

**STEWART COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**DISCIPLINE PLAN AND CODE OF CONDUCT**  
**GRADES K – 12**

The Stewart County Board of Education has adopted a policy which requires all schools to adopt codes of conduct which require students to conduct themselves at all times in order to facilitate a learning environment for themselves and other students. These standards for behavior require students to respect each other and school district employees, to obey student behavior policies adopted by the Board and to obey student behavior rules established at each school within the district.

The school's primary goal is to educate, not to punish; however, when the behavior of an individual student comes in conflict with the rights of others, corrective actions may be necessary for the benefit of that individual and the school as a whole. Accordingly, students shall be governed by policies, regulations and rules set forth in the Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is effective during the following times and in the following places:

- At school or on school property at any time;
- Off school grounds at any school-related activity, function or event and while traveling to and from such events;
- On school buses and at school bus stops.

Also, students may be disciplined for conduct off campus which could result in the student being criminally charged with a felony and which makes the student's continued presence at school a potential danger to persons or property at the school or which disrupts the educational process.

The rules listed in this policy apply to the Stewart County School District. This list is not all inclusive, and a student committing an act of misconduct not covered by this policy will be subject to the discretionary authority of the principal. More severe punishment may be necessary in extreme cases.

The policy represents a progressive discipline process. Factors taken into account in determining dispositions include, but are not limited to:

- Student's history
- Degree of premeditation
- Age
- Disability
- Evidence
- Willingness to cooperate
- Seriousness of offense

**Because of these factors, punishment imposed may vary from student to student for the same offense. Federal and state laws and regulations that are in conflict with this Code or its application shall take precedence. All disciplinary action is subject to review and disposition under the discretionary authority of the Principal.**

**AUTHORITY OF THE PRINCIPAL**

The principal is the designated leader of the school and, in concert with the staff, is responsible for the orderly operation of the school. In cases of disruptive, disorderly, or dangerous conduct covered or not covered in this Code, the principal may undertake corrective measures that he or she believes to be in the best interest of the student and the school, provided any such action does not violate school board policy or procedures. Only action taken by principals can be appealed to the Superintendent.

All consequences for offenses listed below are minimum consequences. Depending on the severity of the situation, school officials may apply stricter measures. An administrator has the discretion to determine the

offense and the appropriateness of the consequence assigned. Misbehavior governed by the code may occur during school hours, outside school hours, on school grounds or campus, off school grounds or campus, at school-sponsored activities whether on or off school grounds/campus, and/or on school-sponsored transportation.

***\*\* Each time a student is given In-School Suspension or Out-School Suspension the parent(s)/guardian must meet with a member of the school administration before the student may return to his/her regular classes.***

Students who repeatedly violate the various rules and regulations may be subject to disciplinary action more severe than the consequences specified for the individual offenses committed, up to and including suspension to a formal hearing and possible long-term suspension or expulsion

School **administrators** are authorized to take disciplinary action for misconduct which occurs:

- On the school grounds during or immediately before or immediately after school hours;
- On the school grounds at any other time when the school is being used by a school group;
- Off the school grounds at a school activity, function or event;
- Within a school safety zone.

Authority to take disciplinary action also extends to any off-campus non-school related actions by students, at any time of the year, which has a direct and immediate impact on school discipline, the educational function of the school, or the welfare of students and staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus is subject to disciplinary action and may be excluded from school. Such act could, but is not limited to, a felony, a delinquent act which would be considered to be felony if committed by an adult, an assault misconduct of a serious nature. A student whose presence on school property may endanger the welfare and/or safety of other students or staff, whose presence may cause substantial disruption at school, is also subject to in-school suspension, and assignment to an alternative education.

The Superintendent fully supports the authority of principals and teachers in the school system to remove a student from the classroom pursuant to provisions of state law.

## **SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, lockers, or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search.

