

# **Anderson School District Five**

## **Student Code of Conduct**



**Anderson School District Five**  
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### **Our Mission**

To educate students who are college and career-ready and will positively contribute to an ever-changing world.

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**Note: Policies are available online at [www.anderson5.net](http://www.anderson5.net).**

**Hard copies are available at the schools and district office upon request.**

**Anderson School District Five**  
**STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT (SCC)**

**Section A - Student and Parent Acknowledgement and Pledge**

The Student Code of Conduct (SCC) has been developed to help your child receive quality instruction in an orderly educational environment. The school needs your cooperation in this effort. Therefore, please (1) review and discuss the Student Code of Conduct with your child and (2) sign and return this sheet to your child's school. Should you have any questions when reviewing the Student Code of Conduct, please contact your child's school principal. You may access an electronic copy of the Student Code of Conduct on the Anderson Five website [www.Anderson5.net](http://www.Anderson5.net). You may also access a paper copy at your child's school or at any Anderson Five school library.

**NOTE: FAILURE TO RETURN THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND PLEDGE WILL NOT RELIEVE A STUDENT OR THE PARENT/GUARDIAN FROM BEING RESPONSIBLE FOR KNOWING OR COMPLYING WITH THE RULES CONTAINED WITHIN THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT.**

I have reviewed the Student Code of Conduct, and I understand the rights and responsibilities contained therein.

Parent: \_\_\_\_\_

To help keep my school safe, I pledge to show good character, work to the best of my ability and adhere to the guidelines established within the Student Code of Conduct.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Section B - Character Traits**

Character education is the deliberate effort to help people understand, care about and act upon core ethical values. An intentional and comprehensive character education initiative provides a lens through which every aspect of school becomes an opportunity for character development.

### **Benefits:**

- It promotes character development through the exploration of ethical issues across the curriculum.
- It develops a positive and moral climate by engaging the participation of students, teachers and staff, parents, and communities.
- It teaches students how to solve conflicts fairly, creating safer schools that are freer of intimidation, fear and violence, and are more conducive to learning.

**"Intelligence plus character - that is the goal of education."**

*Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

The following character traits are essential for students to compete locally, nationally and internationally! These traits should be modeled and maintained by adults and students.

### **Trustworthiness\***

*Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat, or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country*

### **Fairness\***

*Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly • Treat all people fairly*

### **Respect\***

*Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule • Be tolerant and accepting of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements*

### **Caring\***

*Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need*

### **Responsibility\***

*Do what you are supposed to do • Plan ahead • Persevere: keep on trying! • Always do your best • Use self-control • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act — consider the consequences • Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes • Set a good example for others*

### **Citizenship\***

*Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed; vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment • Volunteer*

*\*Character Counts Program, taken from South Carolina Character Education Toolkit*

## **Section C – Where and When the Student Code of Conduct Applies**

The SCC applies to students at all times during the school day, while on school property, while traveling to and from school, at any school-related event, on any vehicle funded by Anderson Five (such as a school bus), and while using the Anderson Five computer network.

The SCC also applies to student behavior outside of school if: (1) a student commits a Level III infraction, and (2) the behavior disrupts or may disrupt the educational process at the school. In other words, students may be disciplined at school for seriously inappropriate behavior off school property and during non-school hours if the behavior will interfere with teaching and learning at the school. This includes seriously inappropriate behavior on social networking websites that disrupts or may disrupt the educational process at the school.

## **Section D – Student Rights and Responsibilities**

### *Safe and Orderly Educational Environment*

<b>Student Right</b>	<b>Student Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To attend school in a positive school environment</li><li>• To have school staff that is willing to hear the needs and concerns of students</li><li>• To feel safe from crime, violence, intimidation, bullying, harassment, racism and other discrimination at school</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To only engage in behaviors that support a positive school environment</li><li>• To express needs and concerns appropriately</li><li>• To understand and follow school behavior expectations and to report instances of bullying and dangerous/unsafe situations to school administrators</li></ul>

### *Attendance*

<b>Student Right</b>	<b>Student Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be informed of school board policies and school rules about absences, recovery and tardiness</li><li>• To appeal a decision about recovery</li><li>• To arrange to make up classwork, test, or materials for credit within a reasonable period of time after returning from an absence</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To attend school and class daily and to be on time</li><li>• To provide documentation of the reason for full absence</li><li>• To request make-up work for an absence and arrange to complete it within a reasonable period of time after returning to school</li></ul>

## *School Counseling Services*

<b>Student Right</b>	<b>Student Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To be informed about school guidance services</li> <li>• To have access to school counselors</li> <li>• To request counseling when needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To utilize guidance services for educational improvement</li> <li>• To request counseling or advisement when needed</li> <li>• To work cooperatively with school staff</li> </ul>

## *Free Speech/Expression*

<b>Student Right</b>	<b>Student Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To express views (in written or verbal form) without being obscene, disruptive, discriminatory, or provocative</li> <li>• To choose to participate in patriotic observances such as the Pledge of Allegiance</li> <li>• To have religious beliefs respected</li> <li>• To help develop and distribute publications as part of the educational process</li> <li>• To be protected from bullying, intimidation and threats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To respect the rights of others when they express their views</li> <li>• To behave respectfully during patriotic observances</li> <li>• To respect the religious beliefs of others</li> <li>• To follow the rules of responsible journalism under the guidance of an advisor and administrator, including refraining from publishing material that is inappropriate for the school environment</li> <li>• To refrain from bullying, intimidating, and threatening conduct</li> </ul>

## *Privacy and Property Rights*

<b>Student Right</b>	<b>Student Responsibility</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To have personal possessions remain private unless school staff have reason to believe that a student is in possession of items prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct, other school policy or the law</li> <li>• To have personal property respected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To keep prohibited items away from school and school function</li> <li>• To respect the personal property of others</li> </ul>

## **Section E – Parent/Guardian Rights and Responsibilities**

### **Parent/Guardian Rights**

- To be actively involved in their child’s education
- To be treated respectfully by the school principal, teachers, and other staff
- To access information about the Board’s policies and procedures
- To be notified in a timely manner if their child is disciplined for inappropriate or disruptive behavior and informed of the consequences assigned
- To appeal disciplinary actions taken
- To receive information about their child’s academic and behavioral progress

### **Parent/Guardian Responsibilities**

- To read and become familiar with this policy
- To make sure their child attends school regularly, on time, and to notify the school before the school day begins if their child is absent
- To give the school accurate and current contact information
- To tell school officials about any concerns or complaints respectfully and in a timely manner
- To work with the school principal, teachers, and other staff to address any academic or behavioral concerns regarding their child
- To talk with their child about the behavior expected in school
- To support their child’s learning and school activities at home
- To be respectful and courteous to staff, other parents, guardians, and students
- To respect other students’ privacy rights.

