

Student

Code

Of

Conduct

Student Code of Conduct

The Waskom ISD Code of Conduct was developed through involvement and commitment of the district's administrators, teachers, parents and students. The Code describes district expectations of student conduct and consequences for violations. The district objective is to provide students with a quality educational program that encourages the acquisition, sharing and application of ideas. This objective can only be attained in a cooperative environment that is free from disruptions of the educational process. The district is committed to honoring student rights recognized and protected by state and federal legislation while students are expected to behave in a manner that is positive and supportive of rights of others and the instructional process. A balance between rights and responsibilities is essential if the district is to provide an education that allows the student to develop to their fullest potential.

Disciplinary consequences for a student shall be appropriate to correct individual misconduct, to promote student respect for the rights of others, and to gain compliance with policies of the district. Disciplinary action shall be predicated upon the seriousness of the offense, the effect of the offense on others, the facts of the offense, and the resolve of the Board of Trustees to provide a safe educational environment conducive to carry out the education mission.

PARENT VERIFICATION

Parents will be provided a copy of the Code of Conduct. Student, teacher, administration and parent responsibilities are outlined. A statement will be provided to be signed by parents and returned to school that verifies parental understanding and consent to respective responsibilities and Code of Conduct provisions. The verification statement will be maintained in the student's campus file.

JURISDICTION

Waskom ISD has jurisdiction over students or any related misconduct when going to and from school, on district transportation, or within 300 feet of school property while attending a school sponsored or school-related activity on or off of school property at any time. (TEC §37.006 (2))

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Each student is expected to respect the rights and privileges of other students, teachers, and district staff. District personnel are expected to respect rights and privileges of students. Student responsibilities for attaining a positive, safe learning environment at school or school related activities include:

- 1 Attendance of all classes daily and punctually
- 2 Preparation for class with appropriate materials and assignments
- 3 Compliance with WISD dress code
- 4 Exhibition of respect for others and the rights of others
- 5 Compliance with the Student Code of Conduct, school, and staff rules

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Education succeeds best when there is a strong partnership between home and school, a partnership that thrives on communication. Parents are partners with teachers, administrators, and the Board and are encouraged to:

- Encourage your child to put a high priority on education and commit to making the most of the educational opportunities the school provides.
- Attend Board meetings to learn more about District operations, including the procedure for addressing the Board when appropriate.
- Review the information in the Student Handbook (including the attached Student Code of Conduct) with your child; and sign and return the acknowledgment form(s). Parents with questions are encouraged to contact the campus principal.
- Become familiar with all of your child's school activities and with the academic programs offered in the District. Discuss with the principal any questions, such as concerns about placement, assignment, or early graduation, and the options available to your child. Monitor your child's academic progress and contact teachers as needed. Exercise your right to review teaching materials, textbooks, and other aids, and to examine tests that have been administered to your child.
- Review your child's student records when needed. You may review (1) attendance records, (2) test scores, (3) grades, (4) disciplinary records, (5) psychological records, (6) applications for admission, (7) health and immunization information, (8) teacher and counselor evaluations, (9) reports of behavioral patterns, and (10) state assessment instruments administered to your child.
- Become a school volunteer. For further information, contact the campus principal.
- Participate in campus parent organizations. The activities are varied, ranging from band boosters to the District and campus planning committees formulating District and campus plans to improve educational opportunities for all students. For further information, contact campus principals.

A parent has the responsibility to:

1. provide for the physical needs of the child
2. train child to obey rules and school personnel
3. insure prompt and regular attendance
4. foster attention, responsibility and study habits of child
5. participate in parent-teacher conferences to discuss welfare and progress of child
6. become informed of school policy, programs, and academic requirements
7. insure appropriate dress and conduct
8. contribute any information on learning disability or condition that may affect the child
9. insure that child attends academic or attendance tutorials or makeup
10. submit signature of understanding and consent of student code
11. cooperate with school officials to bring about clear and open communication and education

TEACHER RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers have the responsibility to:

1. devise discipline management techniques and orient students to expectations
2. insure appropriate preparation, direction, assignments and instructional materials
3. comply with WISD policy, rules and directives
4. maintain an orderly and controlled environment conducive to all students
5. learn how to teach to standards of performance and meet the expectations required by WISD

