



STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

School District Expectations Regarding Student Behaviour

Every student shall be subject to the School Code of Conduct while on school premises, in going to and returning from school, and at all games and functions under the school's jurisdiction, whenever and wherever held.

The Mount Boucherie Code of Conduct is supplemental to the Central Okanagan Public Schools Policies and Procedures – Section 4 <https://www.sd23.bc.ca/documents/7db9cbdc-589c-5767-83e8-d2702f7a9f4d/401.pdf>

Statement of Purpose

Mount Boucherie Senior Secondary School takes pride in providing a high-quality education program to support all learners within a safe and caring environment. The core values of Mount Boucherie Secondary School are Belonging, Empathy, Achievement, and Resilience.

The student code of conduct exists to:

- Provide a foundation for the development and maintenance of a safe, caring and orderly environment for all members of the school community
- Ensure an appropriate balance among individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities; and
- Outline and clarify expectations for students while at school, going to and from school, and at any school function or activity at any location.

Mount Boucherie promotes the values expressed in the **BC Human Rights Code** respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law by expressly prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, physical and mental disability, gender identity and gender expression, sex or sexual orientation within the school environment or through the school system and its related function through publication, or in accommodation, service, or facility. The school will treat seriously any behavior that contravenes the grounds set out in the BC Human Rights Code.

Rationale

This code is based on principles of respect, rights, and responsibilities.

- Displaying **Respect** for the rights, property and safety of themselves and others
- Honouring the **Rights** of others-through the process of learning and demonstrating appropriate behaviours
- Assuming **Responsibility** for one's own behaviour in order to sustain a safe and productive learning environment.

Rising expectations

It is understood that students require assistance in developing and subscribing to these socially responsible values and behaviours. One role of school staff is to educate and guide student social development by increasing expectations and consequences as students mature both physically and socially. As a result, responses to behaviour will vary according to these variables. Generally, as a student matures, expectations will increase and consequences will be adjusted accordingly.

Conduct Expectations

All school members will:

- Demonstrate respect for themselves, others, and their school
- Treat school property and the property of others with a reasonable standard of care
- Express themselves with socially acceptable language and gestures
- Exhibit behaviour that is free of all forms of intimidation, harassment, racism, and discrimination
- Dress to ensure the wellbeing safety of all community members:
 - Students are asked to avoid dress styles which promote, imitate or celebrate violence, intimidation, racism, sexism, hatred towards others, discrimination, profanity, gang associations, sex or alcohol/drug use
- Promote positive behaviour through the avoidance of all types of violent acts
- Inform a school official of any unsafe situation (individual or behaviour)
- Make every effort to attend scheduled classes and arrive on time
- Respect the rights of others to learn in an environment free of unnecessary distracters
- Refrain from the possession of any form of a weapon while on school property
- Refrain from the possession and use of all forms of intoxicants or associated paraphernalia
- Assist in making the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- Model respectful and responsible behaviour not only at school, but within the community, and whenever acting as a school ambassador

These expectations apply to behaviour at school, during school-organized, or sponsored activities, and behaviour beyond these times (including on-line behaviour) that negatively impacts the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school, and/or student learning.

Responsible Student Use of Personal Digital Devices, School Technology, and District Networks

The purpose of using network services and digital technologies while in educational settings is to engage in responsible educational activities. Therefore, the use of personal digital devices, school technologies, and district network services requires students to abide by the school's Code of Conduct and procedures, as well as the newly updated **Central Okanagan Public Schools Policy 486: Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies on page 3.**

Central Okanagan Public Schools
Updated Restrictions for Cell Phones and Personal Digital Devices.

In accordance with the new [requirements from the Ministry of Education and Child Care](#), schools across our district have updated their Student Code of Conduct to include the restricted use of cell phones and personal digital devices during school hours effective July 1, 2024.

Our School Code of Conduct has been revised to reflect the new requirements regarding cell phone use in schools accordingly ([MBSS School Code of Conduct](#)).

Responsible Student Use of Personal Digital Devices, School Technology, and District Network Services

Student use of personal digital devices (any device used to communicate and/or access the internet), school technology, and district networks at school is for educational purposes.

Students must abide by the school's Code of Conduct and procedures as well as Central Okanagan Public Schools Policy 486: Student Use of Network Services and Digital Technologies.

Students will:

- secure, power off and store personal digital devices during instructional time (i.e. class time) at Secondary Schools unless instructed by the Principal or school staff;
- use personal digital devices during instructional time for instructional purposes and digital literacy skills as instructed by the Principal or school staff;
- ensure personal digital devices are not used in areas where privacy is expected, such as restrooms and change rooms;
- be permitted to use personal digital devices to support accessibility, accommodations, medical, and health needs;
- always take precautions to ensure online safety, privacy, and security;
- treat others with respect and kindness when using digital devices and district network services;
- always use digital devices and district network services responsibly and with academic integrity

Schools will ensure that all students will have equitable and developmentally appropriate access to technology to meet curricular requirements. Students are not required to have their own personal digital device or cellphone at school.

The use of personal digital devices, school technology, and district networks is a privilege. Staff may revoke a student's access to devices because of inappropriate student conduct.

Violations of the school code of conduct could result in appropriate restorative processes or disciplinary actions including suspension and police intervention.

As part of our commitment to help our students develop digital citizenship, our educators will continue teaching our students how to use their personal digital devices and technology in a responsible and respectful way.

We ask that you support our staff and discuss these new restrictions with your child before the upcoming school year. If parents/caregivers need to contact their child during instructional time, they should call the school office.

