

Florida Atlantic University Schools

Alexander D. Henderson University School
Florida Atlantic University High School

Code of Student Conduct
2009-2010



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PreK-12 Schools and Educational Programs

Florida Atlantic University Schools (FAUS) including A.D. Henderson University School and Florida Atlantic University High School support the belief that school should be a place where teachers can teach and students can learn. Maintaining an optimum environment for learning is dependent upon all constituents of the school community fulfilling their responsibilities and realizing their rights. The intent of the **Code of Student Conduct** is to provide students with the greatest amount of freedom that is possible within the law and commensurate with an effective teaching-learning process and the school's responsibilities for student health, safety, and welfare. This **Code of Student Conduct** is prescribed in Section 1006.07, Florida Statutes.

Student Responsibilities

- Students must know and obey the **Code of Student Conduct**
- Students must obey state and local laws as well as all adults representing the school
- Students must attend school regularly
- Students must treat themselves and others with respect
- Students must report hazardous or dangerous situations to an adult in authority
- Students must be under the supervision of an adult at all times
- Students must adhere to all school, classroom, or general area rules

Student Rights

- Students have the right to expect clear rules and professional explanation*
- Students have the right to expect fair enforcement of rules without discrimination
- Students have the right to expect a safe and orderly environment
- Students have the right to expect to be treated with dignity and respect

*FAUS will provide annually a student explanation of the Code of Conduct to every student in a class setting, assembly or similar manner

Section 1003.32, Florida Statutes

“Subject to law and to the rules of the district school board, each teacher or other member of the staff of any school shall have such authority for the control and discipline of students as may be assigned to him or her by the principal or the principal’s designated representative and shall keep good order in the classroom and in places in which he or she is assigned to be in charge of students.”

Progressive Discipline

The principal or the principal's designee shall exercise his/her professional judgment in determining what consequence(s) to impose for a violation of the **Code of Student Conduct**. When deciding what disciplinary action should be taken, the principal or designee shall consider the student's age, exceptionality, previous conduct, probability of recurring violation, intent, attitude, and the severity of the offense. Whenever possible, disciplinary action shall be imposed in a progressive manner.

Policy of Zero Tolerance – Section 1006.13, Florida Statutes

Students who are found to have committed offenses that involve bringing a firearm or weapon (as defined in Chapter 790, FS) to school, a school function, or any school sponsored transportation, or possessing a firearm or weapon at school are subject to being expelled with or without continuing services for a period of not less than 1 year. Students making a threat or false report involving school or school personnel's property, school transportation, or a school sponsored activity are also subject to a minimum 1 year withdrawal of invitation to attend FAUS with the possibility of permanent withdrawal or formal expulsion.

Search and Seizure – Section 1006.09(9) Florida Statutes

The school director, principal, and assistant principal reserve the right to search any school property (e.g. lockers, storage areas) for suspected contraband (e.g. drugs, weapons, etc.). Student's clothing, persons, and property may be searched when reasonable suspicion or evidence exists.

Violations of the Law

Students are subject to arrest and prosecution for committing violations of the **Code of Student Conduct**, which are also determined to be violations of civil or criminal law. The School Resource Officer and other law enforcement officers have the power and authority to conduct investigations independent of those conducted by school, including family, staff, administration, and guidance personnel, for the same incident. Furthermore, the sanctions imposed by the school for misconduct are separate and distinct from the consequences that may be imposed following the arrest and prosecution of a student for a violation of the law originating from the same incident.

Physical Acts of Aggression

Incidents of pushing, shoving, tapping, hitting, kicking, punching, fighting, etc., are all categorized as physical acts of aggression. In determining consequences applicable to the situation, all parties are considered to be responsible for their actions.

