

## WASHINGTON COUNTY DISCIPLINE CODE

### INTRODUCTION

Education cannot proceed effectively without good, consistent discipline. Discipline is the training of the mind and character in order to improve the quality of life. Discipline is also the order needed to operate the school.

Students are expected to behave in a mannerly and cooperative way to promote their educational, social, and emotional development. Students who do not comply with student conduct standards will be disciplined in accordance with the Washington County Board of Education policies and Tennessee Code Annotated.

### ATTENDANCE

It is the responsibility of each student to attend school each day and to be on time. Students who miss more than 5 unexcused days per term, or 5 unexcused days in a school year, will be placed in an at-risk cohort. Readmission to class following an absence will be contingent upon bringing a note from home or a written doctor's excuse.

### INTERROGATIONS, SEARCHES, AND SEIZURES

The school locker is the property of the school system and may be searched whenever there is reasonable cause. Whenever necessary, searches may be made of individuals, vehicles, and other personal property. Anything found in the course of the search that is evidence of a violation of the law or student conduct standards may be seized.

### ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Students will not possess, sell, barter, give away, transmit, deliver, or use the following in school buildings or on school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function, or event:

- Any controlled substance or substance which is represented to be a controlled substance and which is substantially similar in color, shape, size, markings or lack of markings to controlled substances as classified in the law and as amended from time to time.
- Alcoholic beverages (all types, including but not limited to, liquor, beer, wine).
- Inhalants, including but not limited to, glue, paint, gasoline, aerosols, or any solvent having the property for released toxic vapors.

Students who violate this policy will be suspended by the principal pending a board hearing.

### WEAPONS

Students will not possess, handle, transmit, use or attempt to use any dangerous weapon in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and/or buses or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event.

Students are further forbidden to use or threaten to use any instrument in a manner which renders the item dangerous or with intent to do harm.

### STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Bus transportation is a privilege and a convenience afforded the students of Washington County. State law does not require that students be provided transportation.

Students are expected to behave in accordance with the agreement signed by the parent.

### DRESS CODE

Students shall dress and groom in a sanitary, neat, and modest manner so as not to distract or interfere with the operation of the school.

### CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are expected to help maintain the school environment, preserve school property and exercise care while using school facilities.

Students or parents/guardians of students who destroy, damage, or lose school property shall be responsible for the cost of replacing or repairing such materials or equipment

### TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Students shall not use, or have in their possession, tobacco products in any form on school premises, on school-sponsored trips, or on school buses during school hours.

### MEDICATION

If under exceptional circumstances a student is required to take oral medication during school hours and the parent or guardian cannot be at school to administer the medicine, only the principal or designee will administer the medicine in compliance with the existing policy. Nonprescription medication, such as aspirin, will not be administered without permission of the parent or guardian.

### PROVISIONS FOR DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

Students have a right to get an education without the interference resulting from ridicule, intimidation, fighting, disrespectful actions. Students will be expected to behave in a manner which is respectful toward others.

Failure to comply with the standards for student conduct may result in, but not be limited to, the following:

- corporal punishment (6.314)
- out-of-school suspension (6.316)
- in-school suspension (6.316)
- expulsion with or without consideration for placement
- Alternative Program (TCA)
- temporary removal from class
- restricting activities
- assigning work details
- issuance of demerits
- behavior modification activities
- "time-out" strategy
- counseling

Additional information may be found in the Policy Manual which is available in each school library and online at [www.wcde.org](http://www.wcde.org), and in the Student Handbook