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SECTION J: Students

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## STUDENT CONDUCT

The standards of student conduct are designed to define the basic rules and major expectations of students in the public schools of Appomattox County. It is the responsibility of the Appomattox County School Board to adopt policy and regulations and the administration to issue regulations establishing rules of conduct for student behavior in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its students. The local school principal has the responsibility and authority to exercise reasonable judgment in enforcing this Code of Conduct. Principals are responsible for ensuring that all students, staff members and parents are provided the opportunity to become familiar with this policy.

The superintendent issues Standards of Student Conduct and a list of possible corrective actions for violation of the Standards of Conduct. Each parent of a student enrolled in a public school has a duty to assist the school in enforcing the standards of student conduct and compulsory school attendance in order that education may be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property and supportive of individual rights. The Standards of Student Conduct, a notice of the requirements of Va. Code § 22.1-279.3, and a copy of the compulsory school attendance law is also sent to all parents within one calendar month of the opening of schools simultaneously with any other materials customarily distributed at that time. A statement for the parent's signature acknowledging the receipt of the Standards of Student Conduct, the requirements of Va. Code § 22.1-279.3 and the compulsory school attendance law is also sent. Parents are notified that by signing the statement of receipt, they are not deemed to waive, but expressly reserve, their rights protected by the constitution or laws of the United States or Virginia. Each school maintains records of the signed statements.

The school principal may request the student's parent or parents, if both have legal and physical custody, to meet with the principal or principal's designee to review the School Board's Standards of Student Conduct and the parent's or parents' responsibility to participate with the school in disciplining the student and maintaining order, to ensure the student's compliance with compulsory school attendance law and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior, school attendance and educational progress. The administrator of the building should exercise reasonable judgment and consider the circumstances in determining the disciplinary action to be administered.

Each student has the right to expect an educational environment in which he or she can strive to achieve his or her intellectual potential. The student is expected to attend school regularly, be diligent in his/her studies and conduct him/herself in such a way that the rights and privileges of others are not violated. The student is expected to accept and demonstrate the obligation of good citizenship to help prevent problems from happening and help solve problems if they occur.

All parents are expected to assume responsibility for the student's behavior and assist the school in enforcing the Standards of Student Conduct and compulsory school

attendance. Parents are also expected to maintain regular communication with school authorities, monitor and require daily attendance, and bring to the attention of the school authorities any problem that affects the student or other children in the school. It is the parents' responsibility to notify the school of any unusual behavior pattern or medical problem that might lead to serious difficulties.

The school principal may notify the parents of any student who violates a School Board policy or the compulsory school attendance requirements when such violation could result in the student's suspension or the filing of a court petition, whether or not the school administration has imposed such disciplinary action or filed such a petition. The notice shall state (1) the date and particulars of the violation; (2) the obligation of the parent to take actions to assist the school in improving the student's behavior and ensuring compliance with compulsory school attendance; (3) that, if the student is suspended, the parent may be required to accompany the student to meet with school officials; and (4) that a petition with the juvenile and domestic relations court may be filed under certain circumstances to declare the student a child in need of supervision.

The principal or principal's designee notifies the parent of any student involved in an incident required to be reported to the superintendent and Virginia Board of Education.

No suspended student shall be admitted to the regular school program until such student and his parent have met with school officials to discuss improvement of the student's behavior, unless the school principal or his designee determines that readmission, without parent conference, is appropriate for the student.

If a parent fails to comply with the requirements of this policy, the School Board may ask the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to proceed against the parent in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Virginia.

Students are subject to corrective action for any misconduct that occurs:

- in school or on school property;
- on a school vehicle;
- while participating in or attending any school sponsored activity or trip;
- on the way to and from school; and
- off school property, when the acts lead to: (1) notification pursuant to Va. Code § 16.1-305.1 or a conviction for an offense listed in Va. Code § 16.1-260, (2) a charge that would be a felony if committed by an adult, or (3) disruption of the learning environment.

Unlawful acts which will lead to police notification and may lead to suspension from classes, exclusion from activities or expulsion include but are not limited to:

- possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, including marijuana and anabolic steroids, or drug paraphernalia;
- selling drugs;
- assault/battery;

- sexual assault;
- arson;
- intentional injury (bullying, fighting);
- theft;
- bomb threats, including false threats, against school personnel or school property;
- use or possession of explosives (see Policy JFCD Weapons in School);
- possession of weapons or firearms (see Policy JFCD Weapons in School);
- extortion, blackmail or coercion;
- driving without a license on school property;
- homicide;
- burglary;
- sex offenses (indecent exposure, obscene phone calls, sodomy and child molestation);
- malicious mischief;
- shooting;
- any illegal conduct involving firebombs, explosive or incendiary devices or materials, hoax explosive devices or chemical bombs;
- stabbing, cutting or wounding;
- unlawful interference with school authorities including threats;
- unlawful intimidation of school authorities; and
- other unlawful acts including being an accessory to any of these or other unlawful acts.

Any student involved in a reportable drug or violent incident shall participate in prevention and intervention activities deemed appropriate by the superintendent or superintendent's designee. Further, any student who has been found to be in possession of or under the influence of drugs or alcohol on school property or at a school sponsored activity may be required to (1) undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse and (2) participate in a drug and/or alcohol treatment program if recommended by the evaluator and if the parent consents.

The superintendent issues regulations listing additional actions which may be cause for corrective action and if serious enough or exhibited repeatedly may lead to suspension or expulsion.

The School Board biennially reviews the model student conduct code developed by the Board of Education to incorporate into policy a range of discipline options and alternatives to preserve a safe and non-disruptive environment for effective learning and teaching.

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Revised: December 10, 1997  
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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§16.1-260, 18.2-308.1, 18.2-308.7, 22.1-78, 22.1-200.1, 22.1-253.13:7.C.3; 22.1-254, 22.1-276.3, 22.1-277, 22.1-277.08, 22.1-277.2, 22.1-279.1, 22.1-279.3, 22.1-279.3:1, 22.1-279.6.

