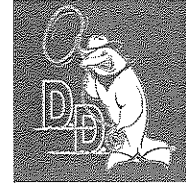


## Devereaux Elementary Code of Conduct 2009-2010



### Statement of Purpose

At Devereaux Elementary School we want all students to learn in a safe, caring and orderly environment. The *BC Human Rights Code* prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's or a group's race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, or sexual orientation. Further, one of its goals is to "Promote a climate of understanding and mutual respect where all are equal in dignity and rights." To that end, the staff at Devereaux Elementary School is dedicated to helping students become responsible and respectful citizens who solve conflicts in appropriate ways. Our goals are:

- ✓ to establish and maintain safe, caring and orderly environments for purposeful learning activity
- ✓ to establish and maintain individual and collective rights, freedoms and responsibilities
- ✓ to clarify and publish expectations for student behaviour while at school, at a school-related activity or in other circumstances
- ✓ to engage in activities that will have a positive impact on the school environment

As we strive to ensure that our school remains a safe and secure place for learning, we recognize that appropriate student behavior is essential to the promotion of student growth, the development of responsible, self-disciplined students, and to the operation of schools. Our expectations are based on the important principles of respect for oneself, respect for the worth and dignity of others, and respect for one's own and others' property.

This policy provides a framework from which staff, students, parents and community members can develop and maintain these expectations, and achieve the highest standards of learning in our schools.

Of further note, in Section II of the School Act it states: "If a decision of an employee of a board significantly affects the education, health or safety of a student, the parent of the student or the student may, within a reasonable time from the date that the parent or student was informed of the decision, appeal that decision of the board."

The Board has developed a by-law to provide for appeals under this section. These appeal procedures may be obtained from the School Board Office.

### **Acceptable Conduct**

What follows are examples of how students can behave in ways that promote a positive learning environment for themselves and others. These are examples only, and not an all-inclusive list:

- ✓ respect yourself, interact with others in positive, supportive ways
- ✓ help to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- ✓ inform an adult in a timely manner (in advance, if possible) of incidents of bullying, harassment, intimidation or other safety concerns
- ✓ engage in learning activities in a purposeful and timely manner, act in a manner that brings credit to yourself and the school

Students will be reminded prior to any field trip or off-site school event that our regular code of conduct applies, and that positive, caring behaviour is expected.

### **Unacceptable Conduct**

The following is a list of examples of unacceptable behaviours; it is not all-inclusive:

- behaviours that interfere with the learning of others, interfere with an orderly environment, create unsafe conditions
- acts of bullying, harassment, intimidation; physical violence; retribution against a person who has intervened to prevent or report an incident or other safety concern
- illegal acts, such as possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances; possession of weapons; theft or damage to property

### **Changing Expectations**

As students mature, expectations for their behaviour will change. There will be:

- ✓ increasing personal responsibility and self-discipline
- ✓ increasing consequences for inappropriate conduct/ unacceptable behaviour

There may be times when special considerations may apply to students with special needs who are unable to comply with expectations due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

### **School Behavioural Expectations**

## **COMMON SENSE RULES**

1. Eating
  - no gum during Physical Education
  - gum chewing in the classroom only with teacher approval
  - no sunflower seeds unless teacher approval
  - no eating in gym, library, computer areas (including computer areas in the classrooms)

2. Restricted Areas
  - storage and equipment rooms
  - loitering in hallways, washrooms, entrance of school
  - teachers' desks
  - teachers' chairs
  - classroom fire exit doors
  - staff room
  
3. Clothing/Dress
  - appropriate for class and weather
  - see dress code
  
4. Climbing/Jumping Restrictions
  - fences, swings, backstops
  - flags/flagpole
  
5. Throwing (restricted)
  - snowballs, elastics, pea shooters, water guns, paper airplanes, water balloons, etc.
  - litter
  
6. Telephone
  - emergency use or written note from parent or teacher approval
  
7. Furniture (restricted)
  - sitting on desks or tables
  - writing/carving on any furniture
  - sitting in teacher's chair unless teacher has given approval
  - sitting on filing cabinets
  - sitting on clothing racks
  - feet on the floor unless other arrangements are made
  
8. Toys/Valuables
  - to be left at home (discmen, gameboys) unless student has teacher permission
  
9. Bus
  - see Bus Manual

-all school rules apply to bus behavior

## **WINTER PLAYGROUND RULES**

### **Sliding on the hill**

Sliders only on the hill. Only one student per slider.

Sitting on sliders only.

Sliding only in free areas (not by playground equipment).

For sliding, students must have mittens, head gear and ski pants or two layers of clothing.

No crashing into each other on the sliders.

Walk back up on each side of the hill (not in the middle).

Only one slider going down the hill (no joining of two or more sliders).

Personal sliders are to be left at home.