## **Section F – Infractions and Consequences**

On the next several pages, the Student Code of Conduct offers a list of offenses along with recommended or, where appropriate, required administrative disciplinary actions. The Student Code of Conduct divides inappropriate student behavior into the following three categories:

- Level I – Disorderly Conduct
- Level II – Disruptive Conduct
- Level III- Criminal Conduct

The rules and regulations contained in the Student Code of Conduct shall include appropriate due process, hearings and reviews. The Student Code of Conduct was created to protect all members of the educational community in the exercise of their rights and responsibilities.

The removal of a student from the learning environment will occur only for just cause and in accordance with due process of law.

## Infractions and Consequences

### Section G – Level I Infractions

The administration may reclassify disorderly conduct (Level I) as disruptive conduct (Level II) if the student engages in disorderly conduct (Level I) three (3) times.

<b>Level I Infractions - Disorderly Conduct</b>	
	<b>Description</b>
Academic integrity and misrepresentation	A student will be honest and submit his/her own work: <b>A. Altering Report Cards or Notes:</b> Tampering with report cards, official passes, notes or other school documents in any manner, including changing grades or forging names to excuses, is prohibited. <b>B. Cheating:</b> Violating rules of honesty, including but not limited to plagiarism or copying another student's test or assignment, is prohibited. <b>C. False Information:</b> Making false statements, written or oral, to anyone in authority is prohibited.
Attendance	A student must attend every class every day unless there is a lawful reason for the absence. Students who are tardy, cut school or class, are out of area, or have excessive unexcused absences are in violation of this rule. In addition to any administrative response, students with excessive absences may be required to comply with the district's recovery procedures or be referred to Family Court. If a student has accumulated three consecutive unlawful absences or a total of five unlawful absences school personnel will complete a truancy investigation.
Cell phone and electronic devices	Refer to Anderson Five policies IFBGA (Technology Resources), IFBGA-R (Internet Responsible Use and Safety) , and JICC (Student Conduct on School Buses)
Disruptive behavior (Classroom)	A student will maintain appropriate behavior so as to refrain from disrupting class, school, or any school sponsored activity and be prepared for instruction at all times. A student shall not talk out in class or move from his/her assigned seat/area without permission, throw objects (except as directed by staff for an instructional purpose), horseplay, harass, tease or make rude noises.

<p>Dress code and ID badges</p>	<p>A student will maintain personal attire and grooming standards that promote safety, health, and acceptable standards of social conduct, and are not disruptive to the educational environment. This will include student clothing that materially and substantially disrupts classes or other school activities, including but not limited to gang items or articles of clothing. <b>Please refer to Anderson District Five Dress Code in Section W.</b></p> <p>ID badges must be worn by all students at schools where required. ID's should be prominently worn to be easily viewed by staff. Safety lanyards are recommended. Elementary school students are not required to wear ID's. Teachers may exempt students from this rule in certain classes or for safety reasons.</p>
<p>Profanity (overheard or observed)</p>	<p>A student is expected to refrain from all forms of profanity while in school, participating in a school activity or on school property. Profanity is defined as words (or words that sound similar to or can be misconstrued as profane), expressions, gestures (such as flipping the middle finger), or other behaviors that are construed or interpreted as insulting, rude, vulgar, obscene, foul, desecrating, or other offensive forms. This rule applies to any profane behaviors that occur off school grounds (such as those composed on an electronic text and/or social media networking site) that cause conflict with a student/students while in school, participating in a school activity or on school property.</p> <p>*Profanity directed at any school staff or authorized volunteer may be treated as a Level II infraction</p>
<p>Refusal to obey/defiance; Failure to complete school work</p>	<p>A student will obey the lawful direction of any authorized staff member or volunteer while in school, participating in a school activity or on school property. All students are expected to behave in a respectful manner. This includes, but is not limited to, complying with the direction or instruction of a staff member, not walking away from a staff member while being spoken to, speaking to staff in an appropriate manner, and completing all assigned work.</p>

### **Consequences for Level I Infractions**

- Verbal reprimand
- Withdrawal of privileges
- Demerits
- Detention (before school, lunch, after-school, Saturday)
- In-school suspension
- Referral to outside agency, including but not limited to mental health programs and Tobacco Education Program
- Referral to school or district guidance/counseling services as appropriate
- Referral to school peer jury, peer mediation or peer conferencing
- Teacher, Student, and Parent/Guardian Conference
- Teacher, Student, Resource Person, and/or Administrator Conference
- Individual Behavior Contract
- Mentoring program
- Administrative Discipline Contract
- Documented Teacher and Student Conference focused on expectation violated and practicing expected behavior
- Other sanctions approved by administrators

## Infractions and Consequences

### Section H – Level II Infractions

<b>Level II Infractions – Disruptive Conduct</b>	
	<b>Description</b>
Aggressive physical or verbal action	A student shall not exhibit any form of aggressive physical or verbal action against another student, staff member or any other adult at school. A student shall not approach another person in a confrontational, provocative or bullying manner. This will include attempts to intimidate or instigate another person to fight or commit other acts of physical aggression. A student shall not use profanity or any other derogatory language towards students, staff, or any other authorized school personnel while in school or school sponsored activity.
Bullying, harassment, and intimidation	Bullying and/or harassing behavior are strictly prohibited in Anderson Five. It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain learning environments that are free from harassment or bullying. Students are expected to use appropriate language and conduct at school and school functions and possess only appropriate materials. This rule applies to profanity, possessing, sending, or receiving written materials or electronic text and/or images that convey an offensive, racial, derogatory, bullying or obscene message to another person. This includes but is not limited to references to race, color, ancestry, national origin, gender, religion, disability, physical appearance or making offensive statements or gestures.
Disruptive Behavior (School-wide)	A student will maintain appropriate behavior so as to refrain from disrupting class, school, or any school sponsored activity and be prepared for instruction at all times. Behavior resulting in a significant school disturbance such as in hallways, the atrium, gymnasium, etc. will be considered a Level II infraction.
False Alarm	In the absence of an emergency, a student shall not call 911, signal or set off an automatic signal indicating the presence of an emergency.
Fighting	A student shall not exhibit any form of aggressive physical or verbal action against another student, staff member or any other adult at school. Incidents of hitting, biting, spitting, shoving, kicking or throwing objects at a student or adult may be a Level II, or III infraction depending on the severity and specific situation. <b>Fighting:</b> The exchange of mutual aggressive physical contact between students, with or without injury, is prohibited. Subsequent violations or those that cause injury or a disruption shall be a Level III infraction. A student who is physically attacked may act in self-defense without consequence. <b>Self-defense</b> is defined as the act by a non-aggressor victim using reasonable force to avoid being hit in order to enable oneself to get free from the attacker and notify school authorities. <b>It is not self-defense to participate in the fight.</b> Administrators will have the discretion to recognize the need for self-defense on an incident-by-incident basis.
Gambling	A student will not play games of skill or chance for money or property. In some instances, violations may be a Level III infraction.
Inappropriate Conduct of a Verbal, Physical or Sexual Nature	A student shall not engage in any sexual behavior on school property or at a school-sponsored activity. A. <b>Public Display of Affection:</b> A student shall not engage in physical demonstration of affection for another person while in the view of others, including but not limited to kissing, hugging, snuggling, and holding hands.