1. **Personal Searches:** A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school administrator has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student may be in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. If a search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school administrator of the same sex and with an adult witness of the same sex present.
2. **Locker Searches:** Student lockers are school property. School authorities have the right to conduct periodic general inspections of lockers at any time without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant to assure that items contained are related to the school program. It is the responsibility of the student assigned to the locker to secure and be responsible for personal possessions and school property.
3. **Automobile Searches:** Vehicles parked on campus during the school day are required to be registered with the school and display the appropriate permit. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exterior of student auto-mobiles on school property. The interiors of students' vehicles may be inspected/searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols, inspections, and searches may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.
4. **Seizure of Illegal Materials:** If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to the legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

## STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy and respect for others
- Behave in a responsible manner at school, on school buses, and at all school functions on or off campus
- Attend all classes, regularly and on time
- Prepare for each class; take appropriate materials and assignments to class
- Be well-groomed and dress appropriately
- Obey all campus and classroom rules
- Respect the property of others, including District property and facilities
- Cooperate with or assist the school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline
- Avoid violations of the Student Code of Conduct

## RULES AND DISPOSITIONS

### Middle School - High School (Grades 6 – 12)

Stewart County follows a progressive discipline plan. Students are given ample opportunities to correct the disruptive behavior. After the teacher has dealt with the behavior, if a student continues the behavior, the student will be written up on a “discipline referral form.” The school administration will then implement the “CODE of Conduct” consequences listed below:

### SCHOOL/CLASSROOM RULES AND PROCEDURES

Grades PreK-5 General rules and expectations will be determined collectively as we implement Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) at the beginning of the school year and rules and expectations will be distributed to parents within the first weeks of school.

Grades PreK-5 students will be expected to know their role and perform their role as appropriate within each area of the school. Stewart County Elementary School personnel will spend time explaining and modeling expectations for students throughout the school year.

Examples of the failure to follow established school/classroom rules and procedures include:

1. Ignoring directives given by school personnel.
2. Displaying disruptive behavior or not following established rules in any area of the school including the lunchroom, media center, gym, computer lab, hallways, and at bus loading and unloading areas.
3. Chronic failure to have required materials/textbooks in class.
4. Failure to properly identify oneself or providing false information to faculty and/or staff.
5. Being in an “off limits area” of the school.

First Offense (referral):	Administrative Warning or One (1) Day In-School Suspension Parent Conference
Second Offense:	Two (2) days In-School Suspension (ISS); Parent Conference
Third Offense:	Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS); Parent Conference
Fourth or More Offense:	Administrator’s discretion which may include out-of-school (OSS)

*\*Substantial disruption may lead to law enforcement referral\* Georgia Code Section 20-2-1181 states that “it shall be unlawful for any person to disrupt or interfere with the operation of any public school, public school bus, or public school bus stop as established by local school boards of education. Any person violating this Code section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of a high and aggravated nature.”*

## **NON-ATTENDANCE OF CLASS/SKIPPING/MISSING AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME**

A student is in violation when s/he fails to be in an assigned place of instruction at the assigned time without a valid excuse or urging others to violate this rule.

### **(Grades K-12)**

First Offense:	Two (2) days In-School Suspension, mandatory Parent Conference.
Second Offense:	Three (3) days In-School Suspension, <b>mandatory Parent conference.</b>
Third Offense:	Five (5) days In-School Suspension; mandatory Parent Conference.
Fourth Offense:	One (1) day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), Parent conference on discipline.
Fourth Offense:	Administrator's discretion

## **CLASSROOM TARDIES TO SCHOOL/CLASSROOM**

Students must sign-in in the front office and receive a pass to class when tardy or late to school. Students are considered tardy to class after the sound of the bell for that class to begin. The only excuse for arriving to class after the class bell has sounded is to arrive with an excuse from a school official. Car trouble, oversleeping, nonworking alarm clock, etc. are not excused tardies.

