

Community Relations

Conduct on School Property

The Ledyard Board of Education expects mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among all individuals on school property or at school events. District staff will treat parents and other members of the public with respect and expect the same in return. The Board is committed to maintaining orderly educational and administrative processes in keeping schools and administrative offices free from disruptions and preventing unauthorized persons from entering school/district grounds.

This policy promotes mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among Board members, District employees, parents and the public. It is not intended to deprive any individual of his/her right to freedom of expression but only to maintain to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment-free environment for students and staff.

In the interest of presenting Board members and District employees as positive role models to the students as well as to the community, the Board encourages positive communication and discourages volatile, hostile or aggressive actions. The Board seeks public cooperation with this endeavor.

The Board expects that no person on school property or at a school-sponsored event shall:

1. Injure, threaten, harass or intimidate a staff member, Board member or any other person;
2. Damage or threaten to damage another's property;
3. Damage or deface District property;
4. Violate any Connecticut law or town/city ordinance;
5. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products;
6. Consume, possess, distribute, or be under the influence of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs, or possess dangerous instruments or weapons;
7. Impede, delay, or otherwise interfere with the orderly conduct of the District's educational program or any other activity occurring on school property;
8. Enter upon any portion of the school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the Board;
9. Operate a motor vehicle in a risky manner or in violation of an authorized District employee's directive; or
10. Violate other District policies or regulations or an authorized District employee's directive.

Any individual who disrupts or threatens to disrupt normal school or office operations; threatens the health and safety of students or staff; willfully causes property damage; uses loud or offensive language which could provoke a violent reaction; or who has otherwise established a continued pattern of unauthorized entry on District property, will be directed to leave the premises by a member of the administrative staff or his/her designee. The refusal of such individual to leave school property will result in the staff immediately summoning the police.

If any member of the public uses obscenities or speaks in a demanding, loud, insulting and/or demeaning manner, the staff member to whom the remarks are directed will calmly and politely admonish the speaker to communicate civilly. If the abusing party does not take corrective action, the District employee will terminate the meeting or conversation. If the abuser continues to harass or threaten, then the police will be summoned immediately.

Related Policies:

1110.1 – Parent Involvement

1112 – News Media Relationships

1120 – Public Participation at Board of Education Meetings

1250 – Visits to Schools

1312 – Public Complaints

1330 – Use of School Facilities

1331 – Tobacco Free Environment

1700 – Firearms Prohibited on School Property

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes

1-232. Conduct of meetings.

10-221. Boards of education to prescribe rules, policies and procedures.

10-239. Use of school facilities for other purposes.

53a-181a. Creating a public disturbance: Infraction.

53a-182. Disorderly conduct: Class C misdemeanor.

53a-182a. Obstructing free passage: Class C misdemeanor.

53a-185. Loitering on school grounds: Class C misdemeanor.

Policy adopted: July 6, 2005

LEDYARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Ledyard, Connecticut