Cross Refs.: CLA Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse  
ECAB Vandalism  
IIBEA/GAB Acceptable Computer System Use  
IIBEA-R/  
GAB-R Acceptable Computer System Use  
JFHA/GBA Prohibition Against Harassment and Retaliation  
JGA Corporal Punishment  
JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion  
JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities  
JGDB Discipline of Students with Disabilities for Infliction of Serious Bodily Injury  
JN Student Fees, Fines and Charges

## STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

The following are standards of student conduct established by the School Board for all students. The consequences of any act are determined on the basis of the facts presented in each situation in the reasonable discretion of the Board, its designated committees and other appropriate school officials.

### 1. Assault and Battery

A student shall not assault or commit battery upon another person on school property, on school buses or during school activities on or off school property.

An assault is a threat of bodily injury.

A battery is any bodily hurt, however slight, done to another in an angry, rude or vengeful manner.

### 2. Attendance; Truancy

Students shall attend school on a regular and punctual basis unless otherwise excused in accordance with School Board policy or regulation. (See Policy JED Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals.)

If a student who is under 18 years of age has 10 or more unexcused absences from school on consecutive school days, the principal may notify the juvenile and domestic relations court, which may take action to suspend the student's driver's license.

### 3. Bomb Threats

Students shall not engage in any illegal conduct involving firebombs, explosive or incendiary materials or devices or hoax explosive devices or chemical bombs as defined in the Code of Virginia. Moreover, students shall not make any threats or false threats to bomb school personnel or school property.

### 4. Bullying

A student, either individually or as a part of a group, shall not bully others either in person or by the use of any communication technology including computer systems, telephones, pagers, or instant messaging systems. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, physical, verbal, or written intimidation, taunting, name-calling, and insults and any combination of prohibited activities.

"Bullying" means any aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim; involves a real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor or aggressors and victim; and is repeated over time or causes severe emotional trauma. "Bullying" includes cyber bullying. "Bullying" does not include ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument or peer conflict.

5. Bus-Related Offenses

Students shall not behave in a disruptive manner or otherwise violate these Standards of Conduct while waiting for a school bus, while on a school bus or after being discharged from a school bus.

6. Cheating

Students are expected to perform honestly on schoolwork and tests. The following actions are prohibited:

- cheating on a test or assigned work by giving, receiving, offering and/or soliciting information
- plagiarizing by copying the language, structure, idea and/or thoughts of another
- falsifying statements on any assigned schoolwork, tests or other school documents

7. Communication Devices

Students may possess a beeper, cellular telephone, smart phone, tablet, Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) or other communications device on school property, including school buses, provided that the device must remain off and out of sight during instructional time unless it is being used for instructional purposes at the direction of the student's teacher.

At no time may any device be used with an unfiltered connection to the Internet.

The division is not liable for devices brought to school or school activities.

If a student possesses or uses such a device other than as permitted in this policy, in addition to other disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed, the device may be confiscated from the student and returned only to the student's parent.

8. Defiance of the Authority of School Personnel

Students shall comply with any oral or written instructions made by school personnel within the scope of their authority as provided by Board policies and regulations.

9. Disruptive Conduct

Students are entitled to a learning environment free of unnecessary disruption. Any physical or verbal disturbance which interrupts or interferes with teaching and orderly conduct of school activities, is prohibited.

10. Electronic Cigarettes

Students shall not possess electronic cigarettes on school premises, on school buses or at school sponsored activities.

11. Extortion

No student may obtain or attempt to obtain anything of value from another by using a threat of any kind.

12. Felony Charges

Students charged with any offense, wherever committed, that would be a felony if committed by an adult may be disciplined and/or required to participate in prevention/intervention activities.

13. Fighting

Exchanging mutual physical contact between two or more persons by pushing, shoving or hitting with or without injury is prohibited.

14. Gambling

A student shall not bet money or other things of value, or knowingly play or participate in any game involving such a bet, on school property, on school buses or during any school related activity.

15. Gang Activity

Gang-related activity is not tolerated. Symbols of gang membership are expressly prohibited (i.e., clothing that symbolizes association, rituals associated with, or activities by an identified group of students). (See Policy JFCE Gang Activity or Association.)



16. Harassment

A student shall not harass another student or any school employee, volunteer, student teacher or any other person present in school facilities or at school functions.

17. Hazing

Students shall not engage in hazing.

Hazing means to recklessly or intentionally endanger the health or safety of a student or students or to inflict bodily harm on a student or students in connection with or for the purpose of initiation, admission into or affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a club, organization, association, fraternity, sorority, or student body regardless of whether the student or students so endangered or injured participated voluntarily in the relevant activity.

The principal of any school at which hazing which causes bodily injury occurs shall report the hazing to the local Commonwealth Attorney.

18. Internet Use

Students shall abide by the Appomattox County School Division's Acceptable Computer Use Policy and Regulation. (See Policy IIBEA Acceptable Computer System Use.)

19. Laser Pointers

Students shall not have in their possession laser pointers.

20. Other Conduct

In addition to these specific standards, students shall not engage in any conduct which materially and substantially disrupts the ongoing educational process or which is otherwise a violation of federal, state or local law.

21. Possession or Use of Weapons or Other Dangerous Articles

Students shall not have in their possession any type of unauthorized firearm or other article which may be used as a weapon, regardless of whether it is commonly accepted as such. (See Policy JFCD Weapons in School.)

22. Profane, Obscene or Abusive Language or Conduct

Students shall not use vulgar, profane or obscene language or gestures or engage in conduct that is vulgar, profane, obscene or disrupts the teaching and learning environment.

23. Reports of Conviction or Adjudication of Delinquency

Any student for whom the superintendent has received a report pursuant to Va. Code § 16.1-305.1 of an adjudication of delinquency or a conviction for an offense listed in subsection G of Va. Code § 16.1-260 may be suspended or expelled.