	<p><b>B. Indecent Exposure:</b> A student shall not intentionally expose private body parts, including but not limited to the display of the buttocks (mooning).</p> <p><b>C. Offensive Touching:</b> A student shall not engage in unwanted touching of an offensive or sexual nature.</p> <p><b>D. Sexual Harassment:</b> A student shall not engage in unwanted verbal or physical (e.g. gesturing) conduct of a sexual nature which may reasonably be regarded as intimidating, hostile or offensive. This includes the communication of (by digital or other means) or the intentional display of sexually explicit material.</p>
Insubordination	A student will obey the lawful direction of any authorized staff member while in school, participating in a school activity or on school property. All students are expected to behave in a respectful manner. Insubordination may include, but is not limited to, continual refusal to obey, any action requiring immediate intervention of an administrator, or escalation of the behavior.
Stealing (\$50 and under)	A student will not steal or possess stolen property, or participate with others to do so. Stolen property includes any object that is possessed without the permission of the owner.
Threats against others	A student shall not threaten to strike, attack or harm any person, or cause another person to become fearful by intimidation, through any medium, including threats made in person, through another person at the request of the perpetrator, on the telephone, in writing, through the use of gang paraphernalia, or by any digital communication (cyber-bullying) that pose a disruption to the school environment. The level will be determined by the level of disruption presented by the threat, whether the threat could have reasonably been carried out and whether the threatened person was made fearful.
Tobacco	<p>The district does not allow students to use or to possess tobacco products or tobacco paraphernalia, including electric cigarettes. This restriction applies while students are on school grounds, in the school buildings, on buses or during any other time they are under the direct administrative jurisdiction of the school whether on or off the school grounds.</p> <p>*Refer to Anderson School District Five Policy JICG (Tobacco Use by Students) for offenses and consequences</p>
Trespassing	A student will not enter school property or a school facility without proper authority. This rule includes entering any school during a period of suspension or expulsion.
Toy Weapons (Anderson Five Policy JICDAA)	<p>No student may possess, use, or distribute any object, device, or instrument having the appearance of a gun, including, but not limited to, look-a-like guns, water guns, toy guns, non-functioning replicas of guns, and objects that are a facsimile of a real weapon. In addition, students may not possess, use, or distribute any object, device, or instrument having the appearance of a knife. When determining the appropriate disciplinary action for the possession, use, or transfer of such an item, the following factors will be considered on a case-by-case basis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• age of the student;</li> <li>• ability of the student to comprehend the requirements of the policy;</li> <li>• intent of the student;</li> <li>• effect of the presence of the aforementioned items, i.e., was another person threatened or frightened; and</li> <li>• past disciplinary record, including violent or disruptive offenses.</li> </ul> <p>Although each situation is unique and will require an individualized review of the</p>

	<p>circumstances, the administration will adhere to the following guidelines when determining an appropriate disciplinary consequence for the possession, use, or transfer of the items listed above. The District will discipline students for the possession, use, and transfer of the described items at school, school sponsored event, and on school buses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If a student possesses one of the described items but does not fire or discharge the item, the student may be suspended for at least one school day, and the item will be confiscated.</li> <li>• If a student displays one of the described items in a nonthreatening manner with no intent to harm or inflict damage upon someone, the student may be suspended for a minimum of two days, and the item will be confiscated. Additional days of suspension may be imposed based on the circumstances surrounding the discharge and the other factors listed above.</li> <li>• If a student displays one of the described items in a threatening manner or uses the item as a weapon, <u>i.e.</u>, with the intent to harm or inflict damage upon someone, the student will be disciplined in accordance with the dangerous weapons portion of Policy JICDA.</li> </ul>
<p>Use of intoxicants; Possession of unauthorized substances</p>	<p>No student, regardless of age, will possess, use, sell, purchase, barter, distribute or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or other controlled substances in the following circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on school property (including buildings, grounds, vehicles)</li> <li>• at any school-sponsored activity, function or event whether on or off school grounds (including any place where an interscholastic athletic contest is taking place)</li> <li>• during any field trip</li> <li>• during any trip or activity sponsored by the board or under the supervision of the board or its authorized agents</li> </ul> <p>No student will aid, abet, assist or conceal the possession, consumption, purchase or distribution of any alcoholic beverage by any other student or students in any of the circumstances listed above. No student will market or distribute any substance which is represented to be or is substantially similar in color, shape, size or markings of a controlled substance in any of the circumstances listed above. All principals/directors will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies and will report to them all information that would be considered pertinent or beneficial in their efforts to stop the sale, possession and use of controlled substances. The administration will suspend students who violate this policy and may expel them. The board intends to expel all students who distribute any controlled substance on school grounds.</p> <p>*Also refer to Anderson Five Policy JICH-R (Drug and Alcohol Use by Students)</p>
<p>Vandalism (\$50 and under)</p>	<p>A student will not willfully, with or without malice, participate with others to damage or destroy property of another, including property belonging to the school or district, staff, students or other adults on campus or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property. A student or parent/guardian will be held financially responsible, as allowed by law, for willful or malicious destruction of property.</p>

Vehicle use	<p><b>Reckless Vehicle Use:</b> A student will not operate any motorized or self-propelled vehicle on school grounds in a manner that is a threat to health and/or safety, or a disruption to the educational process. Driving to school is a privilege, which may be limited or revoked at any time by the school principal.</p> <p><b>Vehicle Parking on Campus:</b> A student will not leave an automobile on school premises without appropriate authorization and a visible parking permit. Unauthorized vehicles or inappropriately parked vehicles may be towed.</p> <p>Vehicle infractions may be a Level I, II, or III infraction depending on the severity and specific situation.</p>
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### **Consequences for Level II Infractions**

