



# Turtle River School Division Policy Statement Safe Schools Charter

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Section Instructional

On June 10, 2004, the Province of Manitoba legislated "The Safe Schools Charter". Turtle River School Division has adopted the code of conduct. In addition to the Safe Schools Charter code of conduct, individual schools within Turtle River School Division are encouraged to continue the development of school based codes of conduct. School based codes of conduct must support the principles of the Safe Schools Charter.

## **Safe Schools Charter Code of Conduct**

- Pupils and staff must behave in a respectful manner and comply with the code of conduct.
- Bullying, or abusing physically, sexually or psychologically – orally, in writing or otherwise - any person is unacceptable.
- Discriminating unreasonably on the basis of any characteristic set out in subsection 9(2) of The Human Rights Code is unacceptable.
- Using, possessing or being under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs at school and school related functions is unacceptable.
- Gang involvement will not be tolerated on school sites.
- Possessing a weapon, as "weapon" is defined in section 2 of the Criminal Code (Canada), will not be tolerated on school sites and property.
- Pupils and staff must adhere to school policies respecting appropriate use of electronic mail and the Internet, including the prohibition of accessing, uploading, downloading, or distributing material that the school has determined to be objectionable.

## **Consequences for violation of the code.**

For some infractions of the code, particularly around the possession, use and distribution of illicit substances, consequences have been established by the Division. Where consequences have not been determined by Divisional policy, schools shall use their discretion in determining the consequences for violation of the code. Consequences may range from verbal warnings to expulsion, depending on the nature and severity of the offence.

## **Process for Appealing Disciplinary Decisions**

Parents/Guardians have a right to appeal any disciplinary action taken by individual schools or the Division. The following appeal procedure will be followed:

- If a parent/guardian is not satisfied with a school decision, they need to speak to the Principal.
- If a parent/guardian continues to be dissatisfied with the principal's decision, he/she should speak to the superintendent.
- If the Superintendent is unable to resolve the matter, the parent/guardian may appeal to the Board of Trustees.
- If the parent/guardian is unhappy with the Board decision, he/she may appeal to the Minister of Education.

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