

The Code of Conduct

The code of conduct is a long-standing set of expectations for behavior on **school property and at all school functions**. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty and integrity.

Student Responsibilities

- Contribute to an environment that is conducive to learning and show respect to others and property.
- Be familiar with and abide by school and district policies pertaining to student conduct.
- Attend school everyday, on time, and prepared to learn unless legally excused.
- Work to the best ability possible in all academic and extracurricular pursuits.
- Ask questions and seek help when assistance is necessary.
- Accept responsibility for one's actions.

Bullying and Harassment

Harassment is the creation of a hostile environment by conduct, verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for their physical safety. This may or may not be based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.

Bullying is repetitive negative actions over time with the intent to do harm. It usually involves an imbalance of power (not friends).

Bullying is typically a relational issue whereas harassment is a human rights issue linked to antidiscrimination laws.

Student Expectations

- Follow directions of all school staff
- Keep hands, feet and objects to themselves
- Use appropriate language with others
- Speak in appropriate tone of voice and use acceptable language
- Be respectful of topics that may make others feel uncomfortable
- Be an upstander
- Dress in a clean, neat and safe manner
- Respect school property
- Awareness and respect of other people's personal space and their belongings
- Follow District *Internet Acceptable Use Policy* at all times

Incidents of bullying (including cyberbullying), harassment, or discrimination are inappropriate and will not be tolerated. The consequences that are listed below depend on the seriousness and frequency of the violation of the code of conduct.

Student consequences for not following the rules:

- Verbal warning
- Written warning
- Detention
- Parent notification
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension

Report Incidents

Students are encouraged to tell their teacher, guidance counselor or any other staff member about a suspected incident of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or discrimination.

What happens after an incident is reported?

Once a school staff member receives a report of bullying and/or harassment, they will notify the DASA Coordinator. The DASA Coordinators are people who are trained to deal with situations of bullying and are available to help. They will then investigate the report. An investigation may include interviews with students, teachers and other possible witnesses to the incident. Consequences will be determined based on the results of the investigation.

Be an Upstander

- Report incidents of bullying or harassment to an adult you can trust, like your guidance counselor, teacher, coach or any school staff member.
- Set a good example. Do not bully or harass.
- If you feel it is safe to do so, tell the bully that their actions or words are inappropriate and encourage him/her to stop doing it.
- Tell the victim of bullying that you do not like the bullying and ask if you can do anything to help.

Cyberbullying

Acts of bullying, harassment, or discrimination through electronic communication is also unacceptable and students are protected under DASA as well. These forms of communication include, but are not limited to, text or picture messages, social networking (facebook, twitter, etc.) or any other online activity.

The Dignity for All Students Coordinators are the school's designated contact for handling bullying. They are trained to recognize and respond effectively to harassment, bullying, and discrimination and implement strategies to prevent it.



Garden City Public Schools
 Inspiring Minds
 Empowering Achievement
 Building Community



Dignity for All Students Coordinators
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The Garden City's entire Code of Conduct is available on the district website:
www.gardencity.k12.ny.us/information/forms_policies

For more information pertaining to
The Dignity for All Students Act visit:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact/>

Dig-ni-ty n

1. a proper sense of pride and self-respect
2. seriousness, respectfulness, or formality in a person's behavior and bearing.
3. the condition of being worthy of respect, esteem, or honor.