- Verbal reprimand
- Withdrawal of privileges
- Demerits
- Daily check-in with identified staff member
- Detention (before school, lunch, after-school, Saturday)
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral to outside agency
- Referral to school or district guidance/counseling services as appropriate
- Referral to school peer jury, peer mediation or peer conferencing
- Teacher, Student, and Parent/Guardian Conference
- Teacher, Student, Resource Person, and/or Administrator Conference
- Individual Behavior Contract
- Mentoring program
- Administrative Discipline Contract
- Documented Teacher and Student Conference focused on expectation violated and practicing expected behavior
- Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities
- Alternative education program
- Disciplinary Transfer
- Expulsion
- Other sanctions approved by administrators

## Infractions and Consequences

### Section I – Level III Infractions

<b>Level III Infractions - Criminal Conduct</b>	
	<b>Description</b>
Assault and Battery	<p><b>Assault and Battery</b> occurs if a person unlawfully injures another person, or offers or attempts to injure another person with the present ability to do so and moderate bodily injury to another person results or moderate bodily injury to another person could have resulted.</p> <p><b>Assault and Battery on a Student:</b> A student shall not physically attack another student. See self-defense as defined in Level II Fighting.</p> <p><b>Assault and Battery on a Staff Member:</b> A student shall not physically attack a staff member or adult.</p>
Breaking and Entering	A student will not break into any district property. This will include any unauthorized entry into school property with or without destruction to the property.
Bomb Threat	A student shall not make any report or notification, knowing or having reason to know the report is false (verbal or written), indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
Furnishing, selling, and possession of unauthorized or controlled substances	<p>No student, regardless of age, will possess, use, sell, purchase, barter, distribute or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or other controlled substances in the following circumstances.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• on school property (including buildings, grounds, vehicles)</li> <li>• at any school-sponsored activity, function or event whether on or off school grounds (including any place where an interscholastic athletic contest is taking place)</li> <li>• during any field trip</li> <li>• during any trip or activity sponsored by the board or under the supervision of the board or its authorized agents</li> </ul> <p>No student will aid, abet, assist or conceal the possession, consumption, purchase or distribution of any alcoholic beverage by any other student or students in any of the circumstances listed above. No student will market or distribute any substance which is represented to be or is substantially similar in color, shape, size or markings of a controlled substance in any of the circumstances listed above. All principals/directors will cooperate fully with law enforcement agencies and will report to them all information that would be considered pertinent or beneficial in their efforts to stop the sale, possession and use of controlled substances. The administration will suspend students who violate this policy and may expel them. The board intends to expel all students who distribute any controlled substance on school grounds.</p> <p>*Also refer to Anderson School District Five Policy/Rule JICH-R for consequences for first time and multiple offenses</p>
Possession, Use or Transfer of Dangerous	A student will not possess, handle, transport or use any weapon, object that can be reasonably considered a weapon, dangerous object or substance that could cause harm or irritation to another individual on school property or at any school function. All items will be confiscated

<p>Weapons</p>	<p>and will not be returned except with the mutual agreement of school and law enforcement. No vehicles parked on school property may contain firearms, knives with a blade of 2.5 inches or more, blackjacks or other items which are generally considered to be weapons. This rule does not apply to school supplies (e.g., pencil, scissors, etc.) unless used as a weapon.</p> <p>Prohibited items include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. Air soft gun, BB gun, pellet gun</li> <li>B. Ammunition</li> <li>C. Bomb (includes but not limited to destructive devices such as an explosive, incendiary or poison gas)</li> <li>D. Box cutter/razor blade</li> <li>E. Camouflaged or disguised weapon</li> <li>F. *Firearms (Policy JICI; See below)</li> <li>G. Fireworks</li> <li>H. Knife</li> <li>I. **Mace/Pepper Spray (see below)</li> <li>J. Any object or substance that could cause injury including but not limited to, slingshots, ice picks, metal knuckles, nun chucks, Bowie knives, dirks, daggers, lead canes, switchblade knives, clubs, stun guns, Tasers, starter pistols, BB guns, flare guns, air rifles, air pistols, air soft pellet guns or paint ball guns, mace, fire extinguishers and/or the use of any object or any substance that will potentially cause harm, irritation or bodily injury.</li> </ul> <p>*It is a felony offense, punishable by a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment for five years, or both, to carry a firearm on school property. It is a misdemeanor offense, punishable by a fine of up to \$500 or imprisonment for up to 90 days, to carry a concealed dirk, slingshot, metal knuckles, razor or other deadly weapon.</p> <p><b>Firearms</b> (NOTE: The following is specifically directed by Gun-Free Schools Act 20 U.S.C. 3351)</p> <p>The board will expel any student who brings a firearm to school. The term firearm is defined extensively in the U. S. Code, but generally means a gun or other destructive device (explosive, incendiary). The period of expulsion for firearm offenses generally will be no less than one calendar year. The board directs the superintendent to bring recommendations for expulsion for firearm offenses consistent with this policy except that the superintendent, on a case-by-case basis, may modify this expulsion requirement. The district will refer each expelled student to the local county office of the Department of Juvenile Justice.</p> <p><b>**Mace/Pepper Spray</b></p> <p>The possession and/or use of mace, pepper gas and any other substance which is generally used for personal defense and which may cause skin and/or eye irritation is prohibited. The possession of such a substance will be considered a violation of disruptive conduct (Level II). The use of mace or any other similar substance, as defined above, may be considered as an assault prohibited under criminal conduct (Level III) depending upon the facts of the incident.</p>
<p>Sexual Offenses</p>	<p><b>Consensual Sexual Activity:</b> A student shall not engage in consensual sexual activity. "Consensual" means all parties are willing participants in the activity.</p>

	<b>Sexual Battery:</b> A student shall not attempt to engage in sexual activity against another person by force, threat or fear.
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Stealing (\$50 or more in value)	A student will not steal or possess stolen property, or participate with others to do so. Stolen property includes any object that is possessed without the permission of the owner. Stealing resulting in significant financial loss, repeated offenses, or the sale of stolen property may be considered as acts of major stealing.
Threatening life, person or family of public official or public employee	It is unlawful for a person knowingly and willfully to deliver or convey to a public official or to a teacher or principal of an elementary or secondary school any letter or paper, writing, print, missive, document, or electronic communication or verbal or electronic communication which contains a threat to take the life of or to inflict bodily harm upon the public official, teacher, or principal, or members of his immediate family if the threat is directly related to the public official's, teacher's, or principal's professional responsibilities
Use of Fire	A student will neither set fire nor attempt to set fire to anything on school property or participate with others to damage or destroy school property through the use of fire. This includes striking matches, flicking cigarette lighters or using any instrument capable of producing fire on school property or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity that is on or off school property.
Vandalism – (\$50 or more in value)	A student will not willfully, with or without malice, participate with others to damage or destroy property of another, including property belonging to the school or district, staff, students or other adults on campus or at a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property. A student or parent/guardian will be held financially responsible, as allowed by law, for willful or malicious destruction of property.

