



École Ballenas Secondary School



CODE OF CONDUCT

The École Ballenas Secondary School Code of Conduct has been developed in collaboration with staff, students, and parents and guardians to maintain a safe, caring, and orderly school environment, as per the Ministry of Education and Childcare guidelines, and in support of Qualicum School District policy, and the laws of BC and Canada. As well, it reflects Sections 7 and 8 of the BC Human Rights Code, which protects the rights of all individuals from discrimination based on race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, and age.

We are a community that celebrates and values diversity and inclusivity of our members.

EXPECTATION MATRIX

We Respect Others by:	We Respect Ourselves by:	We Respect this Place by:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Treating others with respect and dignity in the school, on our grounds, in the community, while on field trips, and on school buses.✓ Respecting others' privacy, in person and online, and using technology and media safely and appropriately.✓ Following the guidance of school staff.✓ Being an upstander vs. a bystander✓ Understanding that any form of discrimination and racism will not be tolerated in our school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Striving to get adequate sleep and proper nutrition.✓ Prioritizing our mental health and appreciation for learning.✓ Prioritizing our attendance and engagement in classes, but staying home when we are sick.✓ Recognizing that vaping, smoking, and substance use is harmful to our growing brain and body, and respecting the policies in place to keep everyone safe.✓ Acknowledging when we need connections with a trusted adult for advice, support, and/or help.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Using school materials, library books, and devices with care.✓ Keeping our classrooms, shared spaces, parking lot, and community clean and free from litter and vandalism.✓ Moving safely around the campus and respecting the personal space of others.✓ Being aware that we are members of the community and contributing positively to our neighbourhood and town.✓ Treating nature on our grounds and other spaces with respect and care.

When we make mistakes we:

We take responsibility for our actions and impact. We work to make amends to whomever was harmed and we solve conflicts peacefully. We move forward and learn from our mistakes.

Safe Reporting:

The Board of Education for the Qualicum School District will take reasonable steps to prevent retaliation by a person against a student who has made a complaint of a breach of the Code of Conduct.

Responsibility to Inform Other Parties:

School officials may have the responsibility to advise other parties/agencies of serious breaches of the Code of Conduct, including parents, school district officials, RCMP, and MCFD.

Range of Responses to Unacceptable Behaviour:

Supporting students' academic, social-emotional and physical development. Whenever possible, we will focus on responses that are **restorative rather than punitive**.

Responses will take into consideration the student's **age, maturity, and special needs**. Special considerations may apply to students with special needs who are unable to comply with a code of conduct due to having a disability of an intellectual, physical, sensory, emotional, or behavioural nature.

Suspension

In accordance with the School Act, Sec. 85(2)(ii) and (d) the Board authorizes the Principal or designate of any school in the district to suspend a student from attendance at school for up to five days. Suspensions may be for the following reasons:

- a. because a student is willfully and repeatedly disrespectful to a teacher or to any other employee of the Board carrying out responsibilities approved by the Board.
- b. because the behaviour of the student breaches the District Code of Conduct or policy and/or has a harmful effect on others or the learning environment of the school.
- c. because the student has failed to comply with the School Code of Conduct.

Suspensions over five days are made in consultation with the appropriate Director of Instruction as per the Board Policy 701: Student Discipline and Section 4 of its Administrative Procedure which states that an educational program must be provided.