### **Snowboards**

Not permitted

### **Snow shoeing**

At recess and lunch time.

### **Skiing**

Only on baseball field or bottom field (not on the sliding hill).

Students can get ready by the back doors before the 12:16 bell rings.

## **Rock Wall**

Students may not hang-out on top of the wall.

No horseplay or body contact is permitted on the wall

The sand and gravel surrounding the wall must not be played with; it must stay within the wooden box that surrounds the wall.

### General Rules

No throwing snowballs or face washing.

No rough housing (pushing each other, etc.)

No tunnels in the snow drifts.

Snow forts only at the discretion of the supervisor.

### **Dress Code**

#### **BRIEF AND REVEALING CLOTHING**

Students must recognize that brief and revealing clothing are not appropriate apparel in school.

The following guidelines on brief clothing are examples and do not cover all situations. Students shall not wear halter tops, garments with spaghetti straps or strapless garments. Garments that are “see through”, cut low or expose one’s midriff are not acceptable. Sleeveless garments must extend to the end of the shoulders and fit closely under the arms. Skirts must not be shorter than three inches above the knee. Undergarments must not be visible.

#### **SAGGING PANTS**

Students shall not wear pants that, when fastened, sag or fit below the waist. All pants must fit around the waist and be properly fastened.

#### **HATS**

Student shall not wear hats in the district buildings except for a medical or religious purpose.

#### **CLOTHING WITH MESSAGES**

Students shall not wear clothing items that contain messages that are vulgar, offensive, obscene or libelous, that denigrate others on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, or disability; that promote alcohol or drug use or violence; or that are otherwise contrary to the school’s educational mission.

## Anti-Bullying Policy

**Everyone at Devereaux Elementary School is committed to making our school a safe and caring place for all students. We will treat each other with respect, and we will refuse to tolerate bullying in any form at our school.**

Our school defines bullying as follows:

*Bullying is unfair and one-sided. It happens when someone continuously or regularly hurts, fights, threatens, or leaves someone out on purpose.*

### **Examples of bullying include:**

- Hurting someone physically by hitting, kicking, tripping, pushing and so on.
- Stealing or damaging another person's things.
- Ganging up on someone
- Teasing someone in a hurtful way
- Using put-downs, such as insulting someone's race or making fun of someone being a boy or a girl.
- Touching or showing private body parts
- Spreading rumors about someone.
- Leaving someone out on purpose or trying to get other kids not to play with someone

### **Staff at our school will do the following things to prevent bullying and help children feel safe at school:**

- Closely supervise students in all areas of the school and playground.
- Watch for signs of bullying and stop it when it happens.
- Teach a bullying program to students in all grades every year.
- Respond quickly and sensitively to bullying reports.
- Take seriously parents' concerns about bullying.
- Look into all reported bullying incidents.
- Assign consequences for bullying based on the school discipline code (see consequences).
- Provide immediate consequences for retaliation against students who report bullying.

### **Students at our school will do the following things to prevent bullying:**

- Treat each other respectfully.
- Refuse to bully others.
- Refuse to let others be bullied.
- Refuse to watch, laugh, or join in when someone is bullied.
- Try to include everyone in play, especially those who are often left out.

- Report bullying to an adult.

## **CONSEQUENCES**

Failure to meet the expectations for behavior and conduct could result in one or more of the following consequences:

## **MINOR OFFENSES**

Possible consequences for a minor offense could be one or combination of the following:

- reminder of behavior
- school job
- writing lines
- detention at recess or lunch
- notify parents
- job fitting the behavior
- write a paragraph of appropriate behavior
- apology (written or oral)
- time out
- loss of a field trip
- restricted privilege for a time in designated area
- behavioral contract with student

## **MAJOR OFFENSES**

Possible consequences for major offense could be one or a combination of a minor and major offense:

- out of school suspension
- in school suspension
- notify parents
- pay for the damage
- student work program
- contact appropriate authorities; i.e., counsellors, police, Ministry of Children & Families
- Individual Behavior Plan

Grounds for disciplinary action that could lead to suspension exist where a student has demonstrated unacceptable behavior such as:

- conduct which threatens the safety of students and/or staff

- possession of a weapon on a student's person, or in a student's desk, or in a back pack, that is dangerous to students and staff: a weapon is anything used, designed to be used, or intended for use in causing death or injury to any person, or for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person ("Toy Guns" or "replicas" are, by their nature, intimidating and will, therefore, be dealt with under Board policy on weapons
- displaying or brandishing a weapon in a threatening or intimidating manner
- assaulting another person
- contravention of district policies and regulations related to student harassment, smoking, drinking alcohol, student rights and responsibilities
- theft
- willful disobedience and/or open opposition to authority
- use or display of improper or profane language
- interfering with the orderly conduct of class(es) or the school
- contravention of the code of conduct as set out in the *School Act*