



SCHOOL VISITORS

Anyone at school or attending school events, including visitors, should respect others and follow school rules. Anyone who is on school property when they are not supposed to be will be reported to the school principal and asked to leave.

OTHER IMPORTANT SCHOOL RULES AND LAWS

- Smoking or possession of any tobacco or materials that can be used to smoke tobacco at school, on buses, or at any other school event is not allowed. Parents will be called if students are found in possession of tobacco or smoking materials.
- Drugs, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, or drinking alcohol or taking drugs at school, or any school event, on or off grounds, is not allowed. Students who break this rule can be suspended and may not be allowed to participate in school activities.
- Weapons are not allowed at school. This includes any object that may appear to be a weapon, even a toy. Students who bring a weapon to school can be suspended.
- It is against the law for anyone to make a bomb threat against a school in New York.

Code of Conduct Summary

A Guide for Elementary Students and their Families

For more information about the Code of Conduct:

- » The complete Code of Conduct is posted on the district's website, www.niskayunaschools.org.
- » Copies of the complete Code of Conduct are available in each school's Main Office.
- » Please contact your school's principal if you have additional questions or need more information about the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct was adopted by the Niskayuna Central School District Board of Education on August 13, 2013.

This brochure is being distributed to all students pursuant to New York State Education Law, Section 2801 – Chapter 16, Title II, Article 55, which requires that the district make a summary of the Code of Conduct available to all students at the beginning of the school year.

Niskayuna Central School District

1239 Van Antwerp Road

Niskayuna, NY 12309

(518) 377-4666

Code of Conduct Summary

A Guide for Elementary Students and Their Families in Niskayuna



2013-14 School Year

**A message to students about
the Dignity for All Students Act
You should feel safe at school.**

People should treat other people the way they would like to be treated. You have a right to feel safe at school. You should be able to learn, do your work, and have fun without worrying about the words or actions of others making you feel unsafe or uncomfortable. We are all different, but no one should be treated differently because of things like how they look or what their family does. It is against school rules to make anyone else feel threatened or unsafe.

A new law known as the Dignity for All Students Act focuses on making sure that you and your classmates are safe and feel safe at school. The new law says that it is wrong for students to be teased or treated differently because of their race, color, weight, national origin or ethnic group, religion, religious practices, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex. Every school principal is in charge of working with everyone at school to create a safe and supportive environment.

If anyone is saying or doing things that are making you or others feel unsafe or uncomfortable, you should tell your principal or another adult at school.

**SCHOOL PRINCIPALS
& DIGNITY FOR ALL ACT
COORDINATORS**

Birchwood Elementary School, Debra Berndt, 344-2910

Craig Elementary School, William Anders, 377-0156

Glenciff Elementary School, Dr. Shelley Baldwin-Nye, 399-2323

Hillside Elementary School, Dr. Shireen Fasciglione, 377-1856

Rosendale Elementary School, Lauren Gemmill, 377-3123

CODE OF CONDUCT INTRODUCTION

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, district personnel, parents and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal. The Code of Conduct applies to anyone on school property or attending a school function.

STUDENT RIGHTS

Every student has a right to attend school. Every student has a right to participate in classroom and school activities. All students have equal rights.

**STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES &
EXPECTATIONS**

Every student has the responsibility to attend school, to think of others in their actions and words, and to follow school rules. The school rules are also known as the Code of Conduct.

Every student is expected to :

- Respect themselves and all other students, teachers, school staff members, and school property.
- Arrive at school on time.
- Bring all the school work and materials needed to participate in the classroom.
- Cooperate. Do what school leaders (the principal), teachers, and school staff members ask.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Every student should do his or her own work. It is often important in school work to give credit to other sources of information like the Internet or books. Teachers will talk to students about how to give credit to other information sources.



Both words and physical actions that harm others can result in student discipline. Activity that takes place off of school property can have consequences for students if it causes a disruption at school.

ATTENDANCE

Attending school every day is important for learning. When students miss school, they are expected to provide a reason for their absence. The district's Attendance Policy lists acceptable reasons for being absent from school.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Every student who does not follow school rules may face disciplinary consequences. These are different depending on which rule students break and other factors. The possible disciplinary consequences are listed in the Code of Conduct.

If teachers or school leaders believe that a student has broken a rule, they will talk to that student. Students will be able to tell their side of the story. The school may also talk to parents or legal guardians when a student has broken a rule.

DRESS CODE

The school principal and/or teachers will tell students about the dress code at the beginning of the year. Students who are wearing something that is not allowed will be asked to either remove or cover it. They may also be asked to replace the clothing that does not follow the dress code. Students who do not do this when asked may face disciplinary consequences.