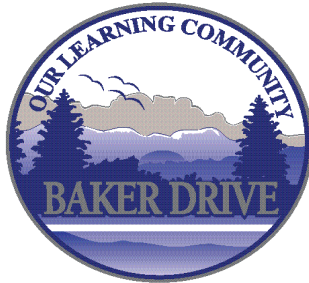


Baker Drive Elementary



School Code Of Conduct

2011- 2012

Baker Drive Elementary **School Code Of Conduct**

A) Introduction

School boards and schools are entrusted through the *School Act* with authority to establish codes of conduct. While recognizing the autonomy of these bodies and acknowledging the efforts they have already undertaken to ensure school climates are as positive as possible, the provincial standards described below are provided to assist them in developing consistent and coherent policies and practices in their communities. Although most schools have codes of conduct in place, it is expected that all British Columbia schools will revisit existing codes and/or develop new codes of conduct reflecting the provincial standards.

(Safe, Caring and Orderly Guide, page 15)

B) Code Of Conduct: Key Elements

1) Process

Baker Drive's Code of Conduct was developed through a collaborative effort involving school staff, students, parents and our community of schools. The process involved school administration from our Community of Schools meeting to discuss a common approach and theme to promote consistency throughout our extended community. A first draft was then formed by our School Planning Council. That draft was reviewed and edited by school staff, the Parent Advisory Council, and students. The revised draft was then compared with those from our Community of Schools and edited to promote consistency in the final draft.

2) Communication

The Code of Conduct is printed in our student agenda and each student and parent is required to sign a form annually demonstrating they have read and agree to it. New students throughout the school year have the same requirement upon registration. Kindergarten parents are introduced to the code at the Kindergarten Parent Orientation. The Code is placed in our staff handbook and reviewed at the beginning of the year or at the beginning of an employment contract for any new staff. For public viewing, a copy of the Code is placed on our website and posted on the parent board in the main hallway.

3) Implementation

In addition to being read and signed by each student at the beginning of the year the expectations and “spirit” of the Code are taught and reinforced throughout the year through our Social Responsibility program. This program includes themes from the social responsibility curriculum taught school wide, weekly recognition of students exhibiting positive behaviour, frequent assemblies to acknowledge our themes and celebrate student progress.

4) Monitoring and Review

Student behaviour and attitude are reviewed on an individual basis as necessary through student service School-based Team meetings. As well, individual student behaviour that is unacceptable is documented through school incident reports that are reviewed regularly to identify trends and concerns. Parents review the Code annually at the School Planning Council meetings and at the PAC AGM. Students also are given opportunities to revisit the Code throughout the year through social responsibility lessons and as needed on an individual basis.

5) Alignment

School codes are shared between our Community of Schools to promote consistency and common themes for students as they transition through their school career. As well, our code is reviewed by district staff to ensure that it aligns with district standards and expectations.

6) Standards

Baker Drive Elementary School promotes 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, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation – in respect of discriminatory publication and discrimination in accommodation, service and facility in the school environment.

a) Statement of Purpose

The purpose of our Code of Conduct is:

- To establish and maintain safe, caring and orderly environments for purposeful learning.
- To establish and maintain appropriate balances amongst individual and collective rights, freedoms and responsibilities.
- To provide a structure through which students can learn the expectations and skills necessary to be responsible community members.

b) Conduct Expectations

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.

1) Acceptable Conduct

As a community we expect all our members including staff, students and parents to behave in a spirit of **RESPECT** toward one another. This requires that everyone:

Respect Themselves by:

- being prepared to learn
- not tolerating disrespectful behaviour toward themselves
- taking pride in their identity
- engaging in purposeful learning activities
- using the Three Steps: Giving Explicit Feedback process to solve problems in peaceful ways and to report ongoing incidents of bullying, harassment or intimidation
- when applicable, request help from a "Peace Squad" member or staff member to help solve a problem in a peaceful way using a restorative action approach

Respect Others by:

- being safe and respectful toward others
- being cooperative and including others
- helping to make the school a safe, caring and orderly place

Respect the Environment by:

- cleaning up after themselves
- recycling and conserving resources
- caring for school resources and property

2) Unacceptable conduct

The school will treat seriously behaviour or communication that discriminates based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex or sexual orientation (prohibited grounds set out in the BC Human Rights code).

Unacceptable conduct is behaviour that:

- Interferes with the learning of others
- Physically or verbally harms or threatens people
- Creates unsafe conditions
- Includes theft or damage to property
- Bullying (physical, verbal, relational), including cyber bullying
- Illegal acts, such as:
 - Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances
 - Possession or use of weapons
 - Theft or damage to property **(Dist. Pol. 17)**

The above list depicts examples and is not inclusive of all unacceptable behaviours.

3) Rising expectations

As students mature, it is expected they:

- Take increasing responsibility for their own actions
- Exhibit more socially responsible behaviours
- Understand that consequences for irresponsible or unsafe behaviour also escalate accordingly.

c) Consequences

Consequences for Inappropriate Behaviour:

When a student does not act in a respectful or responsible manner, it is necessary for the school to have consequences that will help that student re-establish positive behaviour.

- Consequences for students should be appropriate to the age of the student, as well as to the nature and frequency of the misbehaviour.
- Consequences should be meaningful and match the problem behaviour. For example, a student who disregards safety during a P.E. lesson might be asked to sit out the activities for a few moments. A student who calls names or makes hurtful comments to another child might be asked to write a letter of apology.
- If a problem behaviour is on-going and more serious, the School-Based Team (including the parents) may be consulted to create a behaviour plan that gives the child strategies to better monitor his or her own behaviour.
- Reasonable steps are taken to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has notified the school of a breach of conduct
- Consequences for students will be restorative in nature, rather than punitive, whenever possible and appropriate

- Special consideration for students with special needs due to a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional or behavioural nature that may prevent them from being able to follow the Code of Conduct may take place in certain circumstances.

d) Notification

Depending on the seriousness and frequency of student conduct, there is an escalation of intervention and notification.

- **Classroom based intervention.** Parents will be notified of serious or repeat concerns.
- **School based intervention.** If behaviour continues to be a concern then parents, principal, teacher and relevant others are to be involved in problem solving and appropriate consequences.
- **District based intervention.** If behaviour continues, or in the event of wilful destructive, dangerous or defiant behaviour, the principal, parents, relevant school and district staff are to be involved in problem solving and appropriate consequences. This may involve suspension.
 - ***Note: The goal of any intervention is to have a student re-establish positive behaviour, and to engage in purposeful learning.***

Where appropriate, the victim, as well as his or her parents are notified, and involved in the resolution process.

In extreme circumstances, police and other agencies will be contacted as required by law.

There may be times when the entire school community is informed of an incident and/or the outcome of an incident. (Safe, Caring and Orderly Schools Guide)

If concerns are unresolved, School District personnel are notified as required by District Policy I-D-12.