

## **BEHAVIOUR AND CONDUCT**

### **You Have Rights, You Have Responsibilities**

The purpose of Bowden Grandview School is to provide an excellent education to every one of our students. You, as a BGS student, have *rights* to ensure a safe and caring learning environment:

- You have the *right* to learn
- You have the *right* to a safe environment free from verbal, emotional or social harassment.
- You have the *right* to dignity and respect by other students and staff
- You have the *right* to participate in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities to further personal development, but with the understanding each are a privilege

With these rights are student *responsibilities* to help maintain an orderly and respectful environment:

- You are *responsible* to contribute positively to the learning environment
- You are *responsible* to maintain a safe environment free from verbal, emotional, physical, sexual or social harassment.
- You are *responsible* to treat all people in the school with dignity, respect and fairness.
- You are *responsible* to follow school expectations for behaviour and conduct on and off school property

### **Your Conduct Matters**

Your conduct is important to the student safety and well being. The Alberta School Act emphasizes expectations surrounding your conduct in school, and here at BGS we believe in and enforce these expectations.

### **You are expected to:**

- (a) be diligent and ethical in your studies;
- (b) attend school regularly and on time;
- (c) co-operate fully with all educational staff;
- (d) comply with the rules of the school;
- (e) be accountable to your teacher(s) for your conduct; and
- (f) respect the rights of others and school property;
- (h) refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means; and
- (i) positively contribute to the student's school and community.

## **You Are Accountable**

Recognizing all personal actions and decisions are *your choice*, choosing not to meet these expectations may lead to the following accountability procedure(s):

- student-teacher conference
- student-teacher-principal conference
- parental involvement
- removal from class
- temporary removal of student privileges
- detention, in-school or out of school suspension
- police involvement
- expulsion

**Due to the fact that all situations are different, the administration of Bowden Grandview School reserves the right to skip or add disciplinary steps as the circumstances warrant.**

## PEER CONFLICT AND HARASSMENT (SH)

It is important for students to understand the difference between peer conflict and harassment. Peer conflict is a normal part of growing up. As students learn the give and take of friendships, of group cooperation, and of social relations, conflict naturally occurs. Peer conflict is most often resolved between students using peaceful and effective means.

On the other hand, harassment is defined as:

- 1. Persistent remarks or behavior that create an intimidating or unpleasant school environment; or**
- 2. Conduct or communication of attitudes, beliefs, or actions towards an individual which might be reasonably known to be unwelcome; or**
- 3. A serious single act or expression that clearly jeopardizes an individual's right to a safe and caring learning environment.**

**Harassment at school is best addressed with the help of a teacher or administrator. Harassment may be of a sexual, racial, religious or personally insulting nature. At BGS High School, we will respond quickly to harassment situations, as we strongly believe that all students have the right to a safe and caring learning environment. In the event that a student is harassed at school, we ask that the student and/or his parents contact a teacher or administrator as soon as possible.**



### c) Harassment/Bullying

One type of misconduct that happens at the Jr./Sr. High level and is very destructive to the students involved and to the school atmosphere in general is harassment. Harassment can be anything from teasing to physically pushing someone around and trying to frighten him/her to the use of computers/cell phones for bullying type behaviours. In this school we are dedicated to do all we can to stop this type of destructive behaviour. Since this usually happens when school personnel are not present, **it is important for students to let a staff member or the administration know when this happens.** The administration will handle harassment complaints very sternly and quickly with the utmost confidentiality in order to protect students who are being harassed. At times situations occur out of school but the effects carry over to the school setting. If a situation occurs outside of school which permits a student or students from feeling safe at school, then it is necessary for the school to become involved. This also includes the inappropriate texting or messaging with cell phones which is a growing form of harassment among students.

We need your cooperation and help in making this a safe, orderly, and friendly school for all students. If you feel someone is being treated unfairly by others, let your teacher or the administration know about it. Something will be done.