

## **M. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT:**

Each year, the Student Advisory Committee will review the Student Code of Conduct and make recommendations to administration regarding policy and student consequences.

### **1. LUNCH HOUR:**

School lunches may be eaten in the cafeteria, hallways, courtyard, or outside. Students should leave all areas clean and tidy by using the appropriate containers. Students are also expected to treat the noon hour supervisors with the same respect as they would any staff member.

### **2. SCHOOL DRESS:**

Students and their parents are asked to exercise good taste in determining what appropriate attire is for students in school, bearing in mind that the student is expected to be fully clothed, including footwear, and in such a fashion that the clothing is not distracting to other members of the class. The focus is on safety and the maintenance of a suitable teaching atmosphere. Students may be asked to change or cover up when wearing clothing which is seen as inappropriate such as underwear showing, low cut shirts, profanity, or written material that may be offensive to others. Cleanliness and good grooming are also expected.

### **3. SCHOOL FUNCTIONS:**

When you attend a school function, even when away from school, you are expected to demonstrate responsible behavior. School functions include dances, athletic events, concerts, trips, and any other activity that is being sponsored by the school. All school regulations apply at these functions. You will be made aware of specific rules and expectations governing these events and it is your responsibility to follow them.

### **4. ASSEMBLIES:**

Assemblies are held monthly throughout the year for special purposes. Attendance at these assemblies is a part of the total school program. Performers and guests must be treated with politeness and respect at all times and appropriate audience behavior is expected or students will be removed and taken to the office. Hats are not to be worn in the auditorium as a respect to the person sitting behind you.

### **5. GYMNASIUM:**

Although primarily a teaching area, the gymnasium is also used before and after school as well as during the lunch hour. Because of its heavy use, students are urged to do their best to keep it clean and in good condition. All students must wear proper gym strip which includes appropriate sneakers when using this facility. The equipment rooms are off limits to all students except when under the direct supervision of a staff member. Students are prohibited to eat in the gymnasium – please use the adjacent multi-purpose room.

### **6. HOMEWORK POLICY:**

Homework is an essential feature of secondary school education. Generally, students could have 20-30 minutes in length for each subject area for homework each night. If specific assignments have not been given, students should use the time to review. Homework should not be given unless students are capable of doing the material on their own. Students can receive up to 10% of their mark for work habits which may include

homework completion. As homework is meant as a way for teachers to determine student understanding rather than using homework assignments as a formal level of evaluation, this component of a grade is minimal.

#### 7. STUDY BLOCKS

Students enrolled in a study block must sign in at the library or the office on a daily basis and use their time for studying or go to the Multi-Purpose Room. When the weather is appropriate, students may work outside on picnic tables as long as they are not creating a distraction for other students in class. Students found in the halls during study block will be assigned to a classroom by the Administration. As well, in order to ensure student safety, students must have verbal and/or written permission from their parent/guardian to leave the building. Written permission should be indicated on Study Block Application forms all students are given at the beginning of the year.

#### 8. CELLULAR PHONES/PAGERS/ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

Students must not use cellular phones in the building during class time. Cell phones and pagers brought to school must be turned off and stored in a locker or bag. Phones that go off during class may be confiscated by the teacher and brought to the office. On the first offense, it will be recorded in BCESIS and available for pickup at the end of the day. After initial warnings, if cell phone use remains a problem, administration may request parents to come and pick up the devices. Cell phones are not to be taken into change rooms due to privacy issues. In some cases, students may be requested to leave their cell phones in the office when they arrive to school to prevent issues arising. Listening devices may be used during class time at the discretion of individual teachers.

#### 9. COMPUTER PRIVILEGES:

Students involved in unauthorized use of the GFSS computer network may have privileges revoked for up to one year and may be suspended for up to five (5) days depending on the infraction. Students should not download materials onto school computers without permission Mr. Lockhart or technology teachers. Game play and chat room use should also be refrained from.

#### 10. HELMETS:

Safety helmets must be used at all times when using rollerblades, bicycles, skateboards, etc., on school property. Use of any of this type of equipment is also prohibited inside the school and must be stored in lockers during instructional time.

#### 11. TRUANCY:

Truancy is when a student skips a class or classes without school or parental permission. As a result, we ask parents to telephone the school when their son/daughter will be absent or late. A 24-hour attendance line (442-0954) is available for your convenience. For students skipping class, time will be made up and tracked by administration.

#### 12. TARDINESS:

Students who are continually late cause another problem. Chronic lates will be treated as truants and students will be required to make up time.