24. Stalking

Students shall not engage in a pattern of behavior that places another person in fear of serious harm.

25. Student Dress

Students are expected to dress appropriately for a K-12 educational environment. Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is unacceptable. Clothing with language or images that are vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene, or clothing that promotes illegal or violent conduct, such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or drug paraphernalia or clothing that contains threats such as gang symbols is prohibited.

Clothing should fit, be neat and clean, and conform to standards of safety, good taste and decency. Clothing that exposes cleavage, private parts, the midriff, or undergarments, or that is otherwise sexually provocative, is prohibited. Examples of prohibited clothing include, but are not limited to: sagging or low-cut pants, low-cut necklines that show cleavage, tube tops, halter tops, backless blouses or blouses with only ties in the back, clothing constructed of see-through materials and head coverings unless required for religious or medical purposes.

Additionally, disciplinary action will be taken against any student taking part in gang-related activities that are disruptive to the school environment, which include the display of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, tattoo, or manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior.

Parents of students requiring accommodation for religious beliefs, disabilities, or other good causes should contact the principal.

Students not complying with this policy will be asked to cover the noncomplying clothing, change clothes or go home.

26. Theft

A student shall not intentionally take or attempt to take the personal property of another person by force, fear or other means.

27. Threats or Intimidation

Students shall not make any verbal, written, or physical threat of bodily injury or use of force directed toward another person. Students shall not use electronic technology or communication devices, such as the internet or cell phones, to intimidate or threaten for any reason.

28. Trespassing

Students shall not trespass on school property or use school facilities without proper authority or permission, or during a period of suspension or expulsion.

29. Use and/or Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, Anabolic Steroids, and Other Drugs

A student shall not possess, use, or distribute any of the restricted substances listed below on school property, on school buses or during school activities, on or off school property.

A student shall not attempt to possess, use, consume, procure and/or purchase, any of the restricted substances listed below or what is represented by or to the student to be any of the restricted substances listed below or what the student believes is any of the restricted substances listed below.

A student shall not be under the influence of any of the restricted substances listed below, regardless of whether the student's condition amounts to legal intoxication.

Restricted substances include but are not limited to alcohol, tobacco and inhalant products, and other controlled substances defined in the Drug Control Act, Chapter 15.1 of Title 54 of the Code of Virginia, such as anabolic steroids, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, marijuana, imitation and look-alike drugs, drug paraphernalia and any prescription or non-prescription drug possessed in violation of School Board policy.

The School Board may require any student who has been found in possession of, or under the influence of, drugs or alcohol in violation of School Board policy to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse, or both, and, if recommended by the evaluator and with the consent of the student's parent, to participate in a treatment program.

In addition to any other consequences which may result, a student who is a member of a school athletic team will be ineligible for two school years to compete in interscholastic athletic competition if the school principal and the division superintendent determine that the student used anabolic steroids during the training period immediately preceding or during the sport season of the athletic team, unless such steroid was prescribed by a licensed physician for a medical condition.

30. Vandalism

Students shall not willfully or maliciously damage or deface any school building or other property owned or under the control of the School Board. In addition, students shall not willfully or maliciously damage or deface property belonging to or under the control of any other person at school, on a school bus or at school-sponsored events.

#### CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

The following corrective actions are among those available to the school administration for violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The facts and circumstances of each offense are considered fully in determining reasonable corrective actions.

1. Counseling
2. Admonition
3. Reprimand
4. Loss of privileges, including access to the School Division's computer system
5. Parental conferences
6. Modification of student classroom assignment or schedule
7. Student behavior contract
8. Referral to student assistance services
9. Removal from class
10. Initiation of child study process
11. Referral to in-school intervention, mediation, or community service programs
12. Tasks or restrictions assigned by the principal or his designee
13. Detention after school or before school
14. Suspension from school-sponsored activities or events prior to, during, or after the regular school day

15. In-school suspension
16. Out-of-school suspension
17. Referral to an alternative education program
18. Notification of legal authority where appropriate
19. Recommendation for expulsion including recommendation for expulsion for possessing a firearm, destructive device, firearm muffler, firearm silencer or pneumatic gun on school property or at a school-sponsored event and recommendation for expulsion for having brought a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance or marijuana onto school property or to a school sponsored activity
20. Evaluation for alcohol or drug abuse
21. Participation in a drug, alcohol or violence intervention, prevention or treatment program

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Student Code of Conduct Policy Guidelines (Virginia Board of Education October 2013).  
Information Brief: Cyberbullying and School Policy (Virginia Department of Education August 2008).

Cross Refs.:	CLA	Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse
	ECAB	Vandalism
	GAB/IIBEA	Acceptable Computer System Use
	GAB-R/IIBEA-R	Acceptable Computer System Use Regulation
	GBECA	Electronic Cigarettes
	IEA	Pledge of Allegiance
	IGAG	Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
	JED	Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals
	JFC	Student Conduct
	JFCD	Weapons in School
	JFCE	Gang Activity or Association
	JFCF	Drugs in School
	JFHA/GBA	Prohibition Against Harassment and Retaliation
	JGA	Corporal Punishment
	JGD/JGE	Student Suspension/Expulsion
	JGDA	Disciplining Students with Disabilities
	JGDB	Discipline of Students with Disabilities for Infliction of Serious Bodily Injury
	JHCD	Administering Medicines to Students
	JN	Student Fees, Fines and Charges

## TEACHER REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM CLASS

Teachers have the initial authority to remove students from class for disruptive behavior. "Disruptive behavior" means a violation of School Board regulations governing student conduct that interrupts or obstructs the learning environment.

