

All students are expected to demonstrate integrity, civility, responsibility and self-control. This expectation is directly related to the board's educational objectives for students to learn to be responsible for and accept the consequences of their behavior and for students to respect cultural diversity and ideological differences. Integrity, civility, responsibility, and self-control are critical character traits for establishing and maintaining a safe, orderly and inviting environment.

**PROHIBITED BEHAVIOR**

In addition to any standards or rules established by the schools, the following behaviors are in violation of the standards of integrity and civility and are specifically prohibited:

1. cheating, including the actual giving or receiving of any unauthorized assistance or the actual giving or receiving of an unfair advantage on any form of academic work;
2. plagiarizing, including the copying of the language, structure, idea and/or thought of another and representing it as one's own original work;
3. violating copyright laws, including unauthorized reproduction, duplication and/or use of printed or electronic work, computer software, or other copyrighted material;
4. cursing or using vulgar, abusive or demeaning language towards another person; and
5. playing abusive or dangerous tricks or otherwise subjecting a student or personnel to personal indignity.

**DEFINITIONS OF SEVEN CHARACTER TRAITS**

**Respect** – Showing high regard for authority, for other people, ideas, and cultures, for self, for property and the environment; understanding that all people and all living things have value.

**Responsibility** – Being dependable in carrying out obligations and duties; showing reliability and consistency in words and conduct; being accountable for your own actions; being committed to active involvement in your community.

**Honesty** – Showing fairness, integrity, and sincerity; being straightforward, trustworthy, and honorable; telling the truth.

**Kindness** – Being considerate, courteous, helpful, and understanding of others; showing care, compassion, empathy, friendship, and generosity; treating others as you would like to be treated.

**Courage** – Having the determination to do the right thing even when others don't; the strength to follow your conscience rather than the crowd; attempting difficult things that are worthwhile;

being persistent in pursuit of worthy goals in spite of difficulty, opposition, or discouragement.

**Citizenship** – making positive contributions as a member of your country, your community, and your school (for example, showing patriotism, obeying laws, doing your share, volunteering your service, protecting the environment, and conserving natural resources).

**Self-discipline** – demonstrating hard work and commitment to purpose; staying focused for the sake of improvement; choosing appropriate behaviors; being in proper control of your words, actions, impulses, and desires; doing your best in all situations.

## **B. CONSEQUENCES**

The disciplinary consequences for violations of this policy shall be consistent with Section D of policy 4300, Student Behavior. The superintendent or designee shall list in the Code of Student Conduct the specific range of consequences that may be imposed on a student for violations of this policy.

Legal Reference: 17 U.S.C. 101, 102, 106, 108, 110, 117; G.S. 115C-47, -288, -307, -391

Cross Reference: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program, (policy 3000), Copyright Compliance (policy 3230/7330), School Plan for Management of Student Behavior (policy 4302)

Adopted: April 9, 1998 to become effective July 1, 1998

Revised: March 9, 2000, November 13, 2014