

Handbook Committee

3-20-15

Here is what we worked through during handbook meeting today. This is directly from handbook. Words with lines through them mean that we are striking it out. Much of this is because it is already covered in previous portion of the handbook. Words that are in red mean that we are adding something to the handbook. If you have questions, please see me or your hallway representative.

As always, this is not final, just suggested. It must be approved by the school board.

DISRESPECT/DISREGARD OF DIRECTIONS (INSUBORDINATION)

A student shall comply with reasonable directions or commands of teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, principals, administrative personnel, school bus drivers, or any other authorized personnel without argument, confrontation, or defiant behavior. A student talking back or not adhering to reasonable requests is considered insubordinate and disrespectful which will not be tolerated.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 5-60-112
A.C.A. § 5-71-207
A.C.A. § 5-71-226
A.C.A. § 5-60-113

Consequences

1 st Offense	Student conference and parent contact.
2 nd Offense	1 day after school detention
3 rd Offense	3 days of after school detention or 1 day of ISS
4 th Offense & Subsequent Offenses	Additional days of after school detention days of ISS/ OSS/ or placement of SUCCESS

~~FORGERY/FALSIFICATION~~

~~A student shall not forge another person’s name or falsify any information. A student is required at all times to properly identify himself to any school employee. Consequences will range from after school detention to possible school expulsion depending on the severity of the situation.~~

~~CHEATING ON TEST OR DAILY HOMEWORK~~

~~A student shall not cheat, nor shall a student aid other students in cheating. Any student caught cheating will receive a zero (0) on the work or the test. Violators with multiple offenses are subject to additional disciplinary action and will still receive a zero.~~

~~PROFANITY/VERBAL ABUSE/OBSCENE GESTURES~~

~~A student shall not use profane, violent, vulgar, abusive, or insulting language at any time. A student shall not use physical gestures that convey a connotation of obscene or highly disrespectful acts, infringe upon the rights of others, or cause or begin an overt and immediate disruption of the educational process.~~

Legal Reference: ~~_____~~ ~~A.C.A. § 5-71-208~~

TRANSMISSION OF SEXUALLY EXPLICIT OR VULGAR IMAGES

~~A student shall not transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations of such images at any time.~~

Legal Reference: ~~_____~~ ~~A.S.B.A. § 4.18~~

LOITERING

~~Unsupervised students loitering on campus before or after school hours is prohibited. This includes any school event or function.~~

THEFT/EXTORTION

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage, or steal or attempt to steal the property of another student, or any other person. A student shall not obtain or attempt to obtain something (of value) from another person by either physical force or threat (illegal acts). **Consequences may range from a verbal warning to recommendation of expulsion.**

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 5-31-203

A.C.A. § 5-12-102

A.C.A. § 5-12-103

A.C.A. § 5-36-103

GAMBLING

~~A student shall not engage in any game of chance on school premises at any time.~~

Legal Reference: ~~_____~~ ~~A.C.A. § 5-66-106~~

INDECENT EXPOSURE/SEXUAL ADVANCES

~~A student shall not deliberately commit indecent exposure at school, at school sponsored activities on or off campus, nor shall a student make improper advances toward another person.~~

Legal Reference: ~~_____~~ ~~A.C.A. § 5-14-111~~

~~_____~~ ~~A.C.A. § 5-14-112~~

TERRORISTIC THREATENING

~~Terroristic threatening in the first degree is a Class D felony. A person commits the offense of terroristic threatening in the first degree if one of the following occurs:~~

- ~~• With the purpose of terrorizing another person, he threatens to cause death or serious physical injury or substantial property damage to another person.~~
- ~~• With the purpose of terrorizing another person, he threatens to cause physical injury or property damage to a teacher or other school employee acting in the line of duty.~~

Consequences

First Offense: 10 days OSS with recommendation for expulsion and a parent will be contacted.

PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY

Students, with the approval of the requesting teacher, may be allowed to bring their own personal computers, nooks, kindles, and the like to school for use during class time and/or instructional time.

These will be allowed in the classroom only with the discretion and supervision of each individual teacher. Students may not use these outside of class time or instructional time. For example, students may not use these in the Cafeteria, Gym, etc., and other areas of the school that is not a classroom or class setting because of possible lack of proper supervision. If not in use, students are to keep devices powered off in that classroom or in their locker until the end of the day. The Westside School District is not and will not be responsible for any of these electronic devices owned by the student that are damaged, lost, or stolen.