### Criteria for Removal

In order for a teacher to remove a student from class for disruptive behavior

- removal of the student from the class must be necessary to restore a learning environment free from interruptions and obstructions caused by the student's behavior
- interventions by the teacher and/or administrators have been attempted and failed to end the student's disruptive behavior, and
- notice of the student's disruptive behavior and the opportunity to meet with the teacher and/or school administrators must have been provided to the student's parents as described below.

When all of the above criteria have been satisfied, a teacher may remove a student from class.

### Requirements for Incident Reports

Teachers should write incident reports regarding all incidents of disruptive behavior. The reports will be filed with the school administration and provided to the student's parents within 24 hours of the incident. The parents must be given the opportunity to meet with the teacher and/or school administrator to discuss the student's behavior and the possible consequences if the behavior continues. The teacher will document, in writing, his or her attempts to request and encourage the parents to meet with him or her or school administrators.

A student may not be removed from class for disruptive behavior unless two written incident reports have been filed with school administrators and provided to the student's parents concerning two prior incidents of disruptive behavior. Upon removal, the teacher shall file a "Student Removal Form" (JFCA-E) with school administrators. The teacher will include any other documentation supporting the removal including, but not limited to, the previous two incident reports.

### Procedures for Written Notification of Student and Parents

The teacher shall provide copies of any incident report and Student Removal Form to the student and his or her parents and notify them of the opportunity to meet with the teacher and/or school administrators to discuss the behavior and the possible consequences if the behavior

continues. Such notice shall be provided within twenty-four hours of each incident. The teacher shall document, in writing, his or her attempts to request and encourage the parents to meet with school administrators and/or the teacher. Such notice and documentation shall be required for each incident report and student removal.

#### Guidelines for Alternative Assignment and Instruction of Removed Students

The principal shall determine the appropriate placement of any student removed from class by a teacher. The principal may

- assign the student to an alternative program
- assign the student to another class
- send the student to the principal's office or study hall. If the principal chooses this option, the teacher shall provide and evaluate appropriate make-up work for the student
- suspend the student or recommend the student for expulsion. If the principal chooses this option, alternative instruction and assignment, if any, shall be provided according to School Board policy and in the case of students with disabilities, in accordance with federal law
- return the student to class in accordance with the procedures below

#### Procedure for the Student's Return to Class

The principal shall determine, after consultation with the teacher, the duration of the student's removal from class. The principal shall notify the teacher of the decision to return the student to class. If the teacher disagrees with the principal's decision to return a student to the class

- the teacher and principal shall discuss the teacher's objection to returning the student to class and the principal's reason for returning the student.
- the teacher, after meeting with the principal, may appeal the principal's decision to the superintendent or designee within one school day. The incident reports and removal form must accompany the appeal. After discussion with the principal and teacher or receiving their written comments, the decision of the superintendent or designee shall be final. The decision shall be made within forty-eight hours of the teacher's appeal. During the appeal process, the student shall not be returned to class and the principal will determine an appropriate placement for the student.

Once the decision has been made to return the student to class, the teacher and principal shall develop a plan to address future disruptive behavior.



## Other Provisions

The principal shall ensure that students removed from class under this policy continue to receive an education in accordance with School Board policies.

Application of this policy to students with disabilities shall be consistent with federal and state law and regulations as well as School Board policy regarding students with disabilities.

Teacher deficiencies in classroom management shall be addressed in teacher evaluations pursuant to Policy GCN Evaluation of Professional Staff.

This policy does not limit or restrict the ability of School Board employees to apply other policies, regulations or laws for maintaining order in the classroom.

Adopted: June 18, 1998  
Revised: September 13, 2001  
Revised: April 25, 2013

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Legal Ref: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-276.01, 22.1-276.2

Cross Refs: GCN Evaluation of Professional Staff  
JFC Student Conduct  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct  
JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities  
JGDB Discipline of Students with Disabilities for Infliction of Serious Bodily Injury  
JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion

**STUDENT REMOVAL FORM**

School Name:

Student:

Teacher:

Class:

Date:

Description of Behavior:

Administrative and/or Teacher Interventions Attempted Prior to Removal and Results

Date of Prior Incident Reports:  
(Note: Prior incident reports must be attached.)

Signature of Teacher:

## SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS AND INTEGRITY

The School Board recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that students develop when they have the opportunity to participate in an organized activity outside of the traditional classroom.

Participants and responsible adults involved in School Board approved extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate the same level of responsibility and behavior at practice and competitions as is expected in the classroom. The School Board further encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in all phases of the educational process and in all segments of the community, including administrators, participants, adult supervisors, parents, fans, spirit groups and support/booster groups.

Adopted:

Revised: May 15, 2003

Revised: April 25, 2013

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Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, §§ 22.1-78.

Cross Ref.: JFC Student Conduct  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct  
JFCC Student Conduct on School Buses  
KQ Commercial, Promotional, and Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships

## STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES

Students are required to conduct themselves on school buses in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior.

The school principal may suspend or revoke the riding privileges of students and/or take other disciplinary actions for students who are disciplinary problems on the bus. Parents (or guardians) of children whose behavior and misconduct on school buses violates the Student Code of Conduct or otherwise endangers the health, safety and welfare of other riders shall be notified that their child/children face the loss of school bus riding privileges and/or other disciplinary actions.

If a student's riding privileges are suspended or revoked, the student's parents are responsible for seeing that the student gets to and from school safely.

The bus driver is responsible for maintaining the orderly behavior of students on school buses and shall report misconduct to the student's principal and provide a copy of the report to the transportation office.

Adopted:

Revised: May 15, 2003

Revised: July 30, 2009

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, §§ 22.1-78, 22.1-176, 22.1-181, 22.1-293(B), (D).

Cross Ref.: EEA Student Transportation Services  
JFC Student Conduct  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct

## WEAPONS IN SCHOOL

### I. Generally

Carrying, bringing, using or possessing any firearm, dangerous device, or dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the school or the school division is prohibited, and grounds for disciplinary action.

