

District School Board of Pasco County

*CODE  
OF  
STUDENT CONDUCT*

*SECONDARY  
and  
ADULT*

*STUDENTS*

*2006 - 2007*



Heather Fiorentino  
Superintendent

Students concerned about their own substance use and/or that of friends and family should contact their guidance counselors or other staff member for information and referral for help.

### **Dog Searches on School Grounds**

School administrators may use dogs trained to detect contraband to conduct random searches for contraband in classrooms, student lockers, other common areas of school buildings, and vehicles parked on school grounds in middle and high schools. A qualified and authorized trainer and a school administrator shall accompany the dogs. If a dog indicates that contraband is present on school property, school administrators can conduct a further search.

### **Harassment and Bullying**

Sexual harassment or bullying of students or staff is an extremely serious violation of the *Code of Student Conduct*, as well as a violation of criminal law. It will not be tolerated in schools, school buses, or at school-sponsored activities. Any such offenses may result in severe disciplinary action when such behavior disrupts the learning process.

#### **IT IS HARASSMENT WHEN A STUDENT:**

- Displays unwelcome physical behaviors of a sexual or intimidating nature.
- Inappropriate touching, grabbing, or pinching.
- Sexual or obscene gestures.
- Flipping up skirts or "draping".
- "Mooning" or exposing oneself.
- Touching oneself sexually.
- Following, stalking, or cornering a person.
- Physically frightening another person, bullying.
- Makes negative comments based on a person's sex, sexual orientation, ethnic or national origin, race, color, religion, physical attributes, disability, or handicap.
- Derogatory name-calling.
- Obscenities or dirty jokes.
- Whistles, or makes derogatory noises.
- Written comments about a person, e.g., on a bathroom wall, text messaging.
- Teasing a person about his/her physical attributes.
- Suggestive comments about sexual activities.

#### **IT IS BULLYING WHEN:**

A person willfully subjects another person (victim), whoever he or she may be, to an intentional, unwanted and unprovoked hurtful verbal and/or physical action(s) which results in the victim feeling oppressed (stress, injury, discomfort) or threatened at any school site, school bus or school board sponsored activity or event. Bullying is a form of aggression.

Examples or types of bullying may include, but are not limited to:

- **Physical Bullying** - punching, shoving, poking, strangling, hair pulling, beating, biting, excessive tickling, tripping and pinching;
- **Verbal bullying** - such acts as hurtful name calling, racial slurs, threats, taunts, insults, teasing and gossip;
- **Emotional (psychological) Bullying** - rejecting, terrorizing, extorting, defaming, humiliating, blackmailing, rate/ranking of personal characteristics such as race, disability, ethnicity, or perceived sexual orientation, manipulating friendships, isolating, ostracizing and peer pressure;
- **Sexual Bullying** - many of the actions listed above as well as exhibitionism, voyeurism, sexual propositioning, sexual harassment and abuse involving actual physical contact and sexual assault. In many cases, gender and cross gender sexual harassment may also qualify as bullying.
- **Cyber Bullying** – tormenting, threatening, taunting, ranking, degrading a target, harassing, humiliating, or otherwise targeting a student or staff member using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies, or mobile phones or inviting others to join in these acts.

The School Board has no duty to regulate or review off-campus Internet messages, statements, postings, or acts. However, the School Board reserves the right to regulate, review, investigate, and discipline students for cyber bullying, or for other disciplinary violations when such Internet statements, postings, or acts are made while on school campus, or while made off-campus and such statements, postings or acts threaten violence against another student or otherwise disrupt the learning environment or orderly conduct of the school, school business, or school activities. The School Board's reservation of rights does not impose on the School Board a duty to regulate or review off-campus Internet messages, statements, postings, or acts.