6. establish effective rapport with students, parents, and other staff members
7. teach students self-discipline, personal responsibility, and respect for others
8. encourage and set examples of work habits that lead to attaining personal goals
9. serve as moral and ethical role model examples for students
10. cooperate with parents, administrators, and peers

ADMINISTRATOR RESPONSIBILITIES

Administrators have the responsibility to:

1. investigate and/or respond to disciplinary referrals of teachers and staff
2. promote effective training and discipline to students
3. comply with WISD policy, rules and directives
4. encourage parent/teacher communication and participate in parent/teacher conferences
5. assume responsibility and instructional leadership for discipline and evaluation of the District Code of Conduct
6. serve as appropriate role model for students and teachers
7. cooperate with parents and teachers
8. insure equal educational opportunities are availed to all students regardless of student's race, religion, color, sex, national origin or handicapping condition
9. insure equal access of all students to vocational programs regardless of students race, religion, sex, language, color, national origin or handicapping condition

RIGHT TO PRAY

Public school students have an absolute right to individually, voluntarily, silently pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt instructional or other activities of the school. A person may not require or coerce a student to engage in or refrain from such prayer or meditation during a school activity.

STUDENT RIGHTS

Parents have the right to inspect all instructional materials to be used in connection with a survey, analysis, or evaluation of information in any of the areas listed below. In order to ensure that parent and student rights are protected, the school will ask for written parental consent before allowing a student to participate when an educational program requires any of the following information:

- Political affiliations
- Mental and psychological problems, potentially embarrassing to the student or family
- Sexual behavior and attitudes Illegal, antisocial, self-incriminating, and demeaning behavior
- Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student or the student's family has close family relationship.
- Relationship privileged under law, such as relationships with lawyers, physicians, and ministers Income, except when the information will be used to determine the student's eligibility to participate in a special program or to receive financial assistance under such a program

All students are entitled to enjoy the basic rights of citizenship recognized and protected by law. District schools shall foster a climate of mutual respect for the rights of others in order to attain the educational purpose of WISD.

Students shall exercise their rights responsibly and in compliance with policy established by the Board for the orderly conduct of the district's academic mission. Students who violate the rights of others or who otherwise violate district policy or rules shall be subject to disciplinary measures designed to correct misconduct and promote collective compliance of students with responsibilities as citizens of the school community.

SUSPENSION (TEC§37.005)

The principal or other appropriate administrator may suspend a student who engages in conduct identified in the student code of conduct, as adopted.

Students may be suspended from school to home for a period not to exceed three (3) school days [for each incident]. Students may also be removed or suspended to an on-campus alternative program designated at the Student Assignment Center for up to five (5) days per incident.

A student may be suspended pending investigation, before they are removed and placed into an alternative educational program.

Parents of students who have been suspended to home shall be advised that it is their responsibility to provide adequate supervision for the student during the period of suspension.

Parent Conference:

When an administrator suspends or removes a student to SAC for three (3) or more consecutive days in a semester, parents will be notified and offered an opportunity to attend a conference to discuss the disciplinary action and/or other student's misbehavior.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (TEC§37.008)

Students may be removed and placed into an alternative education setting if the administrator determines either:

- 1 That the student's presence in the regular classroom or home campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others, or
- 2 That the student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior that violates the previously communicated Student Code of Conduct

Before removing a student from class and placing them into an alternative education program, the administration shall consider reasonable alternatives, including appropriate disciplinary management techniques, which may include removal to an alternative education setting. If the administration determines a removal is the most appropriate alternative, no other disciplinary action need precede the placement. Transportation to and from AEP will be the responsibility of the parent. The student may not ride school buses or drive automobile to AEP. Students will be ineligible to attend any regular school campus extra-curricular activities on any day they have been assigned to the AEP.

Removal to an alternative education setting shall not extend beyond the end of the semester in which the conduct that directly led to the removal occurred and the period will be not less than 5 days, unless determined appropriate, based on circumstances, by an administrator. If the conduct occurred during the last grading period of a semester, the removal may extend to the end of the next semester. The board may permit the student to remain in the alternative

setting for an additional period of time if it is agreed on by the student, the parents, the supervisor of the alternative setting, and the student's principal to best serve the students educational interest.