A student who has possessed a firearm on school property or at a school-sponsored activity as prohibited by Va. Code § 18.2-308.1 or who has possessed a firearm or destructive device as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07 or a firearm muffler or firearm silencer or a pneumatic gun as defined in Va. Code § 15.2-915.4 on school property or at a school-sponsored activity may be expelled for at least one year in accordance with Policy JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion. The School Board may determine, based on the facts of a particular situation, that special circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another disciplinary action or another term of expulsion is appropriate. The School Board may promulgate guidelines for determining what constitutes special circumstances. In addition, the School Board may, by regulation, authorize the superintendent or the superintendent's designee to conduct a preliminary review of such cases to determine whether a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate. Disciplinary proceedings for violation of this policy will be initiated promptly.

Such weapons include, but are not limited to:

- any pistol, shotgun, stun weapon, revolver, or other firearm listed in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07, designed or intended to propel a projectile of any kind, including a rifle,
- unloaded firearms in closed containers,
- any air rifle or BB gun,
- toy guns and look-alike guns,
- any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, knife or razor,
- slingshots,
- spring sticks,
- brass or metal knuckles, blackjacks,
- any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain,
- any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades, and which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart,
- explosives, and
- destructive devices as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07, or other dangerous articles.

## II. Students with Disabilities

- A. Students with disabilities are subject to the provisions of Section I of this policy and may be disciplined to the same extent as a nondisabled student provided the manifestation review committee determines that the violation was not a manifestation of the student's disability. The provisions of Policy JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities will be followed in addition to the regular disciplinary procedures.
- B. Additional authority to remove a student with a disability from school for a weapons violation.
  - 1. In addition to the authority granted in subsection A above, a student with a disability may also be removed without parent consent and assigned to an interim alternative education program by school personnel for not more than forty-five (45) school days when the student carries or possesses a weapon to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a state or local educational agency. This option is available regardless of whether a manifestation exists. The removal should not be in excess of any removal imposed on a student without a disability for the same offense.
  - 2. For purposes of this forty-five (45) school day removal, the weapon must meet the following definition:

“a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length.”

Adopted: August 28, 1996  
Revised: December 10, 1997  
Revised: July 22, 1999  
Revised: September 21, 2000  
Revised: September 13, 2001  
Revised: May 15, 2003  
Revised: July 17, 2003  
Revised: June 24, 2004  
Revised: May 25, 2006  
Revised: July 26, 2007  
Revised: August 22, 2008  
Revised: July 28, 2011  
Revised: July 24, 2014  
Revised: July 23, 2015

Legal Refs.: 18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2).

20 U.S.C. § 1415(k)(1)(G)(i).

Code of Virginia, §§ 15.2-915.4, 18.2-308, 18.2-308.1, 18.2-308.7, 22.1-277.07, 277.07:1.

Wood v. Henry County Public Schools, 255 Va. 85, 495 S.E.2d 255 (1998).

8 VAC 20-81-10.

Cross Refs.:	JGD/JGE	Student Suspension/Expulsion
	JFC	Student Conduct
	JGDA	Disciplining Students with Disabilities
	JGDB	Discipline of Students with Disabilities for Infliction of Serious Bodily Injury

## GANG ACTIVITY OR ASSOCIATION

The Appomattox County School Board recognizes the existence of gangs in the community and the threat they pose to the educational environment. Therefore, students shall not engage in gang activity on school grounds, on school buses or on any school sponsored activity. In addition, students shall not engage in gang activity using the School Division computer system at any time. A gang is defined as any group of three or more persons whose purpose includes:

- commission of illegal acts
- participation in activities that threaten the safety of persons or property
- disruption of the school environment
- creation of an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

Students are subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Policy and Regulation JFC for participating in gang activity. Gang activity is defined as:

- wearing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other thing that is evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang;
- committing any act or omission, or using any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (such as gestures or hand-shakes) showing membership or affiliation in a gang;
- using any speech or committing any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang, including: (a) soliciting, hazing and initiating others for membership in any gang, (b) requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, (c) committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policy and inciting other students to act with physical violence;
- inappropriate congregating, bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, intimidation, degradation, disgrace and/or related activities which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or mental harm to students, employees or visitors.

The superintendent shall, in cooperation with local law enforcement and/or juvenile agencies, develop a regulation listing known gang clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, signs, gestures, handshakes and symbols. The list shall be updated regularly.

The superintendent shall provide in-service training in gang behavior and characteristics to facilitate staff identification of students at-risk of gang involvement and promote membership in authorized school groups and/or activities as an alternative.



Adopted: August 21, 1998  
Revised: August 25, 2004  
Revised: July 25, 2013

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, as amended, §§ 18.2-46.1, 22.1-70, 22.1-78, 22.1-79(2),  
§ [22.1-276.01](#)

## DRUGS IN SCHOOL

### I. Generally

Possession of a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance or marijuana, as defined in Va. Code § 18.2-247, on school property or at a school-sponsored activity is prohibited.

#### A. Expulsion

A student who is determined to have brought a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance or marijuana onto school property or to a school-sponsored activity may be expelled in accordance with Policy JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion. The School Board may determine, based on the facts of the particular case that special circumstances exist and another form of discipline is appropriate. In addition, the School Board may, by regulation, authorize the superintendent or superintendent's designee to conduct a preliminary review of such cases to determine whether a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate.

#### B. Prevention and Intervention

Any student who violates this policy shall participate in the prevention and intervention activities identified in Appomattox County school division's drug and violence prevention plan.

The School Board may require any student who is in possession of or under the influence of drugs at school or school-sponsored activities to: (1) undergo evaluation for drug abuse and (2) participate in a drug treatment program if recommended by the evaluator and if the student's parent consents.

#### C. Required Reporting to Parents and Local Law Enforcement

The Principal shall report a violation of this policy to parents and local law enforcement as required by Policy CLA Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse.

