

Fernwaters Public Charter School Conduct Policy

Philosophy: Fernwaters Public Charter School supports students and staff in developing respectful behaviors that enhance the learning experience and lead to healthy choices. Fernwaters values a caring and safe learning environment. To protect that environment for all learners, Fernwaters does not tolerate chronic behaviors that can't be successfully remedied by research-based interventions provided by the school staff and in conjunction with parents.

Attendance: A child who misses school for any reason is considered absent. A phone call, text message, or email from a parent to the teacher or administrator is necessary when a child is absent or late for any reason. Fernwaters has a policy that a students must attend at least 90% of the days in session, which is no more than 7 absences per semester. Illnesses verified by a doctor or other medical provider do not count toward absences. However, family trips do count toward the allowable total. Please plan accordingly. The penalty for excessive absences can range from loss of credit to expulsion from the Fernwaters program.

Dress Code: Students at Fernwaters are expected to come to school clean, neat, and dressed in a manner which is accepted as being in good taste. Clothing which distracts from or disrupts the educational process is not appropriate.

Bullying: Fernwaters is committed to providing a safe learning environment for students. State law and FPCS policy prohibits any form of harassment by any student or staff member which is meant to demean, degrade, embarrass or cause humiliation to any student or staff member. FPCS will maintain an educational environment in which bullying and cyber-bullying in any form are not tolerated.

Bullying occurs when a child is exposed, repeatedly and over time, to negative actions on the part of one or more other children. In bullying incidents, there is an imbalance of real or perceived power, such that the victim has a hard time defending him/herself against the tormentors. Bullying behaviors include, but are not limited to:

Physical: kicking, shoving, hair-pulling, slapping, biting, tripping, stealing, spitting, or damaging possessions.

Verbal: name calling, taunting, put-downs, teasing, threats, rumors, sarcasm, gossiping, ethnic slurs or betraying confidence.

Nonverbal: Eye-rolling, glaring, mouthing words, ignoring.

Emotional: mocking, laughing, imitating, rejecting, humiliating, excluding, social isolation, writing notes, emails, text messages, dirty looks or hand signs.

Fernwaters Public Charter School Conduct Policy

Cyber-bullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening or terrorizing another student or staff member by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images or website postings (including blogs) which has the effect of any of the following:

- Physically, emotionally or mentally harming a student or staff member.
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to or loss of personal property
- Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with a student's educational opportunities.

Anyone who engages in bullying or cyber-bullying shall be subject to appropriate discipline. Students who have been bullied or cyber-bullied shall promptly report such incidents to any staff member. Complaints of bullying or cyber-bullying shall be investigated promptly and corrective action shall be taken when a complaint is verified. Neither reprisals nor retaliation shall occur as a result of the submission of a complaint.

The school shall annually inform students that bullying or cyber-bullying of students will not be tolerated.

The terms "bullying" and "cyber-bullying" shall not be interpreted to infringe upon a student's right to engage in legally protected speech or conduct.

Controlled Substances: The use of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, drug paraphernalia or controlled substances on school premises or at any school activity by employees, students, or visitors is prohibited. Violation of the policy, regardless of voluntary disclosure, will result in discipline, up to and including dismissal or expulsion, or in the case of visitors, the possible prohibition of entering school premises.

Weapons: FPCS has "Zero Tolerance" for students who possess, use, or store weapons, destructive devices, including explosives and incendiary devices, or other objects/substances which may be used as weapons, or are capable of being used as weapons on school grounds, at

Fernwaters Public Charter School
Conduct Policy

school activities, or in any vehicle transporting students to a school activity. Possession of a weapon is grounds for expulsion.

Threats of Violence: Any student or staff who threatens to commit harm to any other student or staff member will be immediately removed from or disallowed from the school premises and reported to law enforcement staff.

Cell Phones: Student's cell phones and personal computing devices must be turned off and stored in backpacks during the school day unless a teacher or administrator has given explicit permission to use the device.

Discipline Procedure: FPCS uses tiered interventions to address behavior issues. Logical and appropriate consequences that exceed classroom management level will be discussed with parents, but will be selected and administered at the sole discretion of the teacher and administrator.

Level 1: School and Classroom Management

Classroom management is the first phase of the behavior management process. Expectations will be in place for appropriate behavior in the classroom, school and at recess. If misbehavior becomes chronic or excessive, the child will move to Level 2.

Level 2: Team Level Management (Parent, Student, Teacher)

Level 2 management involves repeated disruptive behavior and the continued violation of school/classroom rules. Such behavior disrupts the learning process and/or learning environment. Consequences may include counseling referral, informal intervention, daily behavior contract, recess or after school detention, classroom behavior observations, and parent-student-teacher conference. Students who continue to disrupt the learning environment and/or process will be referred to the administrator.

