

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY

Beautiful Plains School Division accepts its responsibility to foster a respectful, supportive and safe environment where students and staff can work and learn together. Effective behavior management hinges on a co-operative approach between school personnel, students, and parents. Values such as positive self-esteem, individual and social responsibility, respect for property, and the rights of others shall form the foundation for appropriate behavior. An important function of our schools is to educate students for citizenship in a democratic society. Therefore, students are expected to practice appropriate behavior at all times, and school personnel are expected to deal with students in a reasonable manner, which reflects fairness, honesty and respect. Beautiful Plains School Division expects all personnel to be concerned with students' behavior, and when and where unacceptable behavior occurs, to aid and assist students through positive and supportive actions.

Discipline, especially self-discipline, is regarded as an integral part of every student's education. Discipline should teach students to understand the commonly accepted values essential to the well being of both the individual and society, and to accept responsibility for the consequences of their actions. Students need to learn that they are responsible for their behavior, their choices, and the impact they have on others. Opportunities must be provided for students to become responsible and caring members of the school community.

Although students have the right to a public education, they have a responsibility to comply with the behavior codes and behavior management policies of the school and school division while at school, while on the way to and from school, and at school sponsored events. Students are expected to take direction from teachers and other Division personnel, and at all times to treat school property and the property of others, employed at or attending the school, with respect.

Some students will choose to act in an inappropriate manner. Inappropriate actions and behaviors will be treated seriously and have consequences which may be reported to parents or guardians. The consequences of inappropriate behavior will depend on the severity of the misbehavior and on the number of times involved in the misbehavior. Consequences may range from reminders or counselling to removal of privileges or suspension from classes and school. For serious infractions, the consequences will need to be recorded. It is expected that in every case where there were ongoing or serious problems with a student, the parents will be informed and their support enlisted toward the joint solution of the problem. Acts such as vandalism, violence, destructive acts,

intimidation, extortion, harassment, malicious disturbances, use of controlled substances, or any other violations of the law are not to be tolerated, condoned or excused under any circumstances. This would include but not be limited to acts against students, teachers, or other employees while at school or at any school activity, acts that are a direct result of being a teacher or division employee or as a direct result of something that happened at school.

In the case of alcohol, drugs or matters of a criminal nature, parents will be advised immediately. The offending student will be suspended from classes for a period of time. Letters recording these infractions will be sent to the superintendent and the parents or guardians. The RCMP may be notified.

Appropriate student behavior is promoted by having clearly delineated and understood expectations that are fair and reasonable, along with appropriate consequences for those who choose not to abide by the expectations. Therefore, each school is expected to develop and implement a plan for behavior management. The behavior management plan will include:

- a) a statement of the responsibilities of students, teachers and parents
- b) a statement of unacceptable behaviors (This will not be inclusive - maybe more to illustrate - perhaps grouped as more serious/less serious)
- c) a statement of consequences to be considered (perhaps in groups)
- d) an outline of procedures to be followed in dealing with inappropriate behavior
- e) dress code (optional)

In establishing expectations and consequences, schools should keep in mind that our goal is to have student's control their own behavior to the greatest extent possible. Behavior management plans should be reviewed with all students and staff at least once a year and should be made available to parents.

The Division, working with schools, will establish preventative procedures, appropriate early intervention strategies and provide for the administration of disciplinary action as appropriate under the authorities granted by the Public Schools Act and other relevant Acts.

Approved May 7, 2002