

Wyckoff Public Schools
Elementary Code of Conduct K-5

For learning to take place, a school climate must exist that promotes a commitment to maintain and sustain high educational standards and the development of appropriate attitudes and behaviors. Specific student behaviors and attitudes have a direct, positive effect on the overall school environment. Coolidge School believes that it is important to help students realize that their own attitudes and acts are directly related to their school experiences and that of their classmates.

At Coolidge School, our goal is to create a caring community each and every day. Logical consequences, including loss of privileges and reparation, will be administered when students' actions run contrary to this goal. Repeated or more serious offenses will result in parent conferences, detention, further loss of privileges, breaks from class and in-school or out of school suspension. When children misbehave, the adults at school handle the misbehavior firmly while preserving the child's dignity. Our first step is to stop the misbehavior quickly and simply. If needed, we take further steps to help the child regain self-control, fix any problems caused by his or her mistake, and get back to productive learning.

In addition to applying school consequences for inappropriate student behavior that may occur during the school day, school discipline and school consequences may also be applied for inappropriate student behavior that may occur during school-sponsored events, after school or evening activities, or field trips.

Students have the right to...

- Attend a safe, welcoming school and belong to a community that values learning.
- Feel physically and emotionally safe in school so that they can learn at their best.
- Expect courtesy, fairness, and respect from school staff members and other students.
- Develop self-discipline and the skills for working and learning cooperatively with others.
- Expect that all property will be safe and not damaged.

Students have the responsibility to...

- Attend school regularly and on time.
- Set high expectations for their academics and work to the best of their ability
- Follow rules, procedures, and processes.
- Dress appropriately for a K-5 educational environment.
- Respect the authority of staff members.
- Respect the rights and property of others.
- Respect others' beliefs and differences.

- Refrain from using words, images or gestures that are disruptive or disrespectful.
- Resolve disputes peacefully.
- Refrain from bullying or hurting other students.
- Tell school staff members about any behavior that may cause danger to anyone.

At our October School Wide Meeting, the students of Coolidge School come together to affirm our *Cougar Constitution*. Last year's Constitution included the following student expectations:

1. Respect Yourself
2. Respect Everyone
3. Take Care of Our School
4. Treat Others the Way You Want to be Treated

We are proud to say that we are a Responsive Classroom School. Responsive Classroom is an evidence-based approach to elementary and middle school teaching that focuses on the strong link between academic success and social-emotional learning (SEL). This approach emphasizes social, emotional and academic growth in a strong and safe school community. Independent research has found that the *Responsive Classroom* approach is associated with higher academic achievement in math and reading, improved school climate, and higher-quality instruction.

Our teachers are committed to applying this approach to their own classroom practices and in our general school community. Our intention is to help our students foster cooperation, assertiveness, responsibility, empathy, and self-control. The use of proactive strategies, such as interactive modeling, positive teacher language, the establishment of rules, interactive learning structures, logical consequences, energizers and quiet time, help foster a caring and engaging school community.

As part of the Responsive Classroom in action, students begin the year by discussing their hopes and dreams and individual classes develop class rules. Daily morning meetings take place in each class and we gather as a school community once a month for our school-wide meeting. At these school celebrations, we sing songs of community and respect and have individual classes share in front of the entire school.

Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying (Policy #5512)

The Board of Education prohibits acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student. A safe and civil environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Harassment, intimidation, or bullying, like other disruptive or violent behaviors, is

conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its students in a safe and disciplined environment.

Potential acts of harassment, intimidation, or bullying (HIB) should be reported as soon as possible to a teacher or school official. This can be done in person, via a phone call, or in an email. Whenever possible, all third-party reports will be kept anonymous.