First tardy:	Teacher warning.
Second tardy:	Notify Parents
Third tardy:	Office referral, one (1) day In-School-Suspension (ISS)
Fourth tardy:	Two (2) days of In-School Suspension (ISS), Parent Conference
Fifth tardy:	One (1) day Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)
Second Office Referral (6 tardies):	Three (3) days Out-of-School suspension (OSS)

**\*Tardy tally will be reset after the semester.**

## **DISRESPECT TOWARDS AN ADULT**

Talking back "sassing", intentionally arguing in a demanding or disruptive manner, or otherwise showing disrespect for any school personnel is unacceptable. Teachers/personnel (which include paraprofessionals, custodial staff, bus drivers, and nutritional staff) will refer questionable behaviors to the office for final determination by an administrator. Depending upon "level" of disrespect, the student may receive an alternate punishment for the first offense.

### **Elementary School Grades K-5**

First Offense (referral):	Administrative Warning or one (1) day In-School Suspension Parent Conference
Second Offense:	Two (2) days In-School Suspension (ISS); Parent Conference
Third Offense:	Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS); Parent Conference
Fourth or More Offense:	Administrator's discretion which may include Out-of-School (OSS)

### **Middle School/High School (Grades 6 – 12)**

First Offense:	Three (3) days In-School-Suspension (ISS), Mandatory Parent Conference
Second Offense:	Five (5) days In-School Suspension (ISS), <b>mandatory parent conference</b>
Third Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) <b>Mandatory Parent Conference</b>
Fourth Offense:	Five (5) days Out-of School Suspension (OSS) Mandatory Parent Conference

*\*Blatant disrespect will result in immediate out of school suspension.*

### **VULGAR /OBSCENCE (LANGUAGE (In General Conversation)**

First Offense:	One (1) day In-School Suspension (ISS); or administrative warning
Second Offense:	Two (2) days In-School Suspension (ISS); parent conference
Third Offense:	Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS), <b>mandatory parent conference.</b>

**\*\*Profanity directed to or towards any adult will result in immediate out-of-school suspension.**

### **DRESS CODE**

Students are expected to abide by the dress code as listed in the student handbook. It will be strictly enforced. There is a positive relationship between an appropriate neat appearance and a conducive learning environment. Current safety issues are addressed by the dress code. The dress code is intended to be fair and equal in promoting rules which must be adhered to.

First Offense:	Warning/referral to school counselor, change of clothes; placed in ISS until clothes are changed; Parent Contact
Second Offense:	One (1) day In-School Suspension (ISS); Mandatory Parent Conference
Third Offense:	Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS) Mandatory Parent Conference
Fourth Offense:	Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), Administrative discretion

### **INDECENT EXPOSURE**

A student shall not violate the school's dress code and/or remove one's own or another's clothing or commit acts which offend against commonly recognized standards of good taste.

*Indecent exposure is defined as removing clothing items, pulling down pants, wearing pants significantly below the waistline, or unzipping pants in public. Unzipping pants and/or pulling them down while wearing shorts underneath will be treated as indecent exposure.*

\* Penalty at the discretion of the administrator which may include counselor referral, In-School Suspension, suspension, or suspension for a formal hearing

## **CYBERBULLYING AND SEXTING**

No student shall use a cell phone, computer, the computer network, the Internet, or any intranet by such activity as importing, exporting, viewing, distributing, printing, or creating inappropriate, illicit, or illegal materials including but not limited to pornography; any materials demeaning another person, or containing lewd, profane, or vulgar words, pictures, gestures, or actions; or any records, files, or materials to which the student should not have access.

“Sexting” or using a cell phone or other personal communication device to send text or e-mail messages or possessing text or e-mail messages containing images reasonably interpreted as indecent or sexually suggestive while at school or at a school-related function is strictly prohibited.

**Students must never send threatening/inappropriate messages, pictures and/or videos using electronic communication devices or the internet/intranet at any time.**

First Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension, <b>mandatory Parent Conference; Law Enforcement</b>
Second Offense:	Five (5) days Out-of-School Suspension, <b>mandatory Parent Conference; Referral to Law Enforcement</b>
Third Offense:	Ten (10) days Out-of Suspension (OSS); Referral to Tribunal.

