

A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT Policy G.1.A

The primary goal of Frontier School Division is to provide the highest quality education possible for its students. The Division maintains that a safe and inclusive school environment protects the dignity and well-being of all students.

The Division is committed to providing an environment for students that fosters and maintains respectful and responsible behaviours and a safe and caring school environment where individuals are respected, cared for and valued. The Division has established policies where regulations, noted below, to ensure this commitment is carried out.

As is required by the Manitoba Safe Schools Charter, Section 47, and by the Division's commitment to providing a safe learning environment, each school shall have both a written Code of Conduct on student discipline and an Emergency Response Plan approved by the local school committee and by the Chief Superintendent.

Information:

Policy C.2.I, Threat Assessment Policy G.1.B, Student Suspension Policy G.1.C, Student Expulsion The Safe Schools Charter, Section 47

Adopted September 1, 2009 Revised October 6-7, 2014	A	Adopted September 1, 2009	Revised October 6-7, 2014	
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A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT Regulation G.1.A-R

1. General Guidelines

All students have the right to learn in environments free of negative conduct or actions. The Division expects staff and students to support safe and inclusive learning environments by respecting human diversity and refraining from expressing negative conduct or actions based on gender bias, sexual stereotyping, sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Students wishing to establish activities and/or organizations that promote gender equity, antiracism, inclusion for all students will be supported.

The Division will:

- promote respect for all persons,
- promote respect for human sexual diversity,
- promote learning environments that are free of negative conduct or actions including but not limited to gender bias, sexual stereotyping, sexual orientation and/or gender identity,
- provide resources and professional learning that support all staff, students and families, including responding to any individuals who need information about gender identity or sexual orientation.

2. **Bullying**

Bullying is behaviour that:

- a. is intended to cause, or should be known to cause fear, intimidation, humiliation, distress or other forms of harm to another person's body, feelings, self-esteem, reputation or property, or
- b. is intended to create, or should be known to create, a negative school environment for another person.

Characteristics and Forms – Bullying:

- a. characteristically takes place in a context of real or perceived power imbalance between the people involved and is typically, but need not be, repeated behaviour,
- b. may be direct or indirect, and
- c. may take place
 - i. by any form of expression including written, verbal or physical, or
 - ii. by means of any form of electronic communication (cyberbullying) including social media, text messaging, instant messaging, websites or email.

A person may also participate in bullying through their presence as a bystander.



A SAFE AND INCLUSIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT Regulation G.1.A-R

3. **Reporting**

Any employee who is aware that a pupil of a school may have engaged in unacceptable conduct (i.e. abusing another pupil physically, sexually or psychologically, verbally, in writing or otherwise; bullying another pupil, and cyberbullying) while at school, at a prescribed school-approved activity, or in other prescribed circumstances, report the matter to the Principal of the school as soon as reasonably possible.

4. Duty to Notify Parents or Guardians

If the Principal believes that a pupil of the school has been harmed as a result of the unacceptable conduct, the Principal must, as soon as reasonably possible, notify the pupil's parent or guardian including the following information:

- a. the nature of the unacceptable conduct that resulted in harm to the pupil,
- b. the nature of the harm to the pupil,
- c. the steps taken to protect the pupil's safety, including the nature of any disciplinary measures taken in response to the unacceptable conduct.

5. Interventions and Disciplinary Consequences

Interventions and disciplinary consequences must emphasize positive and proactive strategies that foster student learning and are appropriate given the frequency and severity of the conduct, and take into account the student's state of development. Consequences may range from informal discussions through to suspensions and/or expulsion.

6. **Policy References**

Policies and protocols that Principals reference to guide and respond to behaviours that contravene safe and inclusive learning environments include but are not limited to:

- C.2.I Threat Assessment,
- G.1.B Student Suspension,
- G.1.C Student Expulsion,
- G.1.E Investigation by Police in Schools,
- G.1.G Search of Students and Search and Seizure of Student Property,
- F.1.L Use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Students.

Information: <u>Safe and Caring Schools – Provincial Code of Conduct, Appropriate Interventions and Disciplinary</u> <u>Consequences (January 2014) (Revised September 2017)</u>

Adopted October 6-7, 2014 Revised March 15-16, 2022	
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CODE OF CONDUCT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN CHECKLIST FOR PRINCIPALS

Exhibit G.1.A-EX1

School		

Code of Conduct and Emergency Plan Established _____(date)

Safe School Advisory Committee Established _____(date)

The School's Code of Conduct and Emergency Response Plan are to be completed by October 31 in each year and approved by the local School Committee and the Chief Superintendent.

The CODE OF CONDUCT must meet requirements of The Education Administration Act including:

Statement that pupils and staff must behave in a respectful manner and comply with the code of conduct,

Statement that the following are unacceptable:

- O Abusing physically, sexually, or psychologically orally, in writing or otherwise any person,
- o Bullying,
- Discriminating unreasonably on the basis of any characteristic set out in subsection 9(2) of *The Human Rights Code*,
- 0 Using, possessing or being under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, a controlled drug or illicit substance at school.

Statement that the following will not be tolerated on school sites:

- o Gang involvement,
- O Possessing a weapon, as "weapon" is defined in Section 2 of the Criminal Code (Canada),
- Statement that pupils and staff must adhere to school board policies and the provisions of the code of conduct respecting the appropriate use of
 - o the Internet, including social media, text messaging, instant messaging, websites, and e-mail, and
 - digital cameras, cell phones and other electronic or personal communication devices identified in the code of conduct of the policies of the school board; and
- The disciplinary consequences, in as much detail as possible, of violating the code of conduct, and the process for appealing disciplinary decisions.

The **EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN** must meet requirements of *The Education Administration Act* including:

The role of the Principal, staff, and counselling and crisis intervention personnel in the event of an emergency, and

Procedures for:

- O Controlling visitor access to the school site,
- o Communicating inside and outside the school building in an emergency,
- Contacting pupils' parents or guardians in an emergency,
- O Responding to the threat posed by a person having a weapon on the school site,
- 0 Dealing with bomb threats, fires, chemical spills, and weather-related emergencies, and
- Evacuating school buildings, and carrying out practice drills.

Information:

<u>The Public Schools Act, Section 47.1(1) – 47.1.2 (2)</u> <u>The Education Administration Act</u> (Regulations <u>92/2013</u>, <u>77/2005</u>, <u>37/2012</u>) <u>The Human Rights Code</u>, Section <u>9(2)</u> <u>Bill 5 The Liquor Gaming and Cannabis Control Amendment Act</u>

	Adopted October 6-7, 2014	Revised June 15-16, 2023	
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