### II. Students with Disabilities

A. Students with disabilities are subject to the provisions of Section I of this policy and may be disciplined to the same extent as a nondisabled student provided the manifestation review committee determines that the violation was not a manifestation of the student's disability. The provisions of Policy JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities will be followed in addition to the regular disciplinary procedures.

B. Additional authority to remove a student with a disability from school for a drug violation.

1. In addition to the authority granted in subsection A above, a student with a disability may be removed without parent consent and assigned to an interim alternative education program by school personnel for not more than forty-five (45) school days when the student knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs, or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance, while at school, on school premises, or at a school function under the jurisdiction of a state or local educational agency. This option is available regardless of whether a manifestation exists. The removal should not be in excess of any removal imposed on a student without a disability for the same offense.
2. For purposes of this forty-five (45) school day removal, “illegal drugs” and “controlled substance” are defined as follows:
  - a. Controlled substance means a drug or other substance identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in § 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act at 21 U.S.C. § 812(c).
  - b. Illegal drug means a controlled substance, but does not include a controlled substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or under any other provision of federal law.

Adopted: February 20, 1996  
Revised: September 20, 1996  
Revised: July 23, 1998  
Revised: July 22, 1999  
Revised: September 21, 2000  
Revised: September 13, 2001  
Revised: June 24, 2004  
Revised: May 25, 2006  
Revised: July 28, 2011  
Revised: July 24, 2014  
Revised: April 30, 2015

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Legal Refs: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1415(k)(1)(G)(ii), 1415(k)(7)(A), 1415(k)(7)(B).  
21 U.S.C. § 812(c).

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 18.2-247, 18.2-250, 18.2-250.1, 18.2-255.2, 22.1-277.08.

8 VAC 20-81-10.

Cross Refs:	CLA	Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse
	JGD/JGE	Student Suspension/Expulsion
	JFC	Student Conduct
	JFC-R	Standards of Student Conduct
	JGDA	Disciplining Students with Disabilities

## TOBACCO-FREE SCHOOL FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS

Smoking, chewing or any other use of any tobacco products by staff, students, and visitors is prohibited on school property.

For purposes of this policy:

1. "School property" means:
  - a. All interior portions of any building or other structure used for instruction, administration, support services, maintenance or storage.
  - b. Any indoor facility or portion of such facility owned or leased or contracted for and used for the provision of regular or routine health care, day care, or early childhood development (Head Start) services;
  - c. All vehicles used by the division for transporting students, staff, visitors or other persons.
2. "Tobacco" includes cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco and all other kinds and forms of tobacco prepared in such manner as to be suitable for chewing, smoking or both. "Tobacco" includes cloves or any other product packaged for smoking.
3. "Smoking" means the carrying or holding of any lighted pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind, or any other lighted smoking equipment, or the lighting, inhaling, or exhaling of smoke from a pipe, cigar, or cigarette of any kind.

This policy shall be published in student and employee handbooks, posted on bulletin boards and announced in meetings.

Each principal shall post signs stating "No Smoking," or containing the international "No Smoking" symbol, consisting of a pictorial representation of a burning cigarette enclosed in a red circle with a bar across it, clearly and conspicuously in every school cafeteria and other dining facility in the school.

Staff and students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

## Designated Smoking Areas

The School Board may direct the superintendent to issue regulations designating smoking areas on school grounds outside buildings.

## Electronic Cigarettes

Students are prohibited from possessing electronic cigarettes on school buses, on school premises and at school-sponsored activities.

All other persons are prohibited from using electronic cigarettes on school premises and school vehicles.

Adopted: July 22, 1999  
Revised: June 22, 2001  
Revised: July 18, 2002  
Revised: May 15, 2003  
Revised: August 22, 2008  
Revised: July 30, 2009  
Revised: July 24, 2014

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Legal Refs.: 20 U.S.C. §§ 6083, 7183.

Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 15.2-2820, 15.2-2824, 15.2-2825, 15.2-2827, 22.1-79.5, 22.1-279.6.

Cross Refs.: CLA Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse  
GBEC Tobacco-Free School for Staff and Students  
GBECA Electronic Cigarettes  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct  
KG Community Use of School Facilities  
KGC Use of Tobacco and Electronic Cigarettes on School Premises

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE - STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The primary responsibility for helping students who are involved with substance abuse lies with the students and their parents. Nevertheless, the School Board strives to provide a supportive school environment for students involved with substance use or abuse.

The School Board supports substance abuse programs which vary according to individual needs. Included among these are programs for persons who desire more information, and for those who need help with intervention activities and programs.

The School Board supports efforts to help students during the school day as well as to reinforce programs provided by other sources. To that end, individual school substance abuse programs may provide group experiences, individual counseling and other programs.

Alcohol and illegal drug use and abuse are prohibited by the Code of Student Conduct in compliance with all applicable federal, state or local laws and ordinances.

Adopted: February 20, 1996  
Revised: September 20, 1996  
Revised: December 10, 1997  
Revised: September 17, 2001  
Revised: April 25, 2013

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Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, §§ 22.1-78, 16.1-305.1.

Cross Refs.: CLA Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse  
IGAG Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco  
JFC Student Conduct  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct  
JFCF Drugs in School  
JGD/JGE Student Suspension/Expulsion  
JHG Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting  
JO Student Records

WRITTEN NOTIFICATION OF VIOLATION OF SCHOOL POLICIES BY  
STUDENTS IN ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The School Board requires written notification of an offense to the parent, guardian or other person having charge or control of a pupil in an alternative education program as described in Va. Code § 22.1-209.1:2 when

- a pupil commits an offense in violation of School Board policies and school officials determine the offense was committed without the willful intent to violate such policies, or
- the offense did not endanger the health and safety of the individual or other persons.

The notification shall be made no later than two school days following the incident. The School Board requires the principal of the school the child attends, or other appropriate school personnel, to develop appropriate measures, in conjunction with the pupil's parent or guardian, for correcting such behavior.