## **SMOKING/POSSESSION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

The use of or possession of tobacco on school campus and/or property is not permitted. Students who are under school supervision (club meeting, field trips, club trips/activities, sports activities, etc.) shall not use or possess tobacco in any form. This includes all school related activities that met inside school facilities or sponsored by an organization of the school meeting elsewhere. In addition, cigarettes, lighters, or matches should not be brought to school. Possible referral to law enforcement and immediate suspension

First Offense:	Confiscate items, contact parent, Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS); Mandatory Parent Conference
Second Offense:	Five (5) days In--School Suspension (ISS); confiscate items; Mandatory Parent Conference
Third Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of School Suspension (OSS); confiscate items; Mandatory Parent Conference
Fourth Offense:	Minimum Five (5) days Out-of School Suspension (OSS); Referral to Tribunal; Parent Contact

## **ALCOHOL**

A student shall not possess, sell, use, transmit, or be under the influence of any drug, alcoholic beverage, anabolic steroid, or intoxicant of any kind. (*Influence is defined as noticeably impaired behavior and/or obvious physical symptoms.*)

First Offense:	10 Days Out of School suspension from school pending a tribunal. Notification of law enforcement.
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### **INAPPROPRIATE DISPLAY OF AFFECTION**

A student shall not display inappropriate expressions of affection such as kissing, holding hands, embracing, and petting, etc., while at school or at any school sponsored activity.

First Offense:	Warning, Counseling, Parent Contact
Second Offense:	Three (3) Days In-School Suspension; Mandatory Parent Contact
Third Offense:	Five (5) Days In-School Suspension; Mandatory Parent Conference

### **INAPPROPRIATE SEXUAL BEHAVIOR**

A student shall not make sexual advances, request sexual favors or be involved in sexual conduct of any nature without force at school or any of its functions.

First Offense:	Three (3) Days Out-of-School-Suspension; Referral for counseling; mandatory parent conference,
Second Offense:	Five (5) Days Out-of-School Suspension; mandatory parent conference (Possible referral to Law Enforcement and a Tribunal Hearing based on the severity of the student's actions)

### **LEAVING CAMPUS WITHOUT PERMISSION/SKIPPING/MISSING EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME**

A student shall not be absent from school or from any class or other required school function during school hours except for illness or other providential cause, nor shall any student encourage, urge or counsel other students to violate this rule. Truancy, skipping class or required in-school activity out of class without valid permission, being in areas designated as unauthorized (students are not to be in unauthorized areas of the school without written permission.) and/or leaving campus without permission constitute skipping.

First Offense:	Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS); mandatory Parent Conference
Second Offense:	Three (5) days In-School Suspension (ISS); mandatory Parent Conference
Third Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of School Suspension (OSS); mandatory Parent Conference
Fourth Offense:	Minimum (50 days Out-of School Suspension; Tribunal Referral

### **FAILURE TO COMPLY/REFUSING TO ACCEPT PUNISHMENT**

First Offense:	Two (2) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), <b>mandatory parent conference</b>
Second Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); mandatory parent conference.
Third Offense:	Five (5) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); mandatory parent conference.
Fourth Offense:	Ten (10) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); Referral to Tribunal.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES/CELL PHONE USE DURING SCHOOL DAY**

**All cellphones should be turned off during the school day. PHONES ARE NOT TO BE SEEN (i.e. HAND, WORN ON BELTS, CLIPPED TO HANDBAGS, PROTRUDING OUT OF POCKETS, ETC.)** Use of a cell phone includes receiving and sending text messages and talking on the phone. *A student is considered to be using a cell phone if it is in the hand or in ear.*

Cell phones and other technology devices may only be used during class times at the direction of the teacher. Cell phones and other technology devices will only be allowed for instructional purposes in the classroom and will not be used for communicating via talking, texting or use of social media such as Twitter or Facebook . **Any material stored or saved on confiscated cell phones may be searched by school officials.** THE SCHOOL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ITEM THAT IS CONFISCATED, LOST, OR STOLEN. CONFISCATED ITEMS MAY ONLY BE PICKED UP BY A PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN. ALL CONFISCATED DEVICES WILL BE DISCARDED AT THE END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