A student must be placed in a disciplinary AEP if the student commits any of the following offenses on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property (TEC § 37.006). The student may be suspended pending a hearing:

1. Committing an assault.
2. Making a terrorist threat, or false alarm or report.
3. Selling, giving, delivering, possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug if such conduct is not punishable as a felony offense.
4. Selling, giving, or delivering an alcoholic beverage; committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, if such conduct is not punishable as a felony offense.
5. Possessing, using, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, if conduct is not punishable as a felony offense.
6. Behaving in a manner that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusing glue or aerosol paint or relating to volatile chemicals,
7. Behaving in a manner that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness.
8. Behaving in a manner that contains the elements of the offense of indecent exposure.
9. Student is under Court supervision under Chapter 62 of Criminal Code for a sexual offense. (if it occurred after 9/1/07)

A student must be placed in a disciplinary AEP and may be suspended pending a hearing if the student:

1. Engages in conduct punishable as a felony regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.
2. Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of retaliation against any school employee, regardless of where or when the conduct occurs.

In an emergency, the principal or the principal's designee may order the immediate placement of a student who is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that the student's presence seriously interferes with a teacher's ability to communicate effectively with students in a class, with the ability of the student's classmates to learn, or with the operation of school or a school-sponsored activity.

Notice:

Before removing a student from school premises for any of the foregoing reasons, the student shall be informed of the reason for the removal and have an opportunity to state any objections to such action. The district shall take reasonable effort to notify the parent prior to removing a child from school premises. If the parent cannot be notified prior to removal, the parent shall be notified as soon as possible of the reasons for removal.

Board Appeal:

The administration decision to remove a student to an alternative setting may be appealed first to the superintendent and second to the board. The parent shall have an opportunity to participate in the proceeding before the board. The student may be placed in an alternative education setting pending the appeal to the board.

A request to address the board to appeal a decision to remove a student shall be made in writing to the superintendent within two (2) school days after notice of suspension or removal to AEP. The superintendent shall inform the parent that the matter will be placed on the agenda of the next board meeting. The board shall hear both sides of the issue and base its decision on the evidence. The board's decision on a removal shall be final and may not be appealed.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENT CENTER

An On-campus alternative program located on each WISD Campus, designated as the Student Assignment Center (SAC), is designed to allow a student to remain on campus while completing a disciplinary placement. Students will be ineligible to participate in any regular school campus extracurricular activities on any days they have been assigned to SAC.

A student may be placed in the SAC program for a period of up to five (5) days. A student's release from the SAC program is determined by his conduct, cooperation, work and study habits, and conformity with the SAC rules.

During the time in the SAC program, the student receives his regular class assignments and is expected to complete all work. Students may seek permission to attend tutorials and may seek assistance from teachers before and after school.

Students violating school rules and/or failing to obey administrative directives (not adhering to the Student Code of Conduct) will be subject to placement in the center. Only the campus principal and/or the assistant principal have the authority to assign a student to the center. Students may be detained in the student assignment center (SAC) either during or outside school hours for one or more days if a student violates school rules of conduct. Assignment to SAC shall not begin until the student's parents have been notified, except in emergency placement.

Misbehavior in the SAC will result in additional days of assignment or other disciplinary action.

DISCIPLINE

Students who violate the District's Student Code of Conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action. The District's Disciplinary options include, but are not limited to, use of one or more discipline management techniques: student assignment center (SAC), removal to an alternative education program (AEP), corporal punishment, suspension, and expulsion. When students commit drug and alcohol related offenses or fighting, they may be referred to legal authorities for prosecution in addition to school imposed discipline, which may also include completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program or community service. Disciplinary measures are applied depending on the nature of the offense. Consideration will be given for each decision to remove a student by suspension, expulsion, or placement into a disciplinary or juvenile justice alternative education program to factors of self-defense, intent or lack of intent when student engaged in the conduct, student's disciplinary history; or a disability that substantially impairs student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of their conduct. The principal or superintendent can give more information about the district's Code of Conduct.

DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES

The following discipline management techniques may be used alone or in combination for Student Code of Conduct and non-Student Code of Conduct violations:

- 1 Oral correction.
- 2 Cooling-off time or "time-out".
- 3 Seating changes in the classroom.
- 4 Counseling by teachers, counselors or administrative personnel.

