



RRVSD-ÉSMS

Voyageurs Code of Conduct

2023-2024



We all work together to make our school a safe, positive, and respectful place for each child to learn. In positive school environments, people feel welcomed, valued, and safe. They treat each other with respect.

École St Malo School is committed to fostering a learning and work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect, kindness, and dignity.

The Red River Valley School Division confirms the disciplinary authority of the principal over the conduct of students while they are at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, on school buses, and conduct towards one another to and from school. The Division also confirms the disciplinary authority of the principal to address unacceptable student conduct.

The ÉSMS Voyageurs code of conduct follows the Provincial Code of Conduct, a ministerial directive intended to expand upon existing legislation and regulation. The ÉSMS Voyageurs school code of conduct provides a reference for families/guardians, staff, and students in determining acceptable behavior.

Unacceptable behavior includes but is not limited to:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Disruption<input type="checkbox"/> Defiance<input type="checkbox"/> Disrespect (rude, unsolicited, disruptive comments)<input type="checkbox"/> Physical Contact<input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate Language (swearing)<input type="checkbox"/> Vulgar & Abusive Language<input type="checkbox"/> Bullying<input type="checkbox"/> Harassment<input type="checkbox"/> Technology Violation<input type="checkbox"/> Property misuse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Physical aggression<input type="checkbox"/> Inappropriate physical contact<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal aggression<input type="checkbox"/> Verbal or Physical Threats<input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism/Property Damage<input type="checkbox"/> Use of Drugs/Alcohol<input type="checkbox"/> Gang involvement<input type="checkbox"/> Possession of a weapon (as defined in section 2 of the Criminal Code (Canada)) |
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“Weapon” means anything used, designed to be used, or intended for use

- (a) In causing death or injury to any person, or
- (b) (b) for the purpose of threatening or intimidating any person and, without restricting the generality of the foregoing, includes a firearm;

Interventions and consequences may be applied as appropriate to the context, but they need not be applied in the order they appear in this document. The principal maintains the authority to determine which consequences are appropriate in a given situation.

Rights and Responsibilities regarding Student Discipline

Students

Rights

- To be accompanied by a parent or other adult to assist and make representations to the school board before a decision is made to expel.

Responsibilities

- Students are expected to attend classes regularly and punctually
 - Students are expected to behave in a respectful manner and comply with the Voyageurs School Code of Conduct.
 - Students are expected to follow instructions from staff, to complete assignments and other related work as required by teachers or other employees of the school division.
 - Students are expected to treat the school and others property with respect.
 - Students are expected to assume responsibility if he or she destroys, damages, or loses school or division property.
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Parents, Families

Rights

- To be informed regularly of the attendance, behavior, and academic achievement of his or her child in school.
- To be informed of the discipline and behavior management policies of the school or school division, and to be consulted before the policies are established or revised.
- To accompany his or her child and assist them to make representations to the school board regarding a suspension of more than five days or before a decision is made to expel the child.

Responsibilities

- Parents are expected to cooperate fully with teachers and other school and division staff to ensure their child complies with the school and division discipline and behavior management policies and the ÉSMS Voyageur School's Code of Conduct.
- Parents are expected to take all reasonable measures to ensure the child attends school regularly.
- Parents are expected to assume responsibility with the child where school and division property is damaged, lost, or converted but the intentional or negligent act of that child.

(Note: Teachers and students whose personal property is damaged or lost may bring action under *The Parental Responsibility Act.*)

Responsibilities and Authority of Teachers

- To maintain order and discipline among students attending or participating in activities that are sponsored or approved by the school, whether inside or outside the school.
- To behave in a respectful manner and comply with the ÉSMS Voyageurs School Code of Conduct.
- To ensure that the interventions and responses used or implemented in carrying out duties to maintain order and discipline in school are appropriate, given the frequency and severity of the disciplinary violation, and take into account the student's stage of development.
- To report to the principal unacceptable student conduct while at school or at a prescribed school-approved activity as soon as reasonably possible.**
- To report to the principal as soon as reasonably possible that a student may have engaged in cyberbullying, or been negatively affected by cyberbullying, whether it occurs during school hours or not.**
- To seize or cause to be seized and take possession of any offensive and or dangerous weapon brought to school by a student and hand over the same to the principal.
- To suspend a student from the classroom for up to two days when a student engages in disruptive behavior and suspension is the consequence of that behavior under school policy or the ÉSMS Voyageurs School Code of Conduct.
- To promptly document and report a student suspension to the principal.

** The duty to report to the principal also applies to employees of a school division and persons who have care and charge of one or more students during a prescribed school-approved activity.

Responsibilities and Authority of Principals

- To ensure that a school's discipline and behavior management policies, including disciplinary consequences for violations of the ÉSMS Voyageurs Code of Conduct, are consistent with any Ministerial directives concerning appropriate disciplinary consequences for unacceptable behaviors.
- To supervise buildings and grounds during school hours, including safety, repairs, cleanliness, et cetera.
- To remove, or cause to be removed, persons from school premises who are causing a disturbance or interruption, trespassing, or who are present for a purpose not reasonably associated with the normal functioning of the school.
- To provide disciplinary authority over the conduct of each student of a school from the time the student arrives at the school until the student departs for the day, except during any period that the student is absent from school at the request of his or her parent or guardian.
- To provide disciplinary authority over students on their way to and from school, in terms of their conduct towards one another, while traveling to and from school on school division transportation, and while on school-prescribed activities.
- To ensure that the interventions and responses used or implemented in carrying out duties to maintain order and discipline in school are appropriate, given the frequency and severity of the disciplinary violation, and take into account the student's stage of development.

