teacher consents. If the expelled student's request for readmission is denied, the Chancellor's Designee will not consider a subsequent request for readmission of that student until six months after the submission of the previous request.

Threatening Acts

Students are prohibited from directing toward any other person any language, sign or act which threatens force, violence, or disruption, including the taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of another person or persons, by force, threat of force, or violence, or by putting the victim in fear. This includes but is not limited to any behavior resulting in a felony conviction on a weapon, drug, assault, or other charge that compromises the safety of other persons. (The principal will determine the seriousness of the act.) Consequence Range: ISS – Expulsion. Severe violation of this policy may result in long-term suspension or expulsion.

Criminal Behavior

Criminal or other illegal behavior is prohibited. Any student the principal reasonably believes to have engaged in criminal behavior on the school premises or at school activities will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action as stated in applicable School policies and may be criminally prosecuted as well.

The principal must report immediately to law enforcement officers and the Director of the School of Teaching and Learning, the following criminal behavior that occurs on school grounds, regardless of age or grade of the perpetrator or victim: assault resulting in serious personal injury; sexual assault; sexual offense; rape; kidnapping; indecent liberties with a minor; assault involving the use of a weapon; possession of a firearm in violation of the law; possession of a weapon in violation of the law; possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law; assault on school officials, employees and/or volunteers; accessing or possessing pornography; homicide, including murder, manslaughter and death by vehicle; robbery; or armed robbery.

School officials will cooperate fully with any criminal investigation and prosecution. Any criminal behavior that also violates school rules or policy will be investigated independently from the criminal investigation and appropriate disciplinary action from the school will be taken.

School administrators have the authority to conduct reasonable searches and seize materials in accordance with School Policy for the purpose of maintaining a safe, orderly environment and for upholding standards of conduct established by the Jackson County BOE, WCU, and TCS.

Title IX Sexual Harassment

The Catamount School intends that all students and employees should be free of unlawful sexual harassment as a part of a safe, orderly, caring, and inviting working and learning environment. The School expressly prohibits sexual harassment in the educational and work environment. Examples of sexually harassing conduct include, but are not limited to, deliberate, unwelcome touching of a sexual nature or that takes on sexual connotations;

suggestions or demands for sexual involvement accompanied by implied or overt promises preferential treatment or threats; pressure for sexual activity; continued or repeated offensive sexual flirtations, advances or propositions; continued or repeated verbal remarks of a sexual nature; sexually degrading words used toward an individual or to describe an individual; sexual assault or violence; the display of sexually suggestive objects or pictures; or use of personal or school electronic communications to convey sexually inappropriate words, pictures or images. Electronic communications include, but are not limited to, digital imagery, email, text messaging, instant messaging, chat rooms, blogging, websites and social networking websites (i.e., Instagram, SnapChat or Facebook).

When a student believes that he or she has been sexually harassed by another student, employee, or nonemployee such as a visitor, he/she should bring the matter to the attention of the principal, or to a teacher or counselor who then shall immediately report it to the principal. The principal shall report the conduct to the Title IX Coordinator who will determine whether the conduct should be addressed through the Catamount School's Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy. If the Title IX Coordinator determines that the Title IX process is not appropriate, the principal or the principal's designee will investigate the matter and may impose disciplinary sanctions on the harassing student in accordance with disciplinary policies.

Disciplinary Responses

Principals and teachers are encouraged to use a full range of discipline responses to student misconduct, such as parental involvement, conferences, isolation or time-out for short periods of time, behavior improvement agreements, instruction in conflict resolution and anger management, peer mediation, individual or small group sessions with the school counselor, academic intervention, in-school suspension (ISS), detention before and/or after school or on Saturday, community service, exclusion from graduation ceremonies, exclusion from extracurricular activities, suspension from bus privileges, and disciplinary placement in an alternative school."

The use of out-of-school-suspension (OSS) should be reserved as a consequence for student conduct where other documented options either have not been effective or, in the opinion of the principal, will not serve to protect other students and staff at the school or will not preserve an orderly school environment. The provisions of this code also apply when students are in the virtual learning environment.

Level I - Provides programs and/or school options for students who are at risk for behavioral issues and may be disenfranchised from school or commit minor infractions on an infrequent basis. Program options are typically implemented in the student's current school and include services such as support related to anger

management or conflict resolution. Although the final decision on where the student will attend school will be made by the Dean, principals, community administrators, and parents will collaborate on the decision to enroll a student in the alternative programs.