- 5 Parent-teacher conferences.
- 6 Temporary confiscation of items that disrupt the educational process.
- 7 Grade penalties for unexcused absences, copying or failing to do assignments.
- 8 Rewards or demerits.
- 9 Behavioral contracts.
- 10 Sending the student to the office or other assigned area.
- 11 Detention outside school hours.
- 12 Assigned school duties other than class tasks.
- 13 Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation in extracurricular activities and honorary positions.
- 14 Withdrawing or restricting bus privileges.
- 15 Probation.
- 16 Corporal punishment.
- 17 Referral to outside agency or authority.
- 18 Removal from classroom.
- 19 Suspension or AEP Placement.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Disciplinary sanctions and changes in transportation for a student with disabilities shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Removal of a student with a disability for emergency reasons shall be used only in emergency situations and shall not exceed five (5) school days. Consecutive five day removals are prohibited. Students with disabilities may not be removed in violation of specific IEP provisions or for more than ten (10) days without ARD committee approval. Removals in accordance with the student's IEP are not subject to these procedures. If student with a disability is removed from school premises for a total of ten (10) school days in a school year, the ARD committee shall review the student's IEP, unless the IEP specifies otherwise.

REMOVAL BY TEACHER

- A. A teacher after employment of effective disciplinary management techniques, may send a student to the principal's office in order to maintain an effective classroom instructional environment. The principal shall respond by employing appropriate discipline management procedures consistent with the student code of conduct (**TEC § 37.002**).
- B. A teacher may remove from class any student:
 1. who has been documented by the teacher to repeatedly interfere with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in the class or with the ability of the student's class peers to learn; or
 2. whose behavior the teacher determines is sufficiently unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously impairs the ability of the teacher to communicate effectively with students in the class or with the ability of the students class peers to learn.
- C. Should a teacher remove a student under Section B, the principal may place the student into another appropriate classroom, Student Assignment Center (SAC), suspend from school, or refer to the Alternative Education Program (AEP). The principal may not return the student to that teacher's class without the consent of the teacher unless a committee established under (**TEC§37.003**) has determined that such placement is the best or only alternative available. Terms of removal may prohibit the student from attending or participating in school-related events.
- D. A teacher shall remove from class and send to the principal for placement in Alternative Education Program or expulsion a student who engages in conduct described

under Section 37.006 or Section 37.007. The student may not be returned to that teacher's class without consent of that teacher unless a committee established under Section 37.003 determines that such placement is the best or only alternative available.

REMOVAL OR EXPULSION

A. **Authority:** The Board delegates the authority to expel students to an Administrative Committee whose members are appointed by the Superintendent. A decision by the committee to expel a student must be unanimous. (TEC § 37.007)

B. **Causes:** At the discretion of the **District, a student may be expelled** for:

- 1 assault of a teacher or individual;
- 2 retaliation against a school employee;
- 3 murder, capital murder or criminal attempt to commit murder;
- 4 indecency with a child;
- 5 kidnapping;
- 6 arson;
- 7 possession of a firearm;
- 8 possession of prohibited weapon;
- 9 possession of prohibited knife;
- 10 possession of a club;
- 11 use, transfer, sale, delivery, possession or being under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, other controlled substances, dangerous drugs, or abusable glue or chemicals;
- 12 engaging in conduct that constitutes criminal mischief,
- 13 vandalism;
- 14 robbery or theft;
- 15 extortion, coercion, or blackmail;
- 16 hazing;
- 17 aggressive, disruptive action or group demonstration that substantially disrupts or interferes with school activities;
- 18 insubordination;
- 19 profanity, vulgar language, or obscene/threatening gestures directed toward teachers or school employees;
- 20 fighting, committing physical abuse, or threatening physical abuse;
- 21 sexual harassment or assault of a student or school employee;
- 22 possession of, or conspiring to possess, any explosive or explosive device;
- 23 falsification of records, passes, or other school-related documents;
- 24 possession or distribution of pornographic materials
- 25 leaving school grounds without permission;
- 26 making threats or assisting in making threats including threats against individuals or bomb threats; and
- 27 refusal to accept discipline management techniques proposed by a teacher or principal

C. **Automatic Expulsion Causes (TEC §37.007):** A student must be expelled for any of following offenses if committed on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