#### 13. BREACHES ON (EXTRA-) CURRICULAR TRIPS:

All school rules apply when students are on field trips or team trips. They will be strictly enforced to ensure the safety of all students participating. Regulations do not permit students to drive other students in their own vehicles on any curricular or extra-curricular trip. In some cases, students may be given permission to drive themselves as long as

parent consent is obtained. Students who break rules on school trips may lose privileges for future trips.

14. DRUGS/ALCOHOL:

Drug or alcohol use is not permitted on any School District property. Students will be dealt with as per the GFSS Drug & Alcohol Policy which applies to all school functions. Students caught under the influence, selling, or with drugs/alcohol on their person will receive an immediate indefinite suspension from school. The RCMP could also become involved.

**GRAND FORKS SECONDARY SCHOOL**  
**DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY**  
**2009-2010**

Any student, under the authority of the school, found to be under the influence of, or in the possession of, drugs or alcohol during the school day or while participating in a curricular or extra-curricular school event:

- will be given an immediate **INDEFINITE SUSPENSION** for a minimum of **FOUR** consecutive days. A package of appropriate school work assigned by their teachers and/or Drug and Alcohol educational assignments must be completed prior to meeting with the Superintendent as part of being reinstated to GFSS or other educational program.
- request and then attend a compulsory student/parent meeting with the Superintendent of Schools to request reinstatement into an educational program.
- may be requested to attend Drug and Alcohol counseling sessions
- may lose the privilege to participate in any extra-curricular events for a period of **ONE calendar year**, from the date of the incident.
- will not be permitted to be on GFSS property at any time until reinstated.
- will meet with a GFSS Administrator at 8:00 am on the day of reinstatement.

Parents of any student who has been suspended indefinitely will be contacted by telephone by an Administrator followed by a letter sent in the mail.

A student will have an opportunity to apply in writing to an **APPEALS COMMITTEE** (comprised of one administrator, one counsellor and one staff member) to have extra-curricular privileges reinstated. This appeal may occur after a time period of no less than **THREE** school months from the date of the incident, but only after any Drug and Alcohol sessions have been completed and there have been no discipline notices from teachers nor any trancies from classes reported during these three months. If the appeal is successful, the student may participate in school-based activities as governed by the GFSS extra-curricular policy.

Any student found to be under the influence of, or in possession of, drugs or alcohol for a **second time** may be **EXPULSED** from GFSS.

15. SMOKING:

GFSS does not allow smoking or chewing tobacco use in or on any school property or at any school functions. This includes any curricular and extra-curricular activities at or outside of the high school.

**16. BOMB THREATS/FALSE FIRE ALARMS:**

Grand Forks Secondary School will not tolerate this kind of disruption. Students involved in this behavior will be indefinitely suspended from school and reported to the RCMP.

**17. OTHER SERIOUS OFFENCES:**

A school must provide a safe and comfortable environment for students to learn effectively. Consequently, certain actions must be dealt with severely by the school, the School Board or the law. These include:

- a. The use of foul or offensive language towards staff or other students in or around the school.
- b. The use of physical violence or verbal threats in or around the school, including harassment and intimidation.
- c. The willful disobedience of teachers, or other adult school personnel (staff, secretaries, noon hour supervisors).
- d. The causing of willful damage to school property or the property of teachers or students. Students causing such damage will be held jointly liable with their parents.

**CONSEQUENCES:**

The purpose of any disciplinary action at Grand Forks Secondary is to create and maintain a safe learning environment for all students and staff. If students choose to disobey school rules thus jeopardizing their personal safety or the safety of others there will be a consequence for poor behavior. Whenever possible, parents will be contacted when students are disciplined due to conduct issues. The following list includes possible consequences that may be used depending on individual circumstances. Where possible, in school suspensions will be used as opposed to out of school consequences.

- a. **WARNING:** Written or verbal conversation with student &/or parent regarding student behavior
- b. **DETENTION:** After school or noon hour loss of privileges
- c. **IN-CLASS SUSPENSION:** Students report to the office before classes, at lunch and after school. They lose all their socializing privileges.
- d. **IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION:** Students spend the entire day – including their lunch hour and breaks - in the office.
- e. **INDEFINITE SUSPENSION:** In some cases, students who commit serious breaches of school or District rules will be indefinitely suspended. This means that a student cannot resume his or her studies and/or extra-curricular activities until he/she and a parent have met with the Superintendent of Schools and have been reinstated to GFSS.
- f. **EXPULSION:** students who re-commit serious breaches of school or District rules will be expelled. This means that a student cannot resume his or her studies for a minimum of 1 year. After that time, in order to be reinstated he/she and a parent must meet with the Superintendent of Schools and the GFSS Administrative team.
- g. Any offences dealing with the law will result in referral to the R.C.M.P where appropriate.