Potential Responses: (This list contains some of the options that may be used by the administration in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.)

• Parent contact • Conference (any combination of parent/student/school officials/counselors and teacher) • Referral to Student Services Team • Verbal warning • Temporary social restriction from peers • Return of property or restitution for damages • Suspension from bus • After-school detention or Saturday school • Behavior contract • Consider student for additional support via the prescribed MTSS process • In-school suspension • Confiscation of unauthorized items	• School-based community service/work detail • Restorative Practice (i.e. peer jury, peer mediation, community service. • Referral to community agency • Revocation of school-related (included but not limited to clubs & athletics) privileges • Disciplinary councils • Temporary termination from the school-based virtual learning environment • Education • Online module for nicotine-based referrals • Re-entry meeting • No Contact Contract

Level II - Provides interventions and consequences for students who commit infractions of the *Code of Student Conduct* such as being chronically disruptive or participating in a fight that does not result in injury or significant disruption to the educational environment.

Potential Responses: (This list contains some of the options that may be used by the administration in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.) • Choice of response from Level I • Alternative classroom assignment • Temporary or permanent removal from participation in extracurricular/co-curricular programs or activities • Out-of-school suspension for one to 10 days with an opportunity to attend a Short-Term Suspension Site (parent contact must be attempted and written notice is required) • Warning of referral to Level III (repeated offense	**Out-of-school suspension for each Level:** **Level I** 0 days **Level II** 1 to 10 days (Short-term suspension) ***Consequences for Level III, IV, V may be imposed only by the Superintendent/designee*** **Level III** 11 to 30 days (Long-term suspension) **Level IV** up to 365 days (Long-term or mandatory 365-day suspension) **Level V** Expulsion

Level III - Provides interventions and consequences for students who commit more serious infractions of the *Code of Student Conduct* and/or have repeat offenses.

Potential Responses: (This list contains some of the options that may be used by the administration in addressing student conduct. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.)

- Out-of-school suspension
- Additional consequences under Level I or II may be imposed as appropriate
- Warning of referral to Level IV (for repeated offenses)

Level IV - Provides interventions and consequences for students who commit serious offenses and whose conduct seriously threatens the safety of students, staff or visitors or threatens to substantially disrupt the educational environment. Additionally, by law, with limited exceptions, students must be suspended from school for 365 days for bringing a firearm or destructive device onto school property.

Level V – Expulsion: The indefinite removal of a student from school and all school properties by School for a student (age 14 or older) whose continued presence constitutes a clear threat to other persons or who is a registered sex offender.

Within each Level, the administrator has the discretion to impose consequences deemed most appropriate to address the infraction. In the instances where an infraction falls within multiple Levels, it is within the discretion of the administrator to determine Level assignment for the infraction.

Sections I-III apply to Section IV (Code of Conduct), it is advised to read sections prior to reviewing the rules.

Rule 1 **ATTENDANCE (Citizenship/Responsibility)** A student must attend every class on time, every day unless there is an excused reason for the absence.

A. Tardy and skipping class: Students who are late to class or miss class without permission are subject to consequences per their school's tardy and skipping policy/procedure.

RESPONSES:

Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level I Response(s)

B. Leaving Campus without permission: Students cannot leave the school campus during school hours without permission.

C. Out of Area: Student will not be in an unauthorized area on schools grounds without property authority. This may also be a violation of Rule 10.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)
OSS 1-5 days to include documented responses by the administration team

Rule 2 **FOOD/BEVERAGES (Responsibility/Honesty):** A student will eat and drink only in authorized areas of the school. No outside food delivery services are allowed during school hours.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level I Response(s)

Rule 3 **MEDICATION (Responsibility/Honesty):** All medication will be provided to the school nurse and properly stored. Without proper medical authorization, students shall not transport or consume prescription or non-prescription medications, supplements, chemical compounds, or over the counter herbal supplements to or from school or have these substances in their possession at any time without meeting conditions prescribed by the School including appropriate documentation and storage with the school nurse. Students are not permitted to sell or distribute such substances; the distribution, sale or consumption of such substances.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)