1. a firearm violation, as defined by federal law:
 - a. a firearm under federal law includes:
 - 1) any weapon designed to expel a projectile by explosive action;
 - 2) the frame or receiver of any such weapon;
 - 3) any firearm muffler or firearm weapon;
 - 4) and any destructive device as explosive, incendiaries, gas, bomb, or grenade.
 - b. includes the use, exhibition or possession of the following under Texas Penal Code
 - 1) a firearm;
 - 2) an illegal knife (blade over 5 1/2" long); instrument designed to stab by being thrown; dagger, stiletto, or bowie knife; sword; or spear.
 - 3) a club; and

- 4) a prohibited weapon, as explosive weapon; machine gun; handgun; silencer; switchblade; knuckles, chemical dispensing device; or zip gun
- c. includes behavior containing elements of the following Texas Penal Code:
 - 1) aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault;
 - 2) arson;
 - 3) murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder;
 - 4) indecency with a child;
 - 5) aggravated kidnapping;
 - 6) aggravated robbery
 - 7) Manslaughter
 - 8) Criminall negligent homicide
 - 9) Continuous sexual abuse of young child or children uner Penal Code 21.02
 - 10) behavior related to an alcohol or drug offense punishable as a felony;
 - 11) and retaliation against a school employee combined with one of the above offenses on or off school property or at a school related activity.

2. **Emergency Placement or Expulsion (TEC §37.019):** In an emergency, the principal or the principal's designee may order the immediate removal of a student for the following reasons:

- a. the student's behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with a teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in a class, with the ability of the student's classmates to learn, or with the operation of school or a school-sponsored activity.
- b. when people or property are in imminent harm, ~~or~~

Students with disabilities under Section 504: A student with a disability under Section 504 shall not be expelled unless the District first determines that the misbehavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability. That determination may be made by the same group of people who make decisions. The group must have available to it evaluation data that is recent enough to afford an understanding of the students current behavior. At a minimum, the group shall include persons knowledgeable about the student and the meaning of the evaluation data.

Students with disabilities under "IDEA": A student with a disability may be expelled for engaging in conduct that would warrant such action for a student without a disability only if the Admission, Review and Dismissal (ARD) committee determines the misconduct is not related to the disability or inappropriate placement.

In determining whether a student's disruptive behavior is related to a student's disability, the ARD committee shall base its decision on currently effective evaluation and assessment data and on review of the current IEP documentation rather than on established eligibility or previous committee decisions. The committee shall consider whether the student's behavior indicates the need for new assessment or evaluation data. Unless the parents agree otherwise, the student must be returned to his current placement after ten (10) days while additional assessments are being conducted.

The ARD committee shall determine the instructional and related services to be provided during the time of expulsion. The student's IEP shall include goals and objectives designed to assist in returning the student to school and preventing significant regression. If the ARD committee determines that the student's disruptive behavior is related to the disability or

inappropriate placement, the student shall not be expelled. When the disruptive behavior on the part of the student indicates an inappropriate placement, the ARD committee shall review the placement and recommend alternatives. If the ARD committee determines that the behavior was related to the disability, it shall either rewrite the IEP to address the student's behavioral and emotional needs or, when appropriate, consider the extension of an emergency removal.

Notification of expulsion: Not later than the second business day after the hearing, the Board's designee will mail the parent a copy of the order expelling the student and information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.

Appeals: Request for a Board review of a decision to expel a student shall be made in writing to the Superintendent within three (3) school days after receipt of the written decision. The Superintendent shall provide the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) written notice of the date, time and place of the review within five (5) days of the receipt of the appeal request.

The Board shall review the record of the due process hearing on the expulsion in closed meeting unless the parent(s) or guardians requests in writing that the matter be heard in open meeting. The Board may also hear a statement from the student or parent(s) or guardian(s) and from the administrative committee.

The Board shall base its decision on evidence reflected in the record and any statements made by the parties at the review. The Board shall make and communicate its decision orally at the conclusion of the presentation. If the decision is for expulsion, the Board shall direct the Superintendent to issue the expulsion order within three (3) days.