### **(Grades K– 12)**

First Offense:	Confiscate the device, Administrator’s discretion
Second Offense:	Confiscate the device, One (1) day In-School-Suspension; only parent or guardian may pick up device.
Third Offense:	Confiscate the device, Three (3) days In-School- Suspension; only parent or guardian may pick up device.
Fourth Offense:	Confiscate the device, Five (5) days In-School-Suspension; only parent or guardian may pick up device.
Fifth Offense:	One (1) day Out-of-School Suspension; mandatory parent conference; will be confiscated for the remainder of the school year. <i>(The School is not responsible for any article that is confiscated, lost or stolen.)</i>

**If the cell phone is used during a standardized test, the student will be suspended from school, and the test will be invalidated. A student could face suspension, expulsion, or assigned to an alternate setting, if he/she uses the cell phone during a “drill”, lockdown, or other emergency situation. There is a ban on taking pictures or filming at any time in classroom, cafeteria, or hallways. Also, students are prohibited from taking pictures or filming any event or other happening that violates the discipline code of Stewart County Middle/High School, i.e. extra-curricular activities.**

### **HITTING/SIMPLE BATTERY AND FIGHTING**

It shall be unlawful for any person or persons to engage in fighting. Fighting is a serious offense. Based on investigation and administrative discretion, students may be charged with affray, disruption of public school, battery, and/or assault regardless of who throws the first blow.

Fighting includes all school properties and activities (buses, bus stops, extra-curricular activities, etc.)

#### **Elementary School (Grades K-5)**

First Offense:	Depending upon severity of contact: administrative Warning and/or In-School Suspension, parent conference
Second Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), <b>mandatory parent conference</b> , Mentor/Counseling
Third Offense:	Five (5) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), counseling, <b>mandatory parent conference</b>
Fourth Offense:	Ten (10) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), referral to Tribunal

#### **Middle-High School (Grades 6-12)**

First Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), <b>mandatory parent conference</b> , Mentor/Counseling
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Second Offense: Five (5) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), counseling, **mandatory parent conference**,

Third Offense: Ten (10) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); referral to Tribunal

*NOTE: If a school system employee is hit, whether intentionally or not, during the process of breaking up a fight, the student will receive a minimum ten-day suspension. In addition the student may be referred to a formal hearing.*

*NOTE: A legal complaint may be filed with the proper law enforcement officials at the discretion of the administration.*

### **THREATENING, HARRASSING, AND/OR INTIMIDATING ANOTHER STUDENT**

No student shall threaten and/or intimidate another student: This includes touching, pushing, or threatening the person bodily or psychologically. Possible referral to law enforcement

First Offense: Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS); mandatory Parent Conference

Second Offense: Five (5) days In-School Suspension (ISS); mandatory Parent Conference.

Third Offense: Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); mandatory Parent Conference.

Fourth Offense: Minimum Five (5) days Out-of-School (OSS); possible referral to Tribunal.

### **VERBAL ALTERCATION/ABUSE (STUDENT)**

First Offense: Three (3) days In-School Suspension (ISS), Mandatory Parent conference

Second Offense: Five (5) days In-School Suspension (ISS), Mandatory Parent conference

Third Offense: Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), Mandatory Parent Conference.

Fourth Offense: Five (5) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), Mandatory Parent conference

### **VERBAL ASSAULT (TEACHERS, ADMINISTRATOR, AND OTHER PERSONNEL)**

First Offense: Three (3) days OSS, Law enforcement called, **mandatory parent conference**

Second Offense: Minimum Five (5) days Out-of-School, law enforcement called, Referral to tribunal

### **PHYSICAL ASSAULT (Teachers, Administrator, other Personnel)**

Engaging in an assault on and/or battery of any school employee on or off school property, if school-related. This includes touching, striking, pushing, or threatening the person, bodily or psychologically, and/or the property of any school system employee. (GA Code 20-2-753) Code Section (20-2-751.6) Relating to suspension policy for students committing acts of physical violence resulting in injury to teachers would be amended in: Subsection (a), (b), (c) to permit local boards to use disciplinary hearing officers or panels, in addition to tribunals,, to hear cases involving students committing acts of physical violence resulting in injury to teachers.