Rule 4 **STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING (Respect/Responsibility):** A student will maintain personal attire and grooming standards that promote safety, health, and are not disruptive or distracting to the educational environment. This includes student clothing that materially and substantially disrupts classes or other school activities. Students can not wear clothing/accessories that block the ability to be able to make a positive identification of a student, such as a ski mask or sunglasses. The dress and grooming of students shall contribute to the health and safety of the individual and promote an orderly educational environment. These standards apply to all students unless a specific exception is made by the school administrator. All students have a right to wear their hair in a way that reflects their racial, ethnic, or cultural identity without being discriminated against or disciplined.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level I Response(s)

Rule 5 **PERSONAL PROPERTY (Responsibility):** A student is permitted to bring or possess only objects that have an educational purpose or will not distract

from teaching or learning. Students are permitted to sell items on campus only as part of an approved school activity. All other items will be confiscated and returned to the parent at a mutually agreed upon time, not to exceed one calendar week. In some cases this may be a violation of Rule 21B, 22, or 28.

A. Wireless Communication Devices: A wireless communication device is any portable wireless device that has the capability to provide voice, messaging, or other data communication between two or more parties, including but not limited to: cellular telephones, paging devices, two-way radios and similar devices, smartphones, smartwatches, smart glasses, tablet computers, laptop computers, gaming devices, Bluetooth® headphones, earbuds, smart glasses, smartwatches that depend upon a connection to a smartphone or other communication device, and other such internet-accessing devices (whether by cellular, wired, or wireless connection). . Wireless communication devices may only be used in accordance with Policy 4318, Use of Wireless Communication Devices. Violations may result in the confiscation of the device (which could include being returned only to a parent) and/or other disciplinary actions. The School is not responsible (monetary value or replacement) for theft, loss, or damage to personal electronic devices brought onto School or WCU property.

B. Toys, games (electronic or other), lighters, and other electronic equipment: Possession of these or any similar devices without permission of the administration is prohibited on school property. No toy guns allowed on school property. Possession of a toy gun that could be mistaken for an actual weapon is a violation of Rule 29, Weapons and Dangerous Objects.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)

Rule 6 MISREPRESENTATION (Honesty):

A. Altering Report Cards or notes: Tampering with report cards, official passes, notes or other school documents in any manner, including changing grades or forging names on excuses, is prohibited.

B. False information: Making false statements, written or oral, to anyone in authority is prohibited.

C. **Cheating:** Violating rules of honesty and Honor Codes, including but not limited to plagiarism, submission of work not authored exclusively by the student, to include artificial intelligence created

work (without permission), or copying another student's test or assignment, are prohibited. If the Rule 6 violation has a serious detrimental effect on other students or staff, the principal has the discretion to use a Level III response.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s) OSS 1-5 days

Rule 7 DISRESPECT OF STAFF & INSUBORDINATION (Responsibility/Respect):

A. Disrespect of faculty/staff: During all school activities all students are expected to act in a respectful manner, including, but not limited to speaking to faculty/staff in an appropriate manner.

B. Insubordination: Student will comply with the lawful direction of any authorized staff member while in school, participating in a school activity or on school property. This includes, but is not limited to, complying with the direction or instruction of a staff member, not walking away from a staff member while being spoken to, and speaking to staff in an appropriate manner.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)
OSS 1-5 days to include documented responses by the administration team

Rule 8 PROFANITY, DEROGATORY LANGUAGE, BULLYING, CYBERBULLYING
(Respect/Caring):

A. Profanity, Obscenity and/or Derogatory Language: Students are expected to use appropriate language and conduct at school and school functions and possess only appropriate materials.

B. Bullying: Bullying and/or harassing behavior are strictly prohibited by TCS. It is the policy of the School to maintain learning environments that are free from harassment or bullying.

In addition, as with other disciplinary violations, any manner of bullying that occurs off campus may violate *the Code of Student Conduct* if it has a direct and immediate impact to the orderly and efficient operation of the school or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

C. Cyber-bullying: This rule applies to cursing, possessing, sending, social media posts, or receiving written materials or electronic text and/or images that convey an offensive, racial, derogatory, bullying or obscene message to another person. This includes but is not limited to references to race, color, ancestry, national origin, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religion, physical or sensory disability, physical appearance that includes hair styles, or making offensive statements or gestures.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level III Response(s) to include documented responses by the administration team

Rule 9 **GENERALLY DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will maintain appropriate behavior so as to refrain from disrupting class, school or bus activity. A student shall not talk out in class or move from his/her assigned seat/area without permission, throw objects (except as directed by staff for an instructional purpose), horseplay, harass, tease, make rude noises, or participate in excessive displays of affection.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)

