

GLENROSA MIDDLE SCHOOL
Code of Conduct

Statement of Purpose:

Glenrosa Middle School strives to provide a high quality education program within a safe and caring environment.

This code is based on the principles of respect, rights, and responsibilities and exists to:

- Provide a foundation for the development and maintenance of a safe, caring and orderly environment for school members,
- Strike an appropriate balance among individual and collective rights, freedoms, and responsibilities,
- Outline and clarify expectations for students while at school, going to and from school, and at any school function or activity at any location.

Glenrosa Middle School honours and adheres to the values expressed in the BC Human Rights Code respecting the rights of all individuals in accordance with the law – prohibiting discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or age of that person or class of persons – in its school environment. The school will treat seriously any behavior that contravenes the grounds set out in the BC Human Rights Code.

Conduct Expectations:

All school members will demonstrate acceptable conduct by:

- treating school property and the property of others with a reasonable standard of care
- expressing themselves with socially acceptable language and gestures
- exhibiting behaviour that is free of all forms of intimidation, harassment, racism, and discrimination
- dressing in accordance with the school dress standards
- promoting positive behaviour through the avoidance of all types of violent acts
- informing a school official of any unsafe situation (individual or behaviour)
- making every effort to attend scheduled classes and arrive on time
- respecting the rights of others to learn in an environment free of unnecessary distracters
- refraining from the possession of any form of a weapon while on school property
- refraining from the possession and use of all forms of intoxicants
- assisting in making the school a safe, caring and orderly place
- modeling respectful and responsible behaviour not only at school, but within the community, and whenever acting as a school ambassador.

These expectations apply to behaviour at school, during school-organized or sponsored activities, and behaviour beyond these times (including on-line behaviour) that negatively impacts the safe, caring, or orderly environment of the school, and/or student learning.

Unacceptable conduct includes behaviours that:

- interfere with the rights of others to learn or failure to apply oneself to their academic studies.
- create an unsafe situation for any school member.
- distract others from focusing on instruction or concentrating on prescribed tasks.
- acts of bullying, harassment or intimidation.
- acts of physical violence.
- acts of retaliation or retribution against a person who has reported incidents.
- illegal acts, such as possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances, possession or use of weapons, theft of or damage to property.

(the examples cited are for illustrative purposes only and do not constitute an all-inclusive list)

It is understood that students require assistance in developing and subscribing to these socially responsible values and behaviours. One role of school staff is to educate and guide student social development by increasing expectations and consequences as students mature both physically and socially. As a result, responses to behaviour will vary according to these variables. Generally, as a student matures, expectations will increase and consequences will be adjusted accordingly.

Consequences:

The principal has a right under the School Act to discharge discipline from the time a student leaves home to go to school until such time as the student returns home at the conclusion of the school day. However, the principal's and the district's authority also extend beyond the normal 'home-to-home' rule when the behaviour of a student off school premises or after school hours adversely affects the operation of a school.

In the case of a breach of the school Code of Conduct consequences may be applied and are intended to promote the development of pro-social behaviours. Whenever possible and appropriate, consequences will be restorative in nature rather than punitive. The use of consequences are governed by the following principles:

- Consequences will be appropriate to the student's stage of development,
- Consequences will reflect the intensity, frequency and/or duration of the inappropriate behaviour,
- Consequences will make sense to the student as much as possible, and
- Consequences will be appropriately timed.

In the case of serious violations of the Code of Conduct a suspension may be issued. A suspension is the removal of a student's right to attend regular class instruction sessions. Suspension may be either:

- ***Definite*** – up to ten school days, or
- ***Indefinite*** - in excess of ten school days – indefinite suspensions are referred to the Board's District Suspension Review Committee.

Administrators of the school may suspend a student when it is concluded that:

- A student is willfully disobedient to a teacher or any other employee of the board carrying out responsibilities approved by the board
- The behaviour of the student has a harmful effect on the character or persons of other students or staff members
- A student fails to apply himself in his studies or fails to comply with the rules of the school and does not, after due warning, make a reasonable effort to reform.

Special considerations may apply to students with special needs, if they are unable to comply with this code due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature.

The school will take all reasonable steps to prevent retaliation against a student who has made a complaint regarding a breach of the Code of Conduct.

Notification:

In instances where a student, or group of students, engages in a serious breach of the code of conduct, it may be necessary for school officials to advise other parties. Specifically we will adhere to the following guidelines:

- parents of student offender(s) – in every instance
- parents of student victim(s) – in every instance
- school district officials – as required by school district policy
- police and/or other agencies – as required by law
- all parents – when deemed to be important to reassure members of the school community that school officials are aware of a serious situation or incident and are taking appropriate action to address the matter.

In addition to the above, we have a responsibility to the district and the Ministry of Education to track and generically report data collected on student misbehaviour patterns. This information is used to determine trends, re-tool responses, and determine changes to existing policies and practices.

If you have any questions about this code and related applications, please contact the school administration.