Adopted: April 26, 2007  
Revised: April 24, 2014

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Legal Ref.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-209.1:2(D).



## STUDENT DRESS CODE

In order to promote an orderly and safe learning environment while preparing students for success in the world of work, dress guidelines have been established. Parents and students are responsible for appropriate school dress. This means that a student's dress, grooming, and appearance, including hairstyle, jewelry, and makeup shall be safe, appropriate, and shall not disrupt or interfere with the educational process. Dress that is disruptive, distracting, revealing, or interferes with the educational process will not be acceptable. Administrators will have the final authority to determine if a student's clothing is appropriate for school, is safe, or whether it will create a climate that is distracting to learning and instruction. Principals, faculty, and staff members will enforce the following dress code:

The Appomattox County Public Schools Dress Code prohibits the wearing of any of the following:

- Bedroom slippers, pajamas, or sleepwear
- Clothing or accessories that advertise, glorify, or symbolize any illegal substance, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, cigarettes, vaping, e-cigarettes, or illegal acts
- Clothing or accessories that contain vulgar, derogatory, violent, or suggestive diagrams, pictures, words or slogans
- Clothing or accessories with gang insignia or symbols
- Dresses, skirts, shorts, and skorts shorter than five inches for grades PK-5 (the length of a 3" x 5" index card) and three inches for grades 6-12 above the knee cap when standing
- Exposed undergarments
- Fishhooks
- Picks, combs, or brushes in hair
- Hats, bandanas, head covers, sweatbands, sun visors, and sunglasses (unless prior arrangements are made with the principal for medical or religious reasons)
- Heavy chains worn as jewelry or belts and free swinging chains
- Heelies or footwear with wheels
- Leggings/Jeggings without a dress, skirt or shorts that meets dress code length
- Oversized clothing that results in sagging garments
- Pants, skirts, shorts, or skorts worn low on the hips so that undergarments or bare skin is exposed
- Necklines three or more inches from the lower part of the collarbone (the width of a 3" x 5" index card)
- Sheer or transparent clothing
- Slits, splits, cuts, frays, and holes in clothing so that undergarments or bare skin is exposed that are five inches above knees for grades PK-5 and three inches above knees for grades 6-12
- Spiked jewelry, clothing, and accessories

- Halter tops, strapless tops or any top with shoulder straps less than three inches (the width of a 3” x 5” index card) (students in grade PK-5 may wear tops with straps less than three inches, but may not wear spaghetti straps)
- Tops that are cut so short that bare skin in the midsection area is exposed at any time, including when arms are raised
- Tops with large arm holes such as tank tops, basketball jerseys, muscle shirts, mesh shirts, athletic undershirts, and cut out shirts (these types of shirts may be worn over a shirt with sleeves)
- Trench coats
- Wallet chains exceeding six inches
- Shoe heels which interfere with walking or climbing steps
- Note: Shoes must be worn at all times

Teachers are required to check student dress during first block (grades 6-12) and during the first hour (grades PK-5). Students not dressed in accordance with the ACPS Dress Code will be sent to the appropriate administrator when a violation cannot be corrected in a timely manner.

#### **Student Dress Code and Special Circumstances:**

- Some classroom activities and curriculum may require specific dress guidelines (e.g., physical education). Any such changes will be explained by the teacher and addressed in the course syllabus/parent letter.
- Administrators, coaches, and sponsors may suspend portions of the dress code and allow students to wear other appropriate attire at special activities. Such activities may be related to field days, theme days, field trips, physical education, cheerleading, athletics, and band.

#### **Consequences (One or More May Apply)**

- Option to alter the inappropriate dress to meet the ACPS Dress Code with alternate attire or calling parents to bring appropriate attire
- Student conference
- Parent contact
- Referral to school counselor
- Referral to school administrator
- In-School Suspension (ISS)

Repeated willful ACPS Dress Code violations may be subject to further disciplinary action, at the administrator’s discretion.

Adopted: May 24, 2007  
Revised: April 29, 2010  
Revised: April 26, 2012  
Revised: May 26, 2016

NOTIFICATION REGARDING PROSECUTION OF JUVENILES AS ADULTS

The Appomattox County School Board will annually provide information developed by the Office of the Attorney General to students regarding laws governing the prosecution of juveniles as adults for the commission of certain crimes.

Adopted: July 26, 2012

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Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-279.4.

## PREGNANT STUDENTS

The division recognizes that students who become pregnant need counseling, health services, and education available through the public schools as much as or more than other students. These students should have the same educational opportunities as their peers. At a minimum, they should have access to all pertinent special services and considerations that are provided other students with special needs.

Arrangements for attendance, homebound instruction, counseling, and placement are to be made in concert with the parents of the student and their physician. The best interest of the individual student will determine the arrangements to be made for the student's education.

Adopted: November 20, 2007

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Legal Ref.: None

Cross Refs.: IGBG, Homebound Instruction

## SEARCH AND SEIZURE

A search involves an invasion of privacy. Whether a search of a student is permissible depends on a balancing of the student's right to privacy and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure against the school division's responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of all persons in the school community and to carry out its educational mission. To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the health, safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student belongings, student lockers or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search.

As used in this policy, the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel, or disruptive of any lawful function, mission or process of the school or any item described as unauthorized in school rules available beforehand to the student.

The locations at which searches of students and student property may be conducted are not limited to the school building or school property. Searches may be conducted wherever the student is involved in a school-sponsored function.

### PERSONAL SEARCHES

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched by a school official whenever the official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule and that the search will yield evidence of the violation.

All individual searches of students must be based on reasonable suspicion. In order to be permissible, the search must be:

1. justified at its inception and
2. reasonably related in scope to the circumstances justifying the search.