- To notify parents, as soon as reasonably possible, if the principal believes that a student has been harmed as a result of the unacceptable conduct.
- To suspend a student for up to one week for engaging in conduct that the principal considers injurious to the school environment.
- To inform the students' parent or legal guardian of a suspension and the reasons for the suspension.
- To give the school board, or designate, division, within 24 hours, of a student being suspended, a written report setting out the student's name, the period of the suspension, and a description of the disruptive behavior for which the student was suspended.
- To keep a record of each suspension of a student.
- To develop categories of the reasons for which a student may be suspended, and to ensure that each suspension is accordingly categorized and that the total number of students suspended and the duration of suspensions are tabulated.
- To ensure that educational programming is available to a student who has been suspended for more than five days.

Interventions and Disciplinary consequences

At ÉSMS, we believe that all mistakes are learning opportunities. Our focus is on discipline that is not shaming, punishing or guiltting but rather fixing behaviors and meeting our needs in an up and positive way. We believe in providing opportunities for students to take responsibility, choose effective behaviors and create positive solutions. The consequences following inappropriate behaviors are based on individual needs, the degree of the problem and the ability of the student to understand and handle the consequence.

Interventions and consequences may be applied as appropriate to the context, but they need not be applied in the order they appear in this document.

Restitution conversation
Conversation focusing on identifying our needs and how we can have these met through appropriate behavior choices. A student is an active participant in creating a plan for long term successful behavior choices.
Compensation
The student and/or parents are required to compensate for damages incurred to school division property by the intentional or negligent act of a child. Such compensation may be monetary in nature but could take alternative forms such as community service.
Parental involvement
Contact is made with the parent/guardian to discuss the student's specific behavior and the steps that must be undertaken to support change. This can be done through a phone conversation, email, or in-person conference with the student and the school staff.
Withdrawal from the Classroom setting
Where specific student conduct is deemed to have a negative impact on the classroom learning environment, the student is withdrawn to a supervised alternate location to complete his or her work. Such withdrawal would normally be temporary, but when a prolonged withdrawal is recommended, parent.s will be informed.
Removal of privileges
Privileges such as access to the playground, school activities, extra-curricular activities and/or bus transportation are removed under certain circumstances. Parent.s will be informed.
Behavioral support plan- student-led
A behavior support plan is discussed with the student and specific school staff. Its purpose is to put adaptive measures in place to ensure positive behavior choices for the student. The student is responsible for the plan in collaboration with staff support. Parent.s will be informed of the plan.

Behavioral contract

In some instances, the student is required to meet specific behavioral standards in order to avoid more severe consequences. Such expectations are developed among the school, parent.s and the student. Outcomes are clarified in order to meet the behavior standards agreed upon. Such an agreement is documented, with copies provided for all concerned parties.

Behavior Intervention plan

A Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP) may be put in place to support the student's behavioral needs. The purpose is to stop or prevent misbehavior by putting necessary supports in place for the student to be successful in positive behavior choices. This plan is completed in collaboration with the student (if able to do so), the school and divisional staff, and the parent.s. BIP are constructed following a functional assessment of a student's behavior.

Safety plan

A plan may be put in place to ensure the individual safety requirements of a student and his or her peers. Parents will be informed of the plan.

Divisional Student services

A referral may be made to school division student services who can assist the school staff in the remediation of inappropriate student conduct. Such involvement may include a level of counseling or clinical support for the student that is beyond the school's capabilities. Parental permission must be obtained for assessments and/or interventions.

Outside Agency/Community Involvement

A referral to an outside agency or a community resource may be necessary to address a student's behavior. In all cases, parental permission must be obtained.

Violent Threat Risk Assessment

The school will respond to all student threats to self or others through administrative action and or school division threat assessment protocols or critical incident preparedness plans. Outside agency and or police involvement may be requested. Parent.s will be informed.

Police Notification

Police will be notified for serious incidents that happen at school, during school-related activities in or outside school, or in other circumstances if the incident has a negative impact on the school environment. Parent.s will be notified unless police direct otherwise.

Student suspensions

Alternatives are considered before a student is suspended in or out of school I.e classroom strategies, in-school alternatives, school-wide programs, and alternative and/or off-site locations. When a student is suspended out of school, bus privileges are suspended for the duration of the suspension. A teacher may suspend a student from the classroom for not more than 2 days. A principal may suspend a student from the school for not more than 5 days. A superintendent may suspend a student from the school for not more than 6 weeks. A parent or student may make a request to appear before the board to make representations about a suspension. A school board may, upon receiving such representation, confirm or modify the suspension or reinstate the student.

Student expulsion

A school board may expel from a school any student who, upon investigation by the school board, is found to be guilty of conduct injurious to the school environment.

Discipline or consequences to a student for misbehavior is a confidential matter and must not be discussed with other parents or guardians.