

IMPORTANT: PARENTS AND STUDENTS SHOULD READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY AND PROVIDE THE REQUIRED SIGNATURES ON PAGE 23. PLEASE READ OUT PAGE 23 AND RETURN IT TO THE SCHOOL. ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE FACT THAT CERTAIN VIOLATIONS SUCH AS WITNESSING, HARASSMENT, BULLYING, SEXUAL HARASSMENT, DISRUPTIONS, AND SEXUAL MISCONDUCT MAY RESULT IN EXCLUSION, OR EVEN PERMANENT EXCLUSION FROM SCHOOL FOR THE FIRST OFFENSE.

2013 – 2014

THE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AIKEN COUNTY
CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT FOR GRADES PRE-K TO 12

The policies and procedures contained herein were adopted by the Aiken County Board of Education and apply to all students of The Consolidated School District of Aiken County. (Elementary Principals have broad discretion in the application of this Code due to the developmental nature of their students.) This Code applies to summer school students, students in the adult education program, and students who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan.

INTRODUCTORY MATTERS

I. **Philosophy:** The Aiken County Board of Education believes that citizens desire the best possible education for their children... A positive learning environment is safe, quiet, free, and without disruption. Good student conduct is an essential accomplishment of the school's goals and objectives. The Code of Student Conduct establishes guidelines for students, parents, teachers, and administrators to maintain an appropriate school environment.

Disciplinary action is not to be taken against any student in a fair, reasonable manner. However, serious violations of the Code must be handled quickly and decisively by the Administration. The objective of disciplinary action is to encourage good choices and acceptable behavior by the students with every reasonable effort being made to help students within the school's influence and to offer alternatives for behavior improvements to insure the welfare of the greatest number of students. The dismissal of any student who fails to observe the required standards of the Code of Student Conduct requires an initial recommendation for expulsion from the Board of Education. VI (A-G), the Hearing Tribunal, as well as the Board, reserves jurisdiction to consider the merits of each case presented—in particular with regard to mitigating, aggravating, or aggravating circumstances. Whenever alternatives to expulsion are under consideration, such matters including (but not limited to) prior conduct, disciplinary record, academic achievement, citizenship, and contributions to the regular and extra-curricular school programs by the student may be considered. Deferential treatment for the purpose of maintaining athletic or extra-curricular eligibility is not allowed.

II. **Legal Authority for Discipline in South Carolina:** The regulation of student conduct and discipline in South Carolina schools is derived from the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as amended, from Regulations of the South Carolina State Department of Education, and from local ordinances. (These are included for reference to local authority see Appendix (A).)