Rule 10 **TRESPASSING (Citizenship):** A student will not enter school property, a school facility, on school grounds without proper authority. This rule includes entering any school or participating in any TCS event (without principal permission) during a period of suspension or expulsion.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s) OSS 1-5 days

Rule 11 **UNSAFE ACTION (Citizenship/Caring):** This rule will apply only when the unsafe behavior does not meet the standards of any other violation. A student shall not commit any action that has the potential to cause danger or physical harm to themselves or to others, to include but not limited to: exiting a moving school bus, exiting a school bus by way of the emergency exit absent an emergency, attempting to elude school officials by running through an active vehicle traffic area, climbing on the roof of buildings, being under a mobile classroom, being in construction areas, boiler rooms, attics or elevator.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 12 **GAMBLING (Responsibility):** A student will not play games of skill or chance (including online) for money or property.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)

Rule 13 **VANDALISM (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will not willfully, with or without malice, damage or destroy property of another, including property belonging to the school or WCU, staff, students or other adults on campus or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school

property or participate with others to do so. Vandalism may include but is not limited to stickers on the walls, writing on desks, graffiti, permanent markings, and damage to school issued technology. A student or parent/guardian may be held financially responsible by the judicial system.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

Rule 14 **USE OF FIRE (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will neither set fire nor attempt to set fire to anything or anyone on school property or participate with others to damage or destroy school property through the use of fire. This includes striking matches, flicking cigarette lighters or using any instrument capable of producing fire on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity that is on or off school property.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 15 **THEFT (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will not steal or possess stolen property, or participate with others to do so. Stolen property includes any object that is possessed without the permission of the owner.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

Rule 16 **BREAKING AND ENTERING (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will not break into any School or WCU property. This will include any unauthorized entry into school property with or without destruction to the property.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

Rule 17 **BREAKING AND ENTERING WITH INTENT TO COMMIT A FELONY OR THEFT (Responsibility/ Respect/Citizenship):**

A. School Property: A student will not unlawfully enter any School or WCU property with the intent of committing a felony, to steal and/or take and carry away the property of another, or to attempt to commit the taking of property.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 18 **ROBBERY (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will not take or attempt to take another person's property by threat of force, force or violence.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 19 **EXTORTION (Responsibility/Respect/Citizenship):** A student will not take, threaten or attempt to take the property (including but not limited to money) or something of value to others through intimidation or blackmail.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 20 **MISUSE OF TECHNOLOGY (Honesty):**

A. TCS-owned property: A student shall refrain from inappropriate use of school system computers/technology devices or from using the TCS electronic communications and wireless connection network without proper authority. This includes unauthorized use of sign on codes and the school telephone system, communication of threats or implied threats, harassment, racism, discrimination, access pornography, and unauthorized attempts to contact any TCS computer site from any computer station.

B. Use, Distribution, or Creation of Inappropriate Content: A student will refrain from any activity or distribution of information through the Internet or other electronic means that would constitute a violation of a rule under the Code of Student Conduct or a violation of law, as, but not limited to, bullying or
harassment on social media or other sites or the use of technology to defame someone's character if the conduct has or may have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment. Publication of information on the

Internet is considered distribution regardless of the location of the technology device from which the offending content was published.

RESPONSES:

Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 21 **PORNOGRAPHIC, PROFANE AND/OR VIOLENT MATERIAL (Respect/Citizenship):**

A. Pornographic, and Profane Material: A student shall refrain from viewing, having or distributing any pornographic or profane material on school property or at a school sponsored event, including but not limited to pictures, magazines, electronic text (including air dropping) or images and sexually explicit or graphically violent materials.

B. Violent Material: A student will not possess or distribute graphically violent materials (including but not limited to documents or instructions concerning the creation of and/or the use of weapons). A student will not record others with the intent to defame, incite violence, or to promote unsafe actions.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 22 **COUNTERFEIT CURRENCY (Honesty):** A student shall not distribute, produce or use counterfeit currency on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 23 **FALSE ALARM/FALSE REPORTING (Responsibility):** In the absence of an emergency, a student shall not call 911, signal or set off an automatic

signal indicating the presence of an emergency. Making false reports, written, oral, on the Say Something anonymous reporting app, or on social media, that causes a significant disruption to the school environment is prohibited.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 24 **BOMB THREAT (Responsibility):** A student shall not make any report or notification, knowing or having reason to know the report is false utilizing any form of communication, indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity. A threat assessment screener must be completed.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level III Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 25 **AGGRESSIVE PHYSICAL/VERBAL ACTION (Responsibility/Caring/Justice and Fairness):** A student shall not exhibit any form of aggressive physical or verbal action against another student, staff member, "visitor", or any other adult at school.