### **Consequences for Level III Infractions**

In addition to the consequences stated previously in Level I and II:

- Out-of-school suspension
- Assignment to alternative school/alternative education program
- Expulsion
- Restitution of property and damages, where appropriate, should be sought by local school authorities
- Referral to outside agency
- Referral to local law enforcement

## **Section J – Conduct While on School Property**

Parents are encouraged to be active participants in their child's education. A partnership between parents and the school requires meaningful and appropriate communication. As such, we must be civil in our discourse. This requires that:

1. No one disrupts or attempts to interfere with the operation of a classroom or any other area of a school.
2. School rules for access and visitation are strictly obeyed.
3. Legitimate obligations and time constraints are respected.
4. Information that might help reach our common goal is shared. This includes information about safety issues, academic progress, changes that might impact a student's work or events in the community that might impact the school.

In the event of a violation of the above guidelines, the following steps are available:

1. Students who believe they have been treated in an inappropriate manner should report the behavior to a teacher or school administrator.
2. Parents/guardians or community members who believe they have been treated in an inappropriate manner should report the behavior to the staff member's immediate supervisor.
3. Employees who believe they have been treated in an inappropriate manner shall, if personal harm is threatened, report such to the school administrator.
4. Anyone on school district property may be directed to leave the premises by an administrator or other authorized staff. Anyone who threatens to, attempts to, or actually disrupts school or school district operations may be directed to leave the premises by an administrator or other authorized staff and may have limitations placed on their campus access. Disruptive behavior includes, but is not limited to, the physical harm of someone, the intentional cause of damage, the use of loud or offensive language, the use of tobacco, the appearance of being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances, the use of inappropriate gestures, profanity, and displays of anger.

## **Section K – Basic Enforcement Procedures**

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of Level I Infractions (disorderly conduct):

- a) When the staff member observes (or is notified about and verifies) an offense, the staff member will take immediate action to correct the misconduct. The staff member will use an appropriate sanction and, where necessary, maintain a record of the misconduct and the sanction.
- b) If certain misconduct is not immediately correctable, the staff member should refer the problem to the appropriate administrator for action specified under this policy.

- c) The administrator should meet with the reporting staff member, and, if necessary, the student and the parent/legal guardian, and should assign the appropriate disciplinary action.
- d) Where necessary, the administrator will maintain a complete record of the procedures.

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of Level II Infractions (disruptive conduct):

- a) When the administrator observes (or is notified and verifies) an offense, he/she will investigate the circumstances of the misconduct and confer with staff on the extent of the consequences.
- b) The administrator will notify the parent/legal guardian of the student's misconduct and related proceedings. The administrator will meet with the student and, if necessary, the parent/legal guardian, confers with them about the student's misconduct, and assigns the appropriate disciplinary action.
- c) The administrator will keep a complete record of the procedures.

The staff will follow these basic enforcement procedures in instances of Level III Infractions (criminal conduct):

- a) When an administrator observes (or is notified of and verifies) an offense, he/she will confer with the staff involved, assign the appropriate disciplinary action, and, if appropriate, meet with the student.
- b) If warranted, the administrator should immediately remove the student from the school environment. The administrator will notify a parent/legal guardian as soon as possible.
- c) If appropriate, school officials should contact law enforcement authorities.
- d) Staff will follow established due process procedures when applicable.
- e) The administrator will keep a complete record of the procedures.

## **Section L – In-School Suspension (ISS)**

### **In-school suspension program**

The purposes of in-school suspension are as follows:

- to reduce the amount of school time lost by students
- to provide a means of punishment in lieu of suspension
- to provide a highly structured educational environment for students temporarily not adjusting to regular classroom expectations
- to provide counseling for students who exhibit a negative classroom attitude
- to provide counseling for students who violate school rules and regulations, or who exhibit unacceptable behavior
- to socially isolate students whose behavior and work habits are disruptive in regular classrooms

### *Procedure*

The administration will assign students (20 maximum) to a room separate from other classes. Students will be given a copy of an in-school suspension form to take to their parent/legal guardian. The parent/legal guardian will be notified by phone and/or letter of the student's assignment to the ISS room.

- Students will be expected to complete regular assignments. Students will be responsible for schoolwork and will not be released until all assignments are satisfactorily completed.
- Students will be expected to be willing to correct the behavior which caused them to be suspended. Prior to release from ISS, a meeting or telephone call between the parent/legal guardian, student counselor, teachers and administrators may occur.

Only the principal or assistant principal will assign students to ISS. Failure of a student to perform as requested in ISS may result in additional ISS time and or a suspension from school.

## **Section M - Suspension of Students (Policy JKD-R)**

### **Investigation of misbehavior**

When it appears that a student has engaged in misbehavior warranting suspension, an administrator will investigate the matter and interview everyone who has knowledge about what occurred. The student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) will be advised, verbally or in writing, of the accusations against him/her. The administrator also will advise the student of the evidence against him/her and provide him/her the opportunity to tell his/her side of the story. If the student asks the administrator to talk to other witnesses, the administrator will do so, if possible.

After completing the investigation, and based on the student's prior disciplinary history and the severity of the offense, the administrator will determine if suspension is in order and the number of school days, from one to ten, the suspension should run.

### **Summary suspension**

If the administrator sees or is advised of any student misbehavior and concludes the student should be removed from school immediately in order to restore order or to protect others at the school, for example, if the student threatens to kill a teacher or a student, he/she may summarily suspend the student for up to two school days. In these cases, the administrator does not have to investigate the matter first. By the end of the next school day following the summary suspension, however, the administrator should investigate the matter, as outlined above, and determine what, if any, additional suspension days, not to exceed a total of 10, are appropriate.

If the administrator determines that the student should not have been suspended, arrangements will be made for the student to make up any work he/she missed while on summary suspension. The administrator also will remove any reference to suspension from the student's record.

### **Sending a suspended student home during the school day**

When a student is suspended, the administrator will attempt to contact the parent/legal guardian to request that he/she pick up the student from school. If a parent/legal guardian cannot come for the student, the school may take the student home as long as a parent/legal guardian is at home to take charge of the student. If the administrator cannot reach the parent/adult guardian, the student must stay at school until the end of the school day.