On a related note, the school is not responsible for lost, missing, or damaged personal digital devices that students choose to bring to school.

Examples of Unacceptable Conduct

Unacceptable conduct includes (the areas cited are examples only and not an all-inclusive list):

Behaviours that:

- Are described under "the role of a student" as found in Section 4 of the SD 23 Policies and procedures, including a student is not applying themselves to their studies.
- Interfere with the rights of others to learn
- Create an unsafe situation for any school member
- Distract others from focusing on instruction or concentrating on prescribed tasks

Acts of:

- Academic dishonesty, including representing the efforts of others as their own or distributing examination or testing materials that were not sanctioned to be shared or distributed
- Misuse of personal digital devices or school technology
- Bullying, harassment or intimidation
- Physical violence
- Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

Use of:

- Profanity and inappropriate language
- Sexist, degrading, racial or cultural remarks or insults

Illegal acts, such as:

- Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances or associated paraphernalia
- Possession or use of weapons
- Theft of or damage to property

Principal Authority

The principal has a right under the School Act to discharge discipline from the time a student leaves home to go to school until such time as the student returns home at the conclusion of the school day. However, the principal's and the district's authority also extend beyond the normal 'home-to-home' rule when the behaviour of a student off school premises or after school hours adversely affects the operation of a school.

Search & Seizure

In order to maintain a safe and orderly environment, students and their belongings may be searched based on reasonable suspicions of a violation of school rules or other concerns. The search shall be made pursuant to the reasonableness, under all the circumstances, of the search. The search of the student shall be justified at its inception, based on reasonable suspicion and reasonable scope in light of the age and gender of the student and the nature of the infraction. Contraband and other property unauthorized to be on school property or school sponsored activities will be seized for evidentiary purposes in a school hearing and /or legal hearing. Return of the property may be made to the parents/guardians of the students. Illegal contraband or other property will be turned over to the proper law enforcement.

Consequences

We believe that discipline is intended to promote the development of pro-social behaviours. To this end it is partially our responsibility to actively teach these attitudes and skills. In this process, it will be necessary to draw on consequences to enhance student learning. The use of consequences will be governed by the following principles:

Consequences will...

- be appropriate to the student's stage of development,
- reflect the intensity, frequency and/or duration of the inappropriate behaviour,
- be chosen primarily for their educational value,
- make sense to the student as much as possible, and
- be appropriately timed.

In addition, **special considerations may apply to students with special needs**, if they are unable to comply with this code due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

Following are some examples of consequences that may be considered (it should be understood that this is not a complete list of consequences):

- Informal meeting with a student to address the situation
- Phone call to parent to discuss the situation
- Mandatory tutorial time assigned workstation
- Formal meeting involving student and guardian
- Make up or rehearsal time assigned (early morning, lunch, after school)
- Removal of an assumed school privilege
- Referral to vice principal
- Withdrawal from course
- Restitution, either monetary or through school-based community service
- Referral to school-based team
- Definite in-school or out-of-school suspension
- Indefinite suspension

The following are some examples of consequences that would not be appropriate based on the established principles:

- Use of academic work as a disciplinary procedure (e. g. assigning extra academic work to punish misbehavior)
- Use of an evaluation procedure as a disciplinary act (e.g. arbitrarily assigning a test to an individual or class that is behaving inappropriately)
- Using an individual as an example to deter misbehaviour in others (e. g. reprimanding an individual in front of his/her peers)

Notification

In instances where a student, or group of students, engages in a serious breach of the code of conduct, it may be necessary for school officials to advise other parties. Specifically, we will adhere to the following guidelines:

- Parents/guardians of student offender(s) – in every instance
- Parents/guardians of student victim(s) – in every instance
- School district officials – as required by school district policy
- Police and/or other agencies – as required by law
- All parents – when deemed to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address the matter

In addition to the above, we have a responsibility to the district and the Ministry of Education to track and generically report data collected on student misbehaviour patterns. This information is used to determine trends, re-tool responses, and determine changes to existing policies and practices. If you have any questions about this code and related applications, contact the school administration.

Suspension

A “suspension” is, by definition, a removal of a student’s right to attend regular class instruction sessions. Suspension may be either:

- Definite – up to ten school days, or
- Indefinite- in excess of ten school days

Administrators of schools, and teachers authorized by the board and the principal, may suspend a student when the administrator or other authorized teacher concludes that:

- A student is willfully disobedient to a teacher or any other employee of the board carrying out responsibilities approved by the board
- The behaviour of the student has a harmful effect on the character or persons of other students or staff members
- A student fails to apply himself in his studies or fails to comply with the rules of the school and does not, after due warning, make a reasonable effort to reform

School District's Appeal Process

Policy 460 – Appeals states that, "A student or a parent of a student who is entitled to an educational program in School District No. 23 may appeal a decision of an employee of the Board of Education which significantly affects the education, health or safety of the student". For a complete description of the Appeals Policy along with the recommended steps to follow in attempting to solve a problem, please refer to Policy 460 – Appeals, that can be accessed from the 'Policies' link under the Board of Education heading on the School District homepage (www.sd23.bc.ca).

Mount Boucherie Secondary School Policies

Code of Conduct School Policies are posted at <http://www.mbs.sd23.bc.ca/ParentsStudents/policies/>

- **Academic Dishonesty/ Plagiarism**
- **Alcohol & Drugs**
- **Attendance/Truancy**
- **Cell Phone Use**
- **Dress Code**
- **Internet Use**
- **Lockers Use**
- **Parking**
- **Scent Free School**
- **Smoking/E-Cigarettes**