An individual search is justified at its inception when a school official has reasonable grounds, based on the totality of the known circumstances, for suspecting that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the rules of the school. A search is reasonable in scope when it is reasonably related to the objectives of the search and is not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the suspected infraction.

A personal search may include requiring a student to be scanned with a metal detector.

A pat down search of a student may only be conducted if a school administrator has established a high level of reasonable suspicion that evidence will be found to corroborate suspicion that a law or school rule has been broken. If a pat down search of

a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness of the same sex present.

Strip searches involve an extreme intrusion into the rights of a student and may only be conducted when an extremely serious situation exists requiring immediate action because of an imminent threat of death or great bodily injury to a person or persons. If a strip search is necessary the school official should contact the appropriate law enforcement official, and the search should be conducted by a sworn law enforcement officer of the same sex, in the presence of a same sex adult witness. School officials may only conduct a strip search in cases where it is necessary to avoid the imminent threat of death or great bodily injury to the student or another person. If a strip search must be conducted by a school official, it must be by a same sex official with a same sex adult witness, and the school official must have the prior approval of the superintendent or superintendent's designee, unless the health or safety of the student is endangered by the delay.

#### LOCKER AND DESK SEARCHES

Student lockers and desks are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers and are responsible for the content of their assigned locker at all times. Periodic general inspections of lockers and desks may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent and without a search warrant.

#### AUTOMOBILE SEARCHES

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule and that the search will yield evidence of the violation, or that illegal or unauthorized materials or other evidence of illegal or otherwise prohibited activities are contained inside the automobile. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent and without a search warrant.

#### COMPUTER SEARCHES

School computers, software and internet access are school property. Students are only authorized to use school computers and other similar educational technology consistent with the educational mission of the school and in accordance with Policy IIBEA Acceptable Computer System Use. School officials may search school computers, software and internet access records at any time for any reason and without student consent.

## CONSENT SEARCHES

If a student gives a school official consent for a search the school official does not need to demonstrate reasonable suspicion. A student's consent is only valid if given willingly and with knowledge of the meaning of consent. Students should be told of their right to refuse to be searched, and students must not perceive himself at risk of punishment for refusing to grant permission for the search.

## SEIZURE OF ILLEGAL MATERIALS

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Adopted:

Revised: October 3, 2000

Revised: June 24, 2004

Revised: May 26, 2005

Revised: January 29, 2015

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Legal Refs.: New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).  
U.S. Const. amend IV.  
Va. Const. art.I, § 10.  
Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, § 22.1-279.7.  
Virginia School Search Resource Guide (Virginia Department of Education Oct. 2000).

Cross Ref.: CLA Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse  
EGAA Reproduction and Use of Copyrighted Materials  
GAB/IIBEA Acceptable Computer System Use  
JFC Student Conduct  
JFC-R Standards of Student Conduct  
JFCD Weapons in School  
JFCF Drugs in School  
KNAJ Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities

## USE OF METAL DETECTORS

In view of the growing concern of the possible presence of weapons in our schools, the School Board authorizes the use of hand-held or walk-through metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects as follows:

School officials or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a minimally intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner (e.g., on all students in a randomly selected class; on every third individual entering an athletic event). Metal detector checks of groups of individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.

If a school official or a law enforcement officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, he or she may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person or personal effects.

A student's failure to permit a metal detector check as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action including possible suspension.

The Superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy.

Adopted:      September 17, 1998

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## PROCEDURES FOR USE OF METAL DETECTORS

The following procedures for the use of metal detectors in the schools are developed pursuant to Policy JFGA, Use of Metal Detectors. The Superintendent may modify or expand these procedures in any manner consistent with Policy JFGA.

A notice will be posted in a central location at each middle and high school stating that weapons are not permitted at school and that students may be required to submit to a metal detector check. In addition, the metal detector policy will be included in future publications of the Code of Student Conduct.

### Metal Detector Checks of Classes of Students

- A. When a principal decides to conduct a group metal detector check, he or she will select the class(es) to be checked at random by blindly drawing one or more classrooms from all of the classrooms within the school. The drawing shall be conducted in the presence of another adult.
- B. Before conducting the metal detector checks, the participating administrator or law enforcement officer (“officer”) will enter the classroom and explain the scanning process to students in the class, emphasizing that the checks are intended to maintain safe schools.
- C. An administrator or officer will check each student by visually searching the student’s desk and then escorting the student with his personal effects into the hall to proceed with the metal detector check. An adult will closely observe students at their desks to make sure that no objects are removed from pockets or personal effects.
- D. In the hall, the administrator or officer will ask the student to remove all metal-containing objects from his or her clothing and personal effects. The administrator or officer will then scan the student without touching his or her body and scan the outside of the student’s personal effects. The metal detector scan of the student’s person will be done by an adult who is the same sex as the student. If the student refuses to cooperate, the administrator or officer may proceed with the check in the presence of another adult.
- E. If the metal detector is activated during the scanning of the student’s effects, the administrator or officer will open the bag, purse, etc., and look for weapons. If the metal detector is activated during the scanning of the student’s person, the student will be given the opportunity to remove any metal-containing object from his person. If the metal detector is again activated, a same-sex administrator or officer will conduct a pat-down search of the student’s outer clothing in the area where the metal detector was activated.

The pat-down search will be done in the presence of an adult witness, when feasible. If the administrator or officer feels an object on the student's person, the student will be given an opportunity to remove the object. If he or she refuses, the administrator or officer will escort the student into a private room and remove the object from the student in the presence of an adult witness of the same sex.

Metal Detector Checks of Individual Students

Before conducting a metal detector check of an individual student, the administrator or officer must have individualized suspicion that the student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon. The provisions of Board Policy JFG regarding personal searches shall be followed under these circumstances.

If a properly conducted search yields a weapon or any other illegal material, it may be turned over to the proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

A student found to have a weapon or dangerous object will be subject to school discipline as prescribed in Policy JFCD.

Adopted: September 17, 1998

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