Level 3: Administrative Level Management

Level 3 is considered severe behavior. Severe behavior is any action that threatens the safety or welfare of any person and/or significantly disrupts the learning process or environment. Chronic Level 1 and Level 2 behaviors that have not been remedied through research-based interventions may also be considered Level 3. Referrals for severe behavior will be submitted to the administrator. Students may be suspended for up to 5 days and/or recommended for expulsion. A re-entry conference with the administrator, parent/guardian and student is necessary prior to returning to school.

**Fernwaters Public Charter School
Conduct Policy**

Examples of Levels 1-3 Behaviors and Consequences

<p>Level 1: Minor Inappropriate Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disregard for school rules on school grounds ● Misuse of equipment or property ● Inappropriate language (not to another person) ● Unacceptable language/profanity ● Unacceptable gestures ● A behavior deemed by a supervisor to fit this level 	<p>Step 1: Possible Consequences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Warning ● Re-teach expectations ● Lunch detention ● Redirect students ● Lose play equipment use for rest of recess ● Play in designated area only ● Community service at school ● Other that is appropriate from supervisor
<p>Level 2: Inappropriate behavior directed toward others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disrespect toward another student/adult ● Academic misconduct, cheating ● Intentionally hitting another student/adult ● Inappropriate language directed toward student/adult ● Inappropriate gestures directed toward another student/adult ● Harassment ● Aggressive play ● A behavior deemed by a supervisor to fit this level 	<p>Step 2: Possible Consequences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conference with student ● Loss of privileges ● Student calls parent ● ISS (In-school suspension) ● Referral to counselor
<p>Level 3: SEVERE BEHAVIOR-- Danger to self or others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Physical contact ● Illegal acts ● Inappropriate throwing of objects ● Verbal/Written threats ● Leaving designated area/campus without permission ● Chronic Level 2 behaviors 	<p>Step 3: Possible Consequences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Office referral, with documentation sent home (Office referrals may result in in-school or out-of-school suspension or recommendation to the board for expulsion.) ● Citations to be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to school

Fernwaters Public Charter School
Conduct Policy

If your child misbehaves, you will receive a form like this in the mail.

FRONT



6-8 Refocus



Student's Name: _____

Date of Offense: _____

In one or two sentences, explain what you did or said that caused your teacher to refocus you.

I _____

Which of the Fernwaters core values did you offend? Circle those that apply.

HONESTY RESPECT HARD WORK KINDNESS RESPONSIBILITY

What can you do to correct the problem you caused or how can you behave differently in the future?

Teacher Signature and Comments:

Fernwaters Public Charter School Conduct Policy

BACK

Fernwaters Public Charter School Conduct Policy

Specific Behavior/Consequence/Progression by Incident

<p>Level 1: Minor Inappropriate Behavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disregard for school rules on school grounds ● Misuse of equipment or property ● Inappropriate language (not to another person) ● Unacceptable language/profanity ● Unacceptable gestures ● Other: 	<p>Step 1: Possible Consequences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Warning ● Re-teach expectations ● Lunch detention ● Redirect students ● Lose play equipment use for rest of recess ● Play in designated area only ● Community service at school ● Other: 	<p>Frequency:</p> <p>1st Offense</p> <p>2nd Offense</p> <p>3rd Offense</p> <p><i>After 3 Level One offenses, the student will move to Level 2</i></p>
<p>Level 2: Inappropriate behavior directed toward others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disrespect toward another student/adult ● Academic misconduct, cheating ● Intentionally hitting another student/adult ● Inappropriate language directed toward student/adult ● Inappropriate gestures directed toward another student/adult ● Harassment ● Aggressive play ● Chronic Level 1 behavior ● Other: 	<p>Step 2: Possible Consequences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conference with student and/or parents ● Loss of privileges ● Student calls parent ● ISS (In-school suspension) ● Referral to social worker/counselor ● Placed on behavior intervention plan ● Other: 	<p>Frequency:</p> <p>1st Offense</p> <p>2nd Offense</p> <p>3rd Offense</p> <p><i>After 3 Level Two offenses, the student will move to Level 3</i></p>
<p>Level 3: SEVERE BEHAVIOR--Danger to self or others or Persistent Misbehavior</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aggressive physical contact ● Illegal acts ● Inappropriate throwing of objects ● Verbal/Written threats ● Leaving designated area/campus without permission ● Chronic Level 1 or 2 behaviors ● Other: 	<p>Step 3: Possible Consequences</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In-school or out-of-school suspension ● Recommendation to the board for expulsion.) ● Citations to be signed by a parent or guardian and returned to school ● Other: 	<p>Frequency:</p> <p>1st Offense</p> <p>2nd Offense</p> <p>3rd Offense</p> <p><i>Each Level Three offense will be individually evaluated for suspension or expulsion recommendation.</i></p>

This form will be mailed home to parents, and a copy will be placed in the student's permanent file.

Notes:

**Fernwaters Public Charter School
Conduct Policy**

Please include this signature page with enrollment paperwork.

I, _____, have read and understand the Fernwaters Student
PRINT NAME
**Conduct and Attendance Policies. I have also read and discussed the conduct policy with
my Fernwaters student.**

SIGNATURE

DATE