First Offense: Minimum ten days Out-Of-School Suspension. Student will be referred to a tribunal hearing with a recommendation for long term suspension or expulsion. A formal complaint will be filed with Law Enforcement.

## **BULLYING**

The Stewart County Board of Education believes that all students can learn better in a safe school environment. Behavior that infringes on the safety of students will not be tolerated. Bullying, as the term is defined in Georgia law 20-2-751-4, of a student by another student is strictly prohibited. Such prohibition shall be included in the Student Code of Conduct for all schools within the school system.

Bullying is defined as follows: An act which occurs on school property, on school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school related functions or activities, or by use of data or software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, computer network, or other electronic technology of a local school system, that is:

1. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person, when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so;
2. Any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm; or
3. Any intentional written, verbal, or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass, or intimidate, that:
4. Causes another person substantial physical harm within the meaning of Code Section 16-5-23.1 or visible bodily harm as such term is defined in Code Section 16-5-23.1;
5. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
6. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
7. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Acts of bullying shall be punished by a range of consequences, as stated in the Code of Conduct. However, upon a finding by the disciplinary hearing officer, panel or tribunal that a student in grades 6-12 has committed the offense of bullying for the third time in a school year, the student shall be assigned to an alternative school.

Upon a finding by a school administrator that a student has committed an act of bullying or is a victim of bullying, the administrator or designee shall notify the parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of the student by telephone call or through written notice, which may be done electronically. Students and parents will be notified of the prohibition against bullying and the penalties for violating the prohibition by posting information at each school and by including such information in the student/parent handbooks.

Discipline for any act of bullying shall be within the discretion of the principal or principal designee, which may range from In-School Suspension, Out-of-School Suspension, or referral to the Disciplinary Tribunal.

First Offense:	Three (3) days In-School-Suspension; <b>mandatory parent conference</b> , possible Law Enforcement contact.
Second Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS), <b>mandatory parent conference</b> , Referral to Law Enforcement.
Third Offense:	Ten (10) days Out-of-School; Referral to Tribunal Hearing; Referral to Law Enforcement.

### **MISBEHAVIOR IN IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)**

A student shall not act in a rude, disobedient, disrespectful, and/or insubordinate manner, causing a disruption, use of profanity, and/or failure to follow rules while in ISS.

First Offense:	One (1) day Out-of-School Suspension; return to ISS after suspension; mandatory parent conference.
Second Offense:	Three (3) days Out-of-School Suspension; return to ISS after suspension; mandatory parent conference.
Third Offense:	Minimum Five (5) days Out-of-School Suspension; possible referral to Tribunal; mandatory Parent Conference.

### **BUS VIOLATIONS**

**Bus violations: Standing while bus is in operation, rude/disrespect towards driver, fighting, profanity, Throwing profanity, throwing objects, any misbehavior addressed in the Code of Conduct, or any misbehavior which creates an unsafe environment for the students or bus driver.**

Riding the bus is a privilege not a right. Since the bus is an extension of the classroom, students are required to observe all rules; violations may result in suspension or revoked transportation privileges.

First Offense:	One (1) to three (3) days bus suspension
Second Offense:	Two (2) to four (4) days bus suspension
Third Offense:	Five (5) days bus suspension
Fourth Offense:	Administrative Discretion

### **THEFT**

First Offense:	Restitution, two (2) days In-School Suspension, Possible Law Enforcement contact
Second Offense:	Restitution, two (2) days Out-of-School Suspension, mandatory Parent Conference, Contact Law Enforcement
Third Offense:	Restitution, Contact Law Enforcement, Tribunal
Fourth Offense:	Administrative Discretion