A. **Verbal Confrontation/Provocation:** A student shall not approach another person in a confrontational, or provocative manner. This will include attempts to intimidate or instigate another person to fight or commit other acts of physical aggression.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level III Response(s)

B. **Fighting:** The exchange of mutual aggressive physical contact between students, with or without injury, is prohibited. A student who is physically attacked may act in self-defense without consequence. **Self-defense** is defined as the act by a nonaggressor victim using reasonable force to avoid being hit in order to enable oneself to get free from the attacker and notify school authorities. Students who exceed reasonable

force in protecting themselves will be disciplined for violating this rule even though another person provoked the fight. Administrators will have the discretion to recognize the need for self-defense on an incident-by-incident basis.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

C. Threatening/intimidating: A student shall not threaten to strike, attack or harm any person, or cause another person to become fearful by intimidation, through any medium, including threats made in person, through another person at the request of the perpetrator, on the telephone, in writing, through the use of gang paraphernalia, or by any digital communication (cyber-bullying) that pose a safety risk to the school environment. The Level will be determined by the level of risk presented by the threat, whether the threat could have reasonably been carried out and whether the threatened person was made fearful. The TCS Threat Assessment protocol must be followed.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

D. Assault on a Student: A student shall not physically attack another student. See self-defense as defined above. **Multiple Assaults:** A student shall not act in concert to physically attack another student. Minor incidents of hitting, biting, spitting, shoving, kicking or throwing objects at a student or adult may be a Level I or II infraction.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

E. **Assault on a Staff Member:** A student shall not physically attack a staff member or adult. See self- defense as defined above. **Multiple Assaults:** A student shall not act in concert to physically attack a staff member or

other adult. Minor incidents of hitting, biting, spitting, shoving, kicking or throwing objects at a student or adult may be a Level I or II infraction.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level III Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

F. Inciting to Riot/Chaos: A student shall not engage in behavior of a violent or aggressive nature in a highly volatile area that could result in a riot, widespread chaos or aggressive actions (verbal and/or physical) by students witnessing or involved in the incident.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

G. Refusing to Disperse: A student who witnesses an incident under this rule shall disperse at the request of staff members.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Level III Response(s)

H. Participation in a Civil Demonstration: A student shall not disrupt the school day by participating in a civil demonstration without permission, including leaving campus without permission.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)

Rule 26 **NON-TITLE IX SEXUAL MISCONDUCT (Respect/Caring):**
Misconduct that includes unwelcome sexual advances, regardless of sexual orientation; requests for sexual favors; and other inappropriate verbal, electronic, or physical conduct of a sexual nature but that is not within the scope of "sex discrimination" as defined by Title IX.

A. Mutual Sexual Activity: A student shall not engage in consensual sexual contact and/or sexual acts.

B. Offensive Touching: A student shall not engage in unwanted touching of an offensive or sexual nature.

C. Sexual Misconduct: A student shall not engage in unwanted verbal or physical (e.g. gesturing) conduct of a sexual nature which may reasonably be regarded as intimidating, or offensive. This includes the communication of (by digital or other means) or the intentional display of sexually explicit material.

D. Indecent Exposure: A student shall not intentionally expose private body parts, including but not limited to the intentionally display of the buttocks (mooning).

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 27 **TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT (Respect/Caring)** as an umbrella category, includes the offenses of Sexual Harassment (hostile environment), Sexual Assault (fondling), Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking. This definition applies to all Formal Complaints that fall within Title IX jurisdiction as determined by the Title IX Coordinator.

A. Sexual Harassment (Hostile Environment): Unwelcome conduct, determined by a Reasonable Person, to be so severe and pervasive, and, objectively offensive, that it effectively denies a Complainant equal access to the School's program or activity. Severity and pervasiveness of a complaint must be determined by the Title IX Coordinator.

B. Dating Violence: Violent, controlling, or intimidating behavior that an individual uses against a current or former dating partner. It can include emotional, physical and sexual abuse, stalking, yelling, harassing, threatening, name-calling, threats of suicide, obsessive phone calling or text messaging, extreme jealousy and possessiveness.