If the student is summarily suspended, he/she may be removed from the school grounds immediately. Depending upon his/her age, however, it may be necessary to keep him/her at school until his/her parent/legal guardian can be reached.

### **Notification to parent/legal guardian**

By the end of the next school day following any suspension, the administrator will notify the parent/legal guardian in writing of the following:

- the act(s) committed by the student
- the rule(s) violated
- the length of the suspension
- the time and place when he/she will be available to meet with the parent/legal guardian for a conference

The conference is to be held not more than three school days after the date of the suspension and, if possible, before the student is to return to school.

### **Suspension appeals**

If, after the conference with the administrator, the parent/legal guardian believes the student's suspension was unjustified, an appeal of the suspension may be taken to the district hearing officer. To request an appeal, the parent/legal guardian must write a letter to the hearing officer, within five days after the conference with the administrator, advising the hearing officer why it is believed the suspension was unfair.

The appeal will be conducted as an informal hearing. The administrator, parent/legal guardian and student may be present. If the hearing officer and the parent/legal guardian agree, the student may be dismissed during portions of the hearing. The parent/legal guardian, student and administrator will be allowed to address the hearing officer.

Within 10 school days of the hearing, the hearing officer will render a decision as to whether the suspension was proper. The hearing officer will report his/her decision in writing to the parent/legal guardian, the superintendent and the school. If the hearing officer decides that the suspension was not proper, all absences resulting from the suspension will be excused and the record cleared. The student will be allowed to make up all missed work.

### **Limits on suspension**

A student may not be suspended for more than a total of 30 school days in one school year. An administrator may not suspend a student from school during the last 10 school days of the school year if the suspension would result in the loss of the course credit unless the school board approves, or if the student is an actual threat to the class or the school, or a hearing is granted by the end of the next school day following the suspension.

### **Trespassing**

Students serving out-of-school suspensions are not allowed to come onto school property, participate in extra-curricular activities, or attend school-sponsored events. A student may be considered trespassing if he or she comes onto school grounds while suspended.

### **Missed school work**

Students who have been suspended will be allowed to make up and receive credit for school work missed. It will be the responsibility of the student to make up the missed work within a reasonable time as specified by the teacher.

## **Section N - Expulsion of Students (Anderson School District Five Policy JKE)**

### **See also Administrative Rule JKE-R**

Expulsion is the removal of a student from a school for the remainder of the school year or until readmitted by the board.

A student may be expelled for any reason listed in the student behavior code JICDA, for the commission of any crime defined by South Carolina Code of Laws, or when the presence of the student is deemed to be detrimental to the best interests of the school. Expulsion means the student cannot attend school or be on the school grounds, cannot attend any school-related events or activities on or off campus and cannot ride a school bus.

### **Procedures for expulsion**

If procedures for expulsion are initiated, the parent/legal guardian of the student will be notified in writing of the time and the place of a hearing before a district hearing officer. The hearing shall take place within fifteen (15) days of the written notification at a time and place designated by the

district hearing officer, and a decision will be rendered within ten (10) days of the hearing. The student may be suspended from school and all activities during the time of the expulsion procedures.

At the hearing, the parent/legal guardian will have the right to legal counsel and to all other regular legal rights, including the right to question all witnesses presented by the administration in a manner determined by the district hearing officer.

Every expelled student will have the right to petition for readmission for the succeeding school year.

## **Section O – Local Law Enforcement/School Resource Officer (SRO) Notification Guidelines**

When a student engages in or is suspected to have engaged in illegal activity or poses a danger to the health or safety of others, it may be necessary for school staff to contact a School Resource Officer (SRO) and/or local law enforcement to seek their assistance. School administrators have the discretion to call 911 in emergency situations if students or staff members are in danger. School officials must assess the situation before determining whether or not to contact the local law enforcement. School officials should consider factors including:

- Whether the student presents a danger to the health, safety, or welfare of others,
- Whether the student intends to cause others physical harm, and
- The student's age.

Once school staff members contact local law enforcement, the responding officers ultimately will determine whether or not to investigate, arrest, and/or take any other steps in response. School principals and staff do not have the authority to decide whether a student will be arrested. Moreover, responding officers do not have the authority to decide whether a student will receive interventions or consequences at school. The school principal will use the SCC to determine the appropriate intervention(s) and/or consequence(s) to address a student's behavior. Parents should be contacted by the SRO (law enforcement) and/or school official if the student is arrested or taken into custody.

## **Section P– Disciplinary Transfers (Anderson School District Five Board Policy JFABC)**

The administration may make disciplinary transfers to another school in lieu of suspension or expulsion but only after a conference or hearing with the parent/legal guardian and consultation with both principals.

Disciplinary transfers of students may be based on any reason listed in the student behavior code JICDA, for the commission of any crime defined by South Carolina Code of Laws, or when the presence of the student is deemed to be detrimental to the best interests of the school.

## **Section Q – Discipline of students with disabilities**

### **Disciplinary process**

A student identified as disabled pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act are not exempt from school disciplinary processes, nor are they entitled to remain in a particular educational program when their conduct substantially impairs the education of other children in the program. However, federal and state laws and regulations require the public schools to meet the individual educational needs of disabled children as adequately as it meets the needs of student without disabilities.

### **Program prescriptions**

A disabled student's Intervention or IEP team may prescribe or prohibit specified disciplinary measures for an individual student by including appropriate provisions in the student's Individual Education Plan (IEP). The IEP team must take into consideration the student's disabling condition when deciding whether or not staff may use a particular form of discipline. Administrative authorities should observe any such provisions contained in a disabled student's individual education plan, except that an IEP team may not prohibit the initiation of proceedings for suspension or expulsion which are conducted in accordance with regulation.

### **Duration of Suspensions**

If a student with a disability violates the district's code of conduct, a school administrator may remove the student from his/her current placement to another setting or suspend the student, for a maximum of 10 consecutive school days for that particular incident. For separate incidents of misconduct, the school administrator may remove the student for no more than 10 consecutive school days each in that same school year, as long as the suspensions do not constitute a "change of placement." A "change of placement" would likely to occur under either of the following circumstances:

- The student's suspension from school is for more than 10 consecutive days
- The student is subjected to a series of suspensions from school that constitute a "pattern" because they total more than 10 school days in a school year because the child's behavior is substantially similar to the behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals, and because of such additional factors as the length of each removal, the total time the child has been removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another.

Removals may be applied only to the extent they are applied to students without disabilities.

### **Services provided during suspensions**

The school is not required to provide services to a student with a disability who has been suspended, so long as the student is suspended for no more than ten (10) cumulative school days during a school year, unless the school provides services to a student without disabilities who is similarly removed.