RADIOS, ELECTRONIC GAMES, CD PLAYERS, CELL PHONES, OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden. To protect the security of state originated tests that are administered as part of the Arkansas Comprehensive, Testing Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP), Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC), or any other state mandated test, no electronic device as defined in this policy shall be accessible by a student at any time during test

administration unless specifically mandated by the state or permitted by a student's IEP or individual health plan. This means that when a student is taking a state mandated test, ACTAAP assessment, the student shall not have his electronic device in his possession. Any student violating this provision shall be subject to this policy's disciplinary provisions.

As used in this policy, electronic devices mean anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

Misuse of electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:

- using electronic devices during class time in any manner other than specifically permitted by the classroom instructor
- permitting any audible sounds to come from the device when not being used for the reason above
- engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores
- using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms
- creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person

Use of an electronic device is permitted to the extent it is approved in a student's individualized education program (IEP) or it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Before and after normal school hours, possession of electronic devices is not permitted on the school campus, unless used for educational purposes. The use of such devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

The student and/or student's parents or guardians expressly assume any risk associated with students owning or possessing electronic devices. Students misusing electronic devices shall have them confiscated. Confiscated devices may be picked up at the school's administration office by the student's parents or guardians. Students have no right or privacy as to the content contained on any electronic devices that have been confiscated.

Students who use a school electronic device for non-school purposes, except as permitted by the district's internet/ computer use policy, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. § 6-18-502(b)(3)(D)(i)

CONFISCATION OF PROHIBITED DEVICES

This confiscation policy applies to any item that is disruptive to the learning environment or harms another person.

1 st Offense	Parent must pick up device, student warning.
2 nd Offense	Two (2) hours days of after school detention, parent must pick up device.
3 rd Offense	One (1) day ISS , Four (4) days of after school detention , parent must pick up device.
4 th Offense	One (1) day OSS , Consequence ranges from more days in detention or ISS , parent must pick up device.

TOYS/STUFFED ANIMALS

Students shall not bring any toys or stuffed animals on the middle school campus.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE (4.25 DRESS AND GROOMING)

All students are expected to exercise neatness, modesty, and dignity in appearance and manner of dress. All dress code rulings will be at the discretion of the administration.

The following items will not be permitted:

- Dress and/or appearance that cause interruption of the proper pursuit of learning or creates disorder in the classroom and / or school.
- Drawings and/ or writing, on body or clothing, etc., (by permanent marker, ink pen, etc.)
- Bare feet (shoes must be worn).
- Inappropriate tops (i.e. low cut shirts or blouses with cleavage showing, bare midriffs, halter tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, backless tops, etc.). Baggy or saggy pants or shirts or skirts or oversized clothing. These garments must be worn no lower than the hip line or the hip bones. No undergarments may be visible.
- Shorts or skirts shorter than a dollar bill length from the bend of the knee. If the skirt or shorts have slit, then measurement will be taken from the top of slit.
- Transparent or see through apparel unless undershirt meets dress code rules.
- Caps, hats or other head coverings (i.e., hoods, bandanas, toboggans, etc.) worn inside the building, and hoods, caps on sideways/**backwards**, or bandannas (any gang related apparel) worn at school or to extracurricular activities or functions, such as to ballgames, dances, plays, concerts, etc, whether at home or away.
- Shirts with inappropriate slogans such as any obscene, vulgar, or suggestive messages inconsistent with school standards. Shirts advertising or promoting the use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or weapons are not permitted.
- Dress and appearance that represents a clear and present danger to anyone's health or safety. Example: chains (including wallet chains or chain attached to clothing), necklaces and/or bracelets with spikes or sharp points.
- Heelies or any shoe with wheels.
- Holes in jeans may not be higher than a dollar bill length above the bend of the knee if skin is showing. Absolutely no holes / slits in jeans or pants around the student's groin area or pocket areas in front or back will be tolerated **if skin is showing**.
- Leggings, hosiery, tight knit pants etc., may be worn with a dress, skirt, or an appropriate length shirt as long as the highest point of the shirt's hem falls naturally below the student's buttocks.
- House shoes, pajamas, or look-a-like pajamas.

Consequences for dress code violations:

1 st Offense	Change of clothes from the clothing closet or parent will bring a change of clothes. If these options are unavailable, then student may will be placed in ISS, so not to distract other students.
2 nd Offense	Three (3) days after school detention or one (1) day ISS and student will correct the problem and the parent will be contacted
3 rd Offense	One (1) or more days in ISS and student will correct the problem and parent will be contacted.
4 th Offense	Three (3) or more days in ISS and student will correct the problem and parent will be contacted.
5 th & Subsequent Offenses	Five (5) or more days in ISS, parent will be contacted, and if the problem continues further consequences will result, and student will correct the problem

In addition to the criteria above, the faculty may develop a dress code for students representing Westside Middle School during any co-curricular activity.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502(c)
A.C.A. § 6-18-503(c)