Notice of expulsion order: The Board or its designee shall deliver a copy of the order expelling the student to the student and the student's parent(s) or guardian(s). The order shall advise parent(s) or guardian(s) that it is the parents' or guardians' responsibility to provide adequate supervision for the student during the period of expulsion. The Board or its designee shall also deliver a copy of the order to the authorized office of the juvenile court of the county in which the student resides. If the student enrolls in another school district before the expiration of the period of expulsion, the Board or its designee shall provide a copy of the order to that district at the same time other student records are provided. Education Code §21.3011 (g)(m), §21.301 (n).

VIOLATIONS OF STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Violations of the following offenses are considered serious and will be referred to the campus principal for investigation:

- 1 Cheating or copying work of another student's with an intent to cheat.
- 2 Throwing objects that can cause a disturbance, bodily injury or property damage.
- 3 Leaving school grounds or events without permission.
- 4 Directing profanity, vulgar language or obscene/threatening gestures toward others.
- 5 Fighting.
- 6 Insubordination, including failure to comply with lawful directives from school personnel or school policies, rules and regulations.

- 7 Stealing from students, staff or the school.
- 8 Damaging or vandalizing property owned by others.
- 9 Hazing.
- 10 Disobeying school rules about conduct on school buses.
- 11 Committing extortion, coercion or blackmail, or forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force.
- 12 Name-calling, ethnic or racial slurs or derogatory statements that school officials have reason to believe will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence.
- 13 Engaging in any conduct that disrupts the school environment or educational process.
- 14 Engaging in inappropriate sexual physical contact including excessive display of affection in any form.
- 15 Engaging in conduct that constitutes sexual harassment or sexual abuse whether the conduct is by word, gesture, or any other sexual conduct, including, requests for sexual favors.
- 16 Forging signatures for any reason.
- 17 Possessing, smoking or using tobacco products.
- 18 Possessing a paging device or cellular telephone. (see FNCE (Local))
- 19 Violating safety rules.
- 20 Violating dress and grooming standards.
- 21 Repeatedly violating other communicated campus or classroom standards of behavior.

Minor Offenses:

Most violations of the Code of Conduct that are not listed above as a serious offense are considered a minor offense but not without consequences.

Persistent Offenses:

The district defines persistent to be two or more violations of the code in general or repeated occurrences of the same violation.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE (TEC §25.093)

Any parent of a child required to attend school who fails to require such shall be warned in writing that attendance is immediately required. If after warning, the parent, with criminal negligence, commits an offense, who fails to require the child to attend school and the child has unexcused absences as specified under section 5103(b)(2) of the family code. The attendance officer shall file a complaint against the parent in the county court of the parent's residence. If a complaint is not made the attendance officer may refer the child to county juvenile probation department for engaging in conduct indicating a need for supervision (TEC 4.25). An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by fine and/or community service.

BOOT CAMP

Harrison County Juvenile Services has established and is presently operating a Star Boot Camp for young people, ages 10-18, who require additional motivation to assist their compliance with state school attendance laws and conduct code. Waskom ISD is a partner in the Star Boot Camp Program and students from Waskom ISD are eligible to participate in the program. Students who demonstrate a need for the motivational strategies employed by the Star Boot Camp Program will be recommended for participation, through Judge Jim Ammerman, County Court at Law.

DELINQUENT CONDUCT/CONDUCT INDICATING A NEED FOR SUPERVISION

Education Code 4.25/Family Code 51.03

a) Conduct indicating a need for supervision is:

the unexcused voluntary absence of a child on 10 or more days or parts of days within a six-month period without the consent of his/her parents.

b) For the purpose of Subsection (b) (2) of this section an absence is excused when the absence results from:

- illness of the child
- illness or death in the family of the child
- quarantine of the child and family
- weather or road conditions making travel dangerous
- an absence approved by a teacher, principal, or superintendent of the school in which the child is enrolled
- circumstances found reasonable and proper

c) For the purposes of Subdivisions (2) and (3) of Subsection (b) of this section, "child" does not include a person who is married, divorced, or widowed.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal punishment is limited to spanking or paddling the student, and is governed by the following guidelines:

1. The student is told the reason for the corporal punishment.
2. Corporal punishment may be given by the principal, or a teacher.
3. The instrument to be used shall be approved by the principal.
4. Corporal punishment shall be administered in the presence of one other district professional employee and out of view of other students.

A record shall be maintained of each instance of corporal punishment.