During any subsequent days of suspension beyond 10 total school days, (so long as the suspension does not constitute a “change of placement” as described above and is for no more than 10 consecutive school days), the school administrative personnel, in consultation with at least one of the student’s teachers, must determine the extent to which services are needed, to enable the student to do the following:

- continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting
- progress toward meeting goals set out in the IEP.

### **Longer-term removals**

Longer-term removals are those that constitute a change of placement as defined above.

If a removal is a change of placement either because it is a removal of more than 10 consecutive days, or because it is a pattern of removals, the child's IEP team must determine appropriate services. These services must allow the student to do the following:

- continue to receive educational services so as to enable the child to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting
- progress towards meeting the goals set out in the IEP and to receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.

The child's IEP team must also follow, as appropriate, the procedures outlined under the “Procedures to follow” section below.

If a disabled student (1) possesses or carries a weapon to/at school, on school premises or to/at school function; (2) knowingly possesses or uses illegal drugs or sells or solicits the sale of a controlled substance while at school, on school premises or at a school function; or (3) has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises or at a school function, the school administrator may remove the student to an “interim alternative educational setting” (as determined by the IEP team) for no more than 45 school days regardless of whether the behavior was determined to be a manifestation of the child’s disability.

- A “dangerous weapon” is defined as a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious

bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2 ½ inches in length.

- "Serious bodily injury" means bodily injury which involves a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of a function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

The "interim alternative educational setting" must be determined by the IEP team. Any interim alternative educational setting:

- must enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting goals set out in the IEP
- receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur.

If the child is removed for up to 45 school days under special circumstances described in this section, the child's IEP team must determine appropriate services. These services must allow the student to do the following:

- continue to receive educational services so as to enable the child to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting
- progress towards meeting the goals set out in the IEP and to receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment, and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur

The child's IEP team must also follow, as appropriate, the procedures outlined below.

### **Procedures to Follow**

#### *Send Notice to Parents*

In addition to appropriate standard notifications sent to parents of non-disabled students regarding disciplinary actions, no later than the date on which the decision is made to impose a removal that would constitute a change of placement because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the District must notify the parents of the decision and provide procedural safeguard notice.

#### *Conduct a Manifestation Determination*

The Relevant members of the IEP team as determined by the parent and the District must also conduct a manifestation determination within ten (10) school days of any decision to "change the placement" of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct. A manifestation determination may be conducted by the team to review a student's misconduct at a point earlier than required, irrespective of whether any disciplinary action taken would constitute a "change of placement." Thus, the mere convening of such a meeting does not constitute an admission on the part of the school personnel that the disciplinary action taken amounts to a "change of placement."

*Finding that conduct was related to a student's disability.*

The team may determine that the behavior of the student was a manifestation of the student's disability if the team reviews all relevant information in the student's file, including the child's IEP, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents, and determines: (i) the conduct in question was caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability; or (ii) the conduct in question was the direct result of the District's failure to implement the IEP.

If the team determines that either of the above apply, then the behavior must be considered a manifestation of the student's disability.

If the conduct is a manifestation of the child's disability, the IEP team must:

- conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan if the District had not already done so before the behavior resulting in the change in placement;
- where a behavioral intervention plan had been developed, review the behavior intervention plan and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior; and
- except in special circumstances including drugs, weapons, or serious bodily injury as discussed above, return the child to the placement from which the child was removed, unless the parent and the District agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan.

*Finding that conduct was not related to a student's disability.*

If the multidisciplinary team determines that an IDEA-disabled student's misconduct was not a manifestation of his/her disability, the student may be disciplined to the same extent that a nondisabled student may be disciplined, subject to procedural safeguards; however, the student must be provided services that enable the student to participate in the general education curriculum and progress toward meeting the goals set out in the student's IEP and a functional behavior assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications, as appropriate, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. The IEP team shall determine the services to be provided.

*Conduct or Review a Functional Behavioral Assessment and Develop or Review a Behavioral Intervention Plan*

Either before or no later than ten (10) school days after suspending a student for more than 10 school days in a school year or commencing a removal that constitutes a "change of placement," the school must either:

- convene an IEP meeting to develop an assessment plan to address the behavior (if the school did not conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for the student before the suspension was imposed); or

- if the student already has a behavioral intervention plan, the IEP team shall review the plan and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior.

If a student is subjected to additional suspension days beyond 10 days in a school year which do not constitute a “change of placement,” the IEP team members shall review the behavioral intervention plan and its implementation, as appropriate, to determine if modifications are necessary, and make any such modifications.

#### Referral to law enforcement

Nothing shall prohibit a school district from reporting a crime committed by a student with a disability to appropriate authorities as provided under Section 59-24-60. In reporting such a crime, the school shall ensure, consistent with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, that copies of the special education and discipline records of the student are made available to the appropriate authorities to whom it reports the crime.

### **Section R – Prohibited Object Disclosure Provision**

A student who inadvertently possesses or finds a prohibited object shall immediately notify school staff and surrender the object. A student may approach a school staff member and voluntarily surrender an object prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct without being subjected to discipline so long as the object is one that the student could lawfully possess off school grounds. This rule does not apply to firearms or destructive devices.

If a student discovers an illegal object (i.e., drugs or weapons) or other contraband on school property or at a school function, the student may approach a school official and report the discovery. A student shall not be in violation of the Student Code of Conduct solely for making such a report. School officials shall make a determination after an investigation of the report.

The Prohibited Object Disclosure Provision may not apply if a search is ongoing in any location at the school, if the object is surrendered during a search, or if the object is not turned in prior to discovery by school staff with respect to objects that have been turned over to school staff, the parent/guardian must make arrangements to pick up the object from the school, unless it is an object that must be turned over to law enforcement.

### **Section S – Extenuating, Mitigating, or Aggravating Circumstances**

The board may give the appropriate administrator the authority to consider extenuating, mitigating or aggravating circumstances which may exist in a particular case of misconduct. The age of the student could be a mitigating factor when dealing with elementary students. The administrator should consider such circumstances in determining the most appropriate sanction.

## **Section T – Search and Seizure**

School administration has the right to conduct a search that is reasonable in scope of a student or his/her possessions if the administration has a reasonable suspicion that the student may be in possession of a weapon, illegal substance or other items prohibited by or used in violation of law or the Student Code of Conduct. In accordance with SC Act 373 of 1994, any person entering the premises of any school shall be deemed to have consented to a reasonable search of his/her person and effects.

