

COUNTRYSIDE ACADEMY

CODE OF CONDUCT

Countryside Academy seeks to attract students and their families who have an interest in our **curriculum** and **instructional design**. To that end, Countryside will assure a **safe, clean, and caring** learning environment where teachers will perform and students will thrive. The Code of Conduct exists to help ensure the success of Countryside Academy.

The Code of Conduct for students recognizes the self-worth of every student and establishes the framework to help students develop a sense of self-discipline. Every student has the right to enroll at Countryside Academy, but it is a privilege to remain here. That privilege may be lost if the Code of Conduct is not strictly followed.

Code of Conduct

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian(s) along with the student to read and understand the Code. Our behavior expectations include behavior that makes Countryside Academy a safe and secure learning environment.

Students, parents and staff should understand that rules of conduct are designed to assist in the pursuit of academic excellence and to promote the high moral tone expected at Countryside Academy. Personal growth demands conduct in keeping with a formal academic atmosphere:

- Students will demonstrate respect to each other and to all adults at all times.
- Students must comply with dress code at all times, unless the teacher (with administrative approval) grants permission.
- Students will walk in the hallways, using a quiet voice, and without the use of inappropriate touching, behaviors, or language.
- Students are expected to come to school rested and ready for class.

Consequences

This code has as its purpose the defining of categories of misconduct and potential consequences as authorized by the Countryside Academy Board of Directors. The consequences listed in the code are general guidelines based on the judgment of staff and administration.

The staff, administration, and/or designee have the responsibility for discipline problems arising within the school. **Teaching staff may suspend a student for one day (per instance).** [MCL 380.1309]

Demerit: One demerit will be assigned by staff for every disciplinary referral at the Elementary (K-5) level.

Discipline Points: At the High School and Middle School levels, Discipline Points are assigned based on severity of infraction. *Note – Middle School (6-8), and High School (9-12) have different scales. See Student Handbook.

Detention: In-school detention for up to forty-five (45) minutes may be assigned by teachers and administrators as a consequence of inappropriate student behavior. Detention sessions may be held before, during, or after school.

Out of school suspension: Suspension constitutes exclusion from school for ten or fewer days and can be assigned by the teacher, and/or staff with approval from the administrator or designee. All assigned work will be completed upon return to school or at the discretion of the teacher.

Expulsion from school: Expulsion constitutes long term or permanent exclusion from school and must be enacted by Countryside Academy Board of Directors.

Unacceptable Behaviors

The following behaviors are considered unacceptable by Countryside Academy and each violation will result in parent contact and a demerit, possible suspension, possible police contact and may lead to expulsion. When students in grades K-3 demonstrate an understanding of the rules, the following behaviors listed below will become unacceptable as determined by the teacher. The behaviors listed below apply to actions on school property and during school-sponsored activities.

1. Disorderly, disobedient, or disruptive behaviors
2. Defiance of school personnel's authority
3. Malicious remarks, racial slurs, harassment, and/or aggressive behavior toward another individual
4. Use or possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, tobacco, and/or drug paraphernalia
5. Obscene behavior or profanity
6. Fighting
7. Lying
8. Destruction or defacement of school property
9. Physical assault
10. Inattentive classroom behavior
11. Extortion
12. Theft
13. Inappropriate show of affection between students
14. Intimidation of a witness
15. Cheating/Plagiarism
16. Student involvement in a bomb threat, a false fire alarm or false 911 call
17. Unauthorized presence in corridors or outside the building
18. Falsifying signatures or forgery
19. Careless or reckless driving on or near school property
20. Sexual harassment
21. Possession of a weapon or anything resembling a weapon, including chains
22. Possession or use of fireworks or other explosive devices
23. Arson or attempted arson
24. Gambling
25. Violation of written school policies not addressed in the Code of Conduct

Upon accumulating **eighty-four (84) Discipline Points for High School (9th - 12th); twelve (12) Discipline Points for Middle School (6th-8th); and five (5) Demerits for elementary (K - 5th)**, the student will appear for a disciplinary hearing. Students in K-2nd grades will have a hearing before the Administrator. Students in 3rd – 12th grades will appear before the Board of Directors for a disciplinary hearing.

All behaviors resulting in a student being out of school (sent home or suspended) will be recorded in the office.

If a student's conduct is determined by the Principal and/or Administrator to be of such a severe infraction, a Discipline Hearing may be convened prior to a student accumulating predetermined allotment of Demerits or Discipline Points.