ASSEMBLIES

Students are required to conduct themselves in assemblies as they do in class. Students who do not abide by District rules of conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Plagiarism is the use of another person's original ideas or writing as one's own without giving credit to the true author. Plagiarism will be considered cheating and the student will be subject to academic disciplinary action that may include loss of credit for the work in question. Teachers who have reason to believe a student has engaged in cheating or other academic dishonesty will determine the academic penalty to be assessed. The use of academic penalties is not governed by the policies pertaining to student discipline, but students and parents may appeal the teacher's decision, using the student complaint policy.

DISRUPTIONS

The district may pursue criminal charges against and/or discipline any person inciting, promoting, or participating in a protest demonstration, disruption, riot, sit-in, walkout, blocking of entrances, etc. Written materials, handbills, photographs, pictures, petitions, films, tapes, or other visual or auditory materials may not be sold, circulated, or distributed on any school campus without the approval of the principal. Violators shall be subject to disciplinary action.

DRESS AND GROOMING

The district dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, instill discipline, prevent disruption, avoid safety hazards, and teach respect for authority. Students shall be dressed and groomed in a manner that is clean and neat and that will not be a health or safety hazard to themselves or others. The district prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the principal's judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school

operations.

The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings on clothing that:

- 1 Are lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene
- 2 Advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance prohibited under WISD policy FNCF (L).
- 3 Advertise or depict themes considered to be culturally or racially sensitive.

Specific dress and grooming guidelines are as follows:

1 . Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed with the following restrictions on length:

Male Students:

- A. The back of the hair shall not be below the bottom of a regular collar.
- B. The hair on the sides shall not be below the bottom of the ear.
- C. A neatly trimmed mustache, not to extend below the corner of the mouth, shall be allowed; other facial hair shall not be allowed. The length of sideburns shall not exceed the bottom of the ear.
- D. The front of the hair shall not be below the eyebrows.
- E. Student hair color should be a natural color, i.e., black, blonde, brown, red, etc. Unnatural colors such as green, purple, blue, etc. are unacceptable.

2 Hair styles, trademarks, clothing, or symbols that identify a student with a particular gang, clan, or movement shall not be permitted. No bandanas will be permitted. Styles such as forms of mohawks, knobs, designs on the head (words or pictures) or any style that is in defiance of authority shall not be permitted. These are examples that, in the principals judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operation.

3 Students must wear full-fitting clothing, appropriate in length as determined by the campus principal. All clothing shall be hemmed.

4 Pants shall fit at the waist. Undergarments may not be visible at any time. No pajama style pants shall be worn.

5 Males may not wear earrings at school during the normal school day. (7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

6 Students may have no visible body piercing including tongue.

7 Students may not wear wallet chains or heavy chain necklaces.

8 Students shall not wear tank tops or tops resembling tank tops, bare midriff tops, low neckline or low backline tops. No mesh shirts shall be worn without a full under shirt. All students shall wear appropriate underclothing.

9 Clothing with slits, or tears shall not be worn. (Except clothing with fringes)

10 Students shall not wear cutoff, biker, slider, short-shorts, running, or plastic shorts of all types.

11 Transparent items of clothing may not be worn.

12 Neither caps, hats, nor sunglasses shall be worn at school during the normal school day. (7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

13 Skirts, shorts, dresses, and similar attire must be of a length necessary to avoid comment. The length of such garments should be no shorter than approximately three inches above the knee. Appropriateness of attire determined at principals discretion.

14 Lined-rounded tail shirts worn as jackets may be worn outside the pants. All shirts and blouses with rounded tails should be worn inside the pants or skirts at all times.

15 All tattoos must be covered at school and school related events.

16 Swim shoes and house shoes may not be worn during the normal school day. (7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.) The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the general guidelines set out above in the student discipline management plan.

If the principal determines that a student's grooming and/or dress violates the dress code, the

student shall be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. If not corrected, the student shall be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day or until the problem is corrected. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action. Appropriate discipline procedures shall be followed in all cases. (See FO, FOA, FOD)

The principal, in cooperation with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity. Students who violate these standards may be removed or excluded from the activity for a period determined by the principal or sponsor and may be subject to other disciplinary action. (See FO, FOA, FOD.)