C. Domestic Violence: Violence committed by an intimate partner of the complainant; by a person with whom the complainant shares a child in common; by a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with.

D. Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct, on the basis of sex, directed at the complainant, that would cause a reasonable person to

fear for the person's safety, or the safety of others; or suffer substantial emotional distress.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

E. Fondling (actual or attempted): A student shall not intentionally engage in the touching of the private body parts (buttocks, groin, breasts) of the Complainant, or cause their private body part to touch the Complainant, or cause the Complainant to touch their own private body parts, for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the Complainant, including instances where the Complainant is incapable of giving consent because of their age or because of a temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity.

E. Rape: A student shall not attempt or engage in non-consensual sexual penetration with another person.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level III Response(s)

Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 28 **ALCOHOL, TOBACCO AND OTHER DRUGS (Responsibility/Citizenship):** A student shall not use, purchase, sell, distribute, be under the influence of or possess any kind of tobacco, alcoholic beverage, paraphernalia, controlled substance (as defined by state law) or illegal or counterfeit substance.

A. Tobacco and Tobacco Product: A student shall not use, sell, distribute, or possess any kind of tobacco product on school property or at a school function. Tobacco product is any product that contains tobacco/nicotine or is tobacco and nicotine derived and is intended for use of tobacco and nicotine-derived products. The term includes tobacco and nicotine derived products, vapor products, or paraphernalia/devices/components for use of tobacco and nicotine-derived products.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)

B. Alcohol: A student shall not possess, use or be under the influence of alcohol on school property or at a school function.

C. Cannabis Sativa: A student shall not possess, use or be under the influence of cannabis sativa on school property or at a school function. Cannabis sativa is defined to also include synthetic cannabis sativa, cannabis sativa derived products and substances intended to mimic the effects of cannabis sativa.

D. Paraphernalia: A student shall not use, possess, sell, attempt to sell, or distribute any drug related paraphernalia including but not limited to: rolling papers, cigar wrappers, vaping/dab devices, hookah devices, bongs, pipes, or any item intended for the use, storage, or distribution of alcohol, tobacco-derived products, marijuana or other drugs

RESPONSES:
Minimum: First Time Offense- Level II
Maximum: Repeat Offenders – Level III

E. Drugs/illegal substances and counterfeit drugs:

1. Use, Influence or Possession of Drugs: For drugs other than marijuana, a student shall not use or be under the influence of illegal or controlled substances or possess illegal, counterfeit or controlled substances (including prescription or non-prescription medications without meeting conditions prescribed by School policy) on school property or at a school function. Disciplinary responses shall include a referral to Example items include but are not limited to:

1. Acid
2. Ecstasy/MDMA
3. Heroin/Opiates
4. Cocaine
5. Xanax/Benzodiazepines
6. Fentanyl

2. **Sale/Distribution (Attempt or Actual):** A student shall not distribute, sell, attempt to sell, or possess with intent to sell any illegal, counterfeit or controlled substance or substance intended to

mimic the effects of an illegal substance. Possession of a large amount of or more than one individually wrapped package of a controlled or illegal substance will be considered evidence that the student intended to sell or distribute the product.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 29 **WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS OBJECTS - NOT INCLUDING FIREARMS: (Responsibility/Caring):** A student will not possess, handle, transport or use any weapon, object that can be reasonably considered a weapon, dangerous object or substance that could cause harm or irritation to another individual on school property or at any school function. All items will be confiscated and will not be returned except with the mutual agreement of school and law enforcement. This rule does not apply to school supplies (e.g., pencil, laser pointer) unless used as a weapon. Note: any object thrown from a school bus will be treated as a weapon for purposes of this rule. A Threat Assessment may be completed. **Prohibited items include, but are not limited to:**

