

**MASCENIC REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY/CIVILITY CODE POLICY**

The Mascenic School District is committed to providing an orderly, respectful and civil environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of an environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For the purposes of this section of the code, "public" shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers, and other district personnel.

The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain a civil atmosphere conducive to learning and to prevent abuse of the rights of others. All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. Good sportsmanship and civility are expected of all persons participating in, coaching or attending sports events, or attending public assemblies and programs. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose for which they are on school property.

This provision is supplemental to other policies of the school board relative to the use of school district property by members of the community, and is directed specifically to assuring to the fullest possible extent that all users of school district property, including visitors, comport themselves in a civil, peaceful and lawful manner.

**A. Prohibited Conduct**

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

1. Use obscene and abusive language.
2. Intentionally injure any person, bully, threaten, or attempt to do so.
3. Intentionally damage or destroy, or attempt to damage or destroy district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
4. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs, sporting events, assemblies, theatrical or musical presentations or other school activities.
5. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal action, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
6. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
7. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
8. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
9. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations or other restrictions on vehicles.
10. Possess, consume, sell, distribute or exchange alcoholic beverages or controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.

11. Possess or use weapons in or on school property or at school function, except in the case of law enforcement officers, or except as specifically authorized by the school district.
13. Gamble on school property or at school functions.
14. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
16. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or school board policy while on school property or while at a school function.
17. No visitor or person using school district property shall comport themselves in a manner that violates district rules, particularly with regard to the limited public forum made available by the board; or which violates the terms of any use permit.

**B. Penalties**

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties provided, however, that except as required by law, no provision of this code shall be construed to amend in any way, alter, enlarge, reduce, supplement or supersede any provision of any district's collective bargaining agreements:

1. Visitors -Their authorization, if any, to remain on school grounds or at the school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection. Any use permit(s) issued to the visitor or to school property may be suspended or withdrawn.
2. Students -They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with this code.
3. Teachers and School Administrators -Teachers and school administrators shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with NH RSA 189: 13-a or any other legal rights that they may have, pursuant to collective bargaining agreement or otherwise.
4. Staff members -Shall be subject to immediate ejection and to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant in accordance with NH RSA 189: 13-a or any other legal rights that they may have, pursuant to collective bargaining agreement or otherwise.
5. Staff members or other district personnel, including volunteers, other than those described in subdivisions 3 and 4 -They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with legal rights they may have, pursuant to collective bargaining agreement or otherwise.
12. Loiter on or about school property.
15. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.

### **C. Enforcement**

The principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code.

When the principal or his/her designee sees or is advised by others of an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his or her judgment and discretion does **not** pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop.

If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct, in the judgment and discretion of the principal or designee poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, or to public order, the principal or designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person.

The district may initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating the code.

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