Consequences/Interventions

All members of the school are responsible for maintaining appropriate student behavior. Rewards and consequences should be handled in the classroom, other teaching areas, and in the cafeteria or other common areas. The **Code of Student Conduct** extends to all school related activities and school sponsored trips. When behavior becomes excessive enough to disrupt learning or the activity of focus, a referral should be initiated. A referral is a written report to the school administration by school faculty or staff documenting student misconduct. Consequences and/or interventions for such behaviors may include but are not limited to:

1. Parent Contact
2. Behavior Contract
3. Referral to Guidance Services
4. After School Detention
5. Saturday Detention
6. In-School Suspension (Responsibility Training Room-RTR)
7. Out-of-School Suspension
8. Intervention by School Resource Officer
9. Disciplinary Committee Review
10. Recommendation for Withdrawal of Invitation or Expulsion

In selecting consequences for unacceptable behavior, it is not necessary to use them in the order listed. More than one action may be taken for unacceptable behavior.

Students who attend RTR receive all assignments for work and are awarded credit for work turned in to the teacher. Students who are suspended from school will receive all assignments for work during their absence. There is no credit for work while a student is under suspension with the exception of mid-term exams, mid-term projects, semester exams and semester projects. The principal or designee may intervene in extenuating circumstances. Any student who is assigned to RTR or Out-of-School Suspension is prohibited from attending any school function during the time they are serving the consequence. Any student not attending school for at least ½ day with an unexcused absence is also prohibited from attending school functions.

The Discipline Committee is composed of the director or designee, principal or designee, assistant principal or designee, school resource officer, one teacher from each grade grouping team, and the school lead counselor or designee. Sub committees of the Discipline Committee may be convened as appropriate.

Offenses and consequences and /or interventions include but are not limited to:

Level I Offenses

Consequence/Intervention Menu

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Unexcused absences | Parent contact |
| 2. Tardiness | Written report |
| 3. Selling items for personal gain | Detention |
| 4. Dress code violations | Behavior contract |
| 5. Unacceptable language | Guidance counseling |
| 6. Failure to follow class/school rules | Saturday detention |
| 7. Failure to follow discipline intervention | In-school suspension |
| 8. Public display of affection | Loss of privileges |
| 9. Disrespect, rudeness or insubordination | Counseling services |
| 10. Possession of inappropriate material | Other action deemed appropriate by the principal/designee |
| 11. Unprepared for class | |
| 12. Damaging/defacing school or personal property | |
| 13. Interfering with the privacy of others | |
| 14. Disruption of a school activity | |
| 15. Creating a safety hazard | |
| • Physical, rough and boisterous play (“horseplay” including pushing, shoving, tapping, hitting, tripping, etc.) | |
| 16. Open display of articles disruptive to school or in operational mode | |

Level II Offenses

Consequence/Intervention Menu

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|--------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Continuation of Level I offense | Level I menu items |
| 2. Cheating, plagiarism, forgery | Loss of grade |
| 3. Defiance | Suspension |
| 4. Leaving the supervised area of an adult | Referral to School Resource Officer |
| 5. Unacceptable language toward an adult | Appropriate police action |
| 6. Physical acts of aggression (punching, kicking, fighting) | |
| 7. Harassment | |
| 8. Bullying *Please see bullying policy | |
| 9. Sexual harassment | |
| 10. Inappropriate sexual behavior | |
| 11. False report against a staff member | |
| 12. Possession/use of tobacco | |
| 13. Possession of fireworks | |
| 14. Truancy | |

Level III Offenses

1. Continuation of Level II offenses
2. Possession, use, sale, influence or distribution of alcoholic substance
3. Possession, use, sale, influence or distribution of drugs
4. Possession, use, sale, distribution of a weapon or weapon-like implement
5. Vandalism
6. Arson
7. Battery
8. Burglary
9. Trespassing
10. Threats and intimidation
11. Committing any criminal act (larceny, theft, false fire alarm, etc...)

Level III Consequence/Interventions Menu

Out-of-school suspension
Law enforcement intervention
Recommendation for withdrawal of invitation or expulsion
Other action deemed appropriate by principal/designee

The **Code of Student Conduct** shall be reviewed annually by school administration, the Discipline Committee and the School Advisory Body to ensure all legislative mandates are updated within the policy as well as other necessary changes to ensure clear communication to students, parents, and staff. Final approval of the **Code of Student Conduct** shall be made annually by the School Advisory Body of Florida Atlantic University Schools.

Approved by the Body in an open and noticed session on July 22, 2009.