A. Look-a-like knife
B. Look-a-like gun
C. Weapon not capable of propelling a missile
D. Knife
E. Box cutter/razor blade
F. Camouflaged weapon
G. Object thrown from a bus
H. Ammunition
I. Fireworks
J. Bomb (includes destructive devices such as an explosive, incendiary or poison gas, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, missile with an explosive charge of more than 1/4 ounce, mine, or similar device
K. Air soft gun, BB gun, pellet gun
L. Any object or substance that could cause injury including but not limited to, slingshots, ice picks, multi-fingered rings, metal knuckles, nun chucks, Bowie knives, dirks, daggers, lead canes, switchblade knives, clubs, stun guns, starter pistols, BB guns, flare guns, air rifles, air pistols, air soft pellet guns or paint ball guns, mace, fire extinguishers and/or the use of any object or any substance that will potentially cause harm, irritation or

bodily injury.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 30 **GANG/HATE GROUP RELATED ACTIVITIES (Responsibility/Caring/Justice and Fairness):** No student shall commit any act that furthers gangs/hate groups or gang/hate group-related activities. A gang/hate group is any ongoing organization, association or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of criminal acts, or the purposeful violation of any School policy, and having a common name or common identifying sign, colors or symbols. Conduct prohibited by this policy includes:

A. Clothing: Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, visible tattoos and body markings, or other items, or being in possession of literature that shows affiliation with a gang, or is evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang or that promotes gang affiliation.

B. Communication: Communicating either verbally or non-verbally (gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.) to convey membership affiliation in any gang or that promotes gang affiliation.

C. Vandalism or Destruction of Property: Tagging, or otherwise defacing school or personal property with gang or gang-related symbols or slogans.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level III Response(s)

D. Intimidation/Threats: Requiring payment for protection, money or insurance, or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity.

E. Coercion: Inciting other students to intimidate or to act with physical

violence upon another person related to gang activity.

F. Solicitation: Soliciting others for gang membership.

G. Conspiracy: Conspiring to commit any violation of this policy or committing or conspiring to commit any other illegal act or other violation of school policies that relates to gang activity.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension

Rule 31 **FIREARMS (loaded or unloaded) (Responsibility/Caring):** A student shall not possess, handle or transport any handgun, rifle, 3D printed gun, shotgun or any other weapon which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by action of an explosion, including camouflaged guns or any firearm muffler or silencer on TCS property or any TCS sponsored event. The TCS Threat Assessment protocol must be followed.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Long-Term Suspension
Maximum: Expulsion

Rule 32 **PERSISTENTLY DANGEROUS STUDENTS (Responsibility/Caring/Justice and Fairness):**
Students shall not frequently engage in conduct that is in violation of other code of conduct rules and is a danger to others in the school environment. Targeted conduct for this rule are multiple events over an extended period of time, including previous school years. Examples of misconduct under this rule include, but are not limited to, multiple rule violations for assault, the sale or distribution of illegal drugs, gang-related activities, the possession of weapons and inappropriate sexual behavior.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level III Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion

Rule 33 **REFUSAL TO ALLOW SEARCH (Responsibility and Honesty):** School administration has the right to conduct a search of a student or his/her possessions that is reasonable in scope if the administration has a reasonable suspicion that the student may be in possession of a weapon, illegal substance or other items prohibited by or used in violation of law or the Code of Student Conduct.

A. Search of an individual and/or his/her Possessions: A student must cooperate with and may not obstruct or interfere with a reasonable and authorized search of the student and/or his/her possessions as part of a scheduled safety screening or based on reasonable suspicion that the student may be in possession of a weapon, illegal substance or other items prohibited by or used in violation of law or the Code of Student Conduct.

B. Search of Student Lockers and Desks: Lockers and desks are the property of the School and are assigned to the student with the understanding that he/she is responsible for all property placed in the locker or the desk. Lockers and desks shall be used only for storage of those items that are reasonably
necessary for the student's school activities such as books, gym clothes, coats, school assignments, etc. A student must cooperate with and shall not obstruct or interfere with an authorized search of his/her locker or desk.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)
OSS 1-5 days
Repeat Offenders- Level III Response(s)

Rule 34 **STUDENT HEALTH AND SAFETY:** Students are required to follow the rules/guidelines/practices that are adopted to ensure the health and safety of themselves and others while on TCS property or at a TCS sponsored event. This rule applies to a pandemic as well as any other local, state, or federal emergency procedures that impact the safety and well-being of students and staff.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level I Response(s)
Maximum: Level II Response(s)
OSS 1-2 days to include documented interventions by the administrative team

Rule 35 **CONDUCT AWAY FROM SCHOOL PROPERTY:** Students shall not commit any violent criminal or drug offense (juvenile or adult) that is or would be considered a felony at any place or time when the student's behavior has or is reasonably expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.

RESPONSES:
Minimum: Level II Response(s)
Maximum: Long-Term Suspension or Expulsion