### **ILLEGAL DRUGS/ALCOHOL USE OR POSSESSION**

**Ten days Out-of-School Suspension and referral to disciplinary Tribunal/Law Enforcement**

### **WEAPONS/FIREARMS/EXPLOSIVES (Hand Gun, Knife, Other, Rifle, Firearm)**

Possessing a dangerous instrument or weapon on school property or at a school event is prohibited. A student shall not supply, possess, handle, use, threaten to use or transmit any weapon or any other tool or instrument capable of inflicting bodily injury and intended for use as a weapon, in a school safety zone, at a school building, school function, or on school property or on a bus or other transportation furnished by the school. A "weapon," "tool" or "instrument" means and includes by way of illustration but is not limited to the following items: any pistol, blank pistol, signal pistol, starter pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, stun-gun, laser gun, pellet or BB gun, "look a-like" firearms, or any weapon designated or intended to propel a missile of any kind, whether loaded or unloaded; any dirk knife, Bowie, lock-blade, hunting, pen, pocket, switchblade, utility, ballistic knife, or any knife of any size whatsoever; any straightedge, regular, retractable or other razor or razor blade whatsoever; chain spring stick, night stick, pipe, or studded or pointed bracelets; metal brass or other artificial knuckles, blackjack, any bat, club, ax handle or other bludgeon-type weapon; any "martial arts" device, including any flaying instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in

such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, nun chahak, nun chuck, non chaku, dart, schuriken, throwing star, fighting chain, Chinese star, or any disc of whatever configuration having at least two points or pointed blades which is designed to be thrown or propelled; or any tool or instrument which school staff could reasonably conclude as being a violation of the intent of this policy.

A student is deemed to be in possession of an illegal and/or banned item(s) under this policy when such item(s) is/are on the person of the student, in the student's possession, in the student's locker, in the student's vehicle on school property or on property being used by the school, at any school function or activity or any school event held away from the school.

First Offense:                   Ten (10) Days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); Referral to Tribunal;  
Notification of Law Enforcement.

## **SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Sexual harassment means unwanted sexually oriented words or actions that hurt or humiliate people and it causes tension for others. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student or any member of the district staff to harass a student through conduct or communication of a sexual nature as defined below. Unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors and other inappropriate oral, written or physical conduct of a sexual nature when made by a member of the school staff to a student or when made by any student to another student or system employee constitutes sexual harassment when: Submission to such conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual; or Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or professional performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic environment. Sexual harassment, as defined above, may include but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal harassment or abuse
- Pressure for sexual activity
- Repeated remarks to a person with
- Sexual or demeaning implications
- Unwelcome touching
- Suggesting or demanding sexual involvement accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, job, etc.
- Sexual harassment is a kind of discrimination. It means that someone is treated differently because of his or her sex. It is behavior or words that:
  - are directed at a person because of his or her sex
  - are uninvited, unwanted, and unwelcome
  - cause a person to feel uncomfortable or offended
  - create an environment that makes learning difficult
  - are pervasive and ongoing.

Any person who alleges sexual harassment by a staff member or student in the school district may complain directly to a principal, assistant principal, guidance counselor, or other individual to receive such complaints. Filing of a complaint or otherwise reporting sexual harassment will not reflect upon the individual's status nor will it affect future employment, grades, or job assignments. The right to confidentiality, both of the complaint and of the accused, will be respected consistent with the Board's legal obligations, and with the necessity to investigate allegations of misconduct and take corrective action when this conduct has occurred. All allegations of sexual harassment shall be fully investigated and immediate and appropriate corrective or disciplinary action shall be initiated. Appropriate documentation shall be maintained on all allegations of sexual harassment. A substantiated charge against an employee shall subject such person to disciplinary action, including discharge. A substantiated charge against a student shall subject that student to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Additionally, in all cases a report of sexual harassment will be reported to the system's Title IX coordinator. It is the policy of the Stewart County Board of Education to maintain a learning environment that is free from sexual harassment. It shall be a violation of this policy for

any member of the district to harass a student through conduct or communications of a sexual nature as defined.

First Offense:	Three (3) Days In-School-Suspension (ISS); Parent Conference
Second Offense:	Minimum Five (5) Days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); Referral to Tribunal' Referral to Law Enforcement.

#### **FALSE BOMB THREAT**

First Offense:	Five (5) Days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); Law Enforcement Contacted.
Second Offense:	Ten (10) Days Out-of-School Suspension (OSS); Law Enforcement Contacted; Referral to Tribunal.