- a) **Search of an Individual and/or his/her Possessions:** A student must cooperate with and may not obstruct or interfere with a reasonable and authorized search of the student and/or his/her possessions based on reasonable suspicion that the student may be in possession of a weapon, illegal substance or other items prohibited by or used in violation of law or the Student Code of Conduct.
- b) **Search of Student Lockers and Desks:** Lockers and desks are the property of the school and are assigned to the student with the understanding that he/she is responsible for all property placed in the locker or the desk. Lockers and desks shall be used only for storage of those items that are reasonably necessary for the student's school activities such as books, gym clothes, coats, school assignments, etc. A student must cooperate with and may not obstruct or interfere with an authorized search of his/her locker or desk.
- c) **Search of a Vehicle:** A student must cooperate with and may not obstruct or interfere with reasonable search of the student's vehicle and its contents when it is present on school property or at a school activity. These searches will be based on reasonable suspicion that the student may be in possession of a weapon, illegal substance or other items prohibited by or used in violation of law or the Student Code of Conduct. A violation of this rule may result in the student losing his/her driving privilege, in addition to other applicable discipline.

## **Section U – Gang and Gang-Related Activities**

No student shall commit any act that furthers gangs or gang-related activities. A gang is any ongoing organization, association or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of criminal acts, or the purposeful violation of any district policy, and having a common name or common identifying sign, colors or symbols. Conduct prohibited by this policy includes:

- a) **Clothing:** Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, visible tattoos and body markings, or other items, or being in possession of literature that shows affiliation with a gang, or is evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang or that promotes gang affiliation;

- b) **Communication:** Communicating either verbally or non-verbally (gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.), to convey membership affiliation in any gang or that promotes gang affiliation;
- c) **Vandalism or Destruction of Property:** Tagging, or otherwise defacing school or personal property with gang or gang-related symbols or slogans;
- d) **Intimidation/Threats:** Requiring payment for protection, money or insurance, or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity;
- e) **Coercion:** Inciting other students to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity;
- f) **Solicitation:** Soliciting others for gang membership;
- g) **Conspiracy:** Conspiring to commit any violation of this policy or committing or conspiring to commit any other illegal act or other violation of school district policies that relates to gang activity.

Unless otherwise specified, Gang and Gang-Related Activities are considered Level II and III infractions.

## **Section V – Participation in Extracurricular/Co-curricular Activities**

In order to participate in extracurricular/co-curricular activities or athletic programs, students must adhere to Board of Education policies, school-level criteria, South Carolina High School League rules (where applicable) and law. The district's behavioral expectations extend beyond the classroom and school campus. Therefore, regardless of when and where the charge arises, any student who commits a felony or is charged with or adjudicated/found guilty of a felony may be excluded from participation in extracurricular/co-curricular activities.

## **Section W - Student Dress Code (Anderson School District Five Board Policy JCDB)**

Purpose: To promote generally accepted standards of decency, decorum, health, safety, and cleanliness among the students in the schools of Anderson School District Five.

Anderson School District Five students are expected to observe the basic standards of cleanliness and good grooming and dress in such a way not to distract or cause disruption in the educational program or orderly operation of the school. Personal appearance of students should promote health and safety, contribute to a climate conducive to teaching and learning, and project a positive image of the district to the community.

This code is designed as a guide and is by no means all-inclusive. An item of dress, article of clothing, or accessory should not be deemed “approved” simply because it is not listed herein. The student dress code does not apply to students in kindergarten, first, second, and third grades. In addition, the administration reserves the right to address inappropriate clothing on an individual basis in all grades.

## **Grades four and five**

Items that can be worn:

1. Pants, shorts and skirts that are worn at the waist.
2. Dresses, skirts, shorts or pants that show no visible skin above the knee. Clothing should not touch the floor. Exceptions to length of shorts may be made for Special Olympics, field days, etc.
3. Clothing that fits the wearer appropriately, covers all types of underclothing, and is designed for wear outside the home.
4. Pants that are worn with equal pant lengths.
5. Shirts, tee shirts, blouses, or dresses that have sleeves and do not show cleavage, backs or midriffs during the course of normal movement.
6. Shoes or sandals.
7. Accessories or clothing that does not pose a safety threat to self or others.
8. Clothing that is not see-through.
9. Items that do not advertise alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, profane language, weapons, and/or suggestive slogans pictures, and/or offensive materials.
10. Leggings, jeggings, yoga or exercise pants may be worn with a blouse, sweater or top that comes to mid-thigh.

*\* Clothing that is required to be worn because of religious reasons will be dealt with on an individual basis.*

## **Middle and high school**

Items that can be worn:

1. Pants, shorts, and skirts that are worn at the waist.
2. Dresses, skirts, shorts, or pants that show no visible skin above the knee. Clothing should not touch the floor and should be worn at the proper waist level. Exceptions to length of shorts may be made for physical education, Special Olympics, field days, etc.
3. Clothing that fits the wearer appropriately, covers all types of underclothing, and is designed for wear outside the home.
4. Pants that are worn with equal pant lengths.
5. Shirts, tee shirts, blouses, or dresses that have sleeves and do not show cleavage, backs or midriffs during the course of normal movement.
6. Shoes or sandals.
7. Accessories or clothing that does not pose a safety threat to self or others.
8. Clothing that is not see-through.
9. Items that do not advertise alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, profane language, weapons, and/or suggestive slogans pictures, and/or offensive materials.
10. Leggings, jeggings, yoga or exercise pants may be worn with a blouse, sweater or top that is comes to mid-thigh.

**Prohibited Items:**

1. Hats and/or other head covering including hooded sweatshirts, bandanas, sweatbands, stocking caps, do-rags, etc. worn inside buildings.
2. Items advertising alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics profane language, weapons, and/or suggestive slogans pictures, and/or offensive materials.
3. Sunglasses worn inside buildings.
4. The wearing of any item(s) displaying any gang symbols.
5. Accessories or clothing that could pose a safety threat to self or others. These include chains, fishhooks, multi-finger rings, studded bracelets or collars, nose/lip to ear chains, etc. Also to include oversized clothing of any type or garments that may be determined could conceal dangerous articles or items.
6. Sleeveless tops/shirts.
7. Clothing that is see-through.
8. Provocative and suggestive clothing.

**General Dress Code Statements**

1. Sagging pants will not be tolerated.
2. Pajamas and bedroom shoes may not be worn.
3. The school administration reserves the right to prohibit any item of clothing or symbols that are inappropriate or disruptive to the daily operation of the school.
3. Clothing that is required to be worn because of religious reasons will be dealt with on an individual basis.

Adopted 5/18/04; Revised 6/22/04, 3/15/05; 7/28/06, 8/15/06, 11/19/13, 6/10/14