PAGING DEVICES, DIGITAL/CELLULAR TELEPHONES & AUDIO EQUIPMENT PROHIBITED

Possession of the paging devices/cellular phones are considered a serious offense. All paging devices/cellular phones brought on school property during the instructional day of 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. will be confiscated. For the first offense, paging devices/cellular phones will be held in the principal's office until the parent/guardian secures the paging device/cell phone. No administrative fees for the first offense. For the second offense, paging devices/cellular phones will be held in the principal's office for 30 days. Parents may obtain the release of the paging devices/cellular phones for an administrative fee of \$15.00 following the 30 day confiscation period. SIM Cards will only be released after the \$15.00 administrative fee has been paid. FNCE (LOCAL)

Radios, tape players, cellular/digital telephones, headphones, compact disc players, or any other audio equipment are not to be brought to school or any school activity without the permission of the campus principal. Audio equipment brought to school in violation of this regulation will be confiscated.

SCHOOL BUSES

Any student who fails to comply with that code or established rules of conduct while on school transportation may be denied transportation services and shall be subject to disciplinary action. The following rules shall apply to student conduct on school transportation:

- 1 Passengers shall follow the driver's directions at all times.
- 2 Passengers shall board and leave the bus in an orderly manner at the designated bus stop nearest their home.
- 3 Passengers shall not stand if there is a seat available. If a passenger must ride standing, the passenger shall face the front and hold on to the seat rails.
- 4 Passengers shall keep books, band instrument cases, feet, and other objects out of the aisle of the bus.
- 5 Passengers shall not deface the bus and/or its equipment.
- 6 Passengers shall not extend head, hands, arms, or legs out of the window nor hold any object out of the window nor throw objects within or out of the bus.
- 7 Passengers shall not smoke, or use any form of tobacco.
- 8 Usual classroom conduct shall be observed. Unruly conduct, including the use of obscene language, will subject the passenger to disciplinary action.
- 9 Upon leaving the bus, the passenger will wait for the driver's signal before crossing in front of the bus.
- 10 Drivers may assign seats to passengers.
- 11 Students may not exit the bus at any place other than their regular stop without a written permission slip from a parent/guardian.

The following procedures shall be followed when a discipline concern arises on a bus serving a regular route or an extracurricular activity:

1. A conference involving the appropriate administrator, the student passenger, the

driver, and parent(s) may be required.

2. The appropriate administrator may suspend the student's bus-riding privileges. If such a suspension occurs, the parents will be notified prior to the time the suspension takes effect.

3. In the case of serious misconduct that endangers the safety of other passengers or the driver, the driver shall have the authority to put the student off the bus or to call law enforcement assistance; the principal and parents shall be notified of the situation as soon as possible. The student shall not be provided bus service again until a conference involving all persons listed above has been held.

4. Because the driver's primary responsibility is for safe driving, it is recognized that direct visual supervision cannot and should not be constant. Thus, the burden of proof of student misconduct for the drivers to assign students to specified seats is not required.

Disciplinary sanctions and changes in transportation for a student with a disability shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP) for students considered disabled under IDEA or the individually designed program for students considered disabled under Section 504. Video cameras may be used in district vehicles to promote compliance with rules of conduct.

SMOKING AND TOBACCO

Senate Bill I made the use of all tobacco products illegal on or off school property where there are school sanctioned activities. Any student in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Additionally, the Texas Legislature, changed the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 161 (Public Health Provisions) Subchapter N (Tobacco use by Minors), section 161.252, effective January 1, 1998; made possession, purchase, consumption, or receipt of cigarettes or tobacco products by minors a crime, punishable through the court system.

Tobacco Use/Tobacco Possession

1st Offense	10 days AEP	Notify Police Department
2nd Offense	6 weeks AEP	Notify Police Department
3rd Offense	Expulsion	Notify Police Department

ZERO TOLERANCE

Waskom Secondary Schools (grades 5-12) have adopted a program of "Zero Tolerance" toward drugs, weapons and violence. It is important that all students and their parents understand that should they choose to become involved in any of these activities on school property or school activities they will face serious consequences.

During the school year, if students choose to fight on school property including school buses, the student, involved will be arrested by the Waskom Police Department, be assigned to a minimum of 10 days to Alternative school and charges of disorderly conduct will be filed by a campus principal. This charge carries a maximum penalty of a \$500.00 fine and 80 hours of community service work, for the first offense.