



## CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT OVERVIEW

The standards of student conduct are designed to define the basic rules and major expectations of students in Isle of Wight County Schools. It is the responsibility of the Isle of Wight County School Board to adopt policy and regulations and the administration to issue regulations establishing rules of conduct for student behavior in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of its students. The School Board biennially reviews the model student conduct code developed by the Board of Education to incorporate into policy a range of discipline options and alternatives to preserve a safe and non-disruptive environment for effective learning and teaching. The Superintendent issues the Standards of Student Conduct, and a list of possible corrective actions for violation of the Standards of Conduct.

**IWCS Staff Responsibilities:** The local school principal has the responsibility and authority to exercise reasonable judgment in enforcing this Code of Conduct. Principals are responsible for ensuring that all students, staff members, and parents are provided the opportunity to become familiar with this policy. The Standards of Student Conduct is sent to all parents within one calendar month of the opening of schools simultaneously with any other materials customarily distributed at that time.

**Parent Responsibilities:** A statement for the parent's signature acknowledging the receipt of the Standards of Student Conduct is sent to parents. Parents are notified that by signing the statement of receipt, they are not deemed to waive, but expressly reserve, their rights protected by the constitution or laws of the United States or Virginia. Each school maintains records of the signed statements. Parents have a duty to assist the school in enforcing the Standards of Student Conduct and compulsory school attendance in order that education may be conducted in an atmosphere free of disruption and threat to persons or property, and supportive of individual rights. Parents are also expected to maintain regular communication with school authorities, monitor and require daily attendance, and bring to the attention of the school authorities any problem that affects the student or other children in the school. It is the parents' responsibility to notify the school of any unusual behavior pattern or medical problem that might lead to serious difficulties.

**Student Responsibilities:** Each student has the right to expect an educational environment in which he or she can strive to achieve his or her intellectual potential. The student is expected to attend school regularly, be diligent in his/her studies and conduct him/herself in such a way that the rights and privileges of others are not violated. The student is expected to accept and demonstrate the obligation of good citizenship to help prevent problems from happening and help solve problems if they occur.

Students are subject to corrective action for any misconduct that occurs:

- in school or on school property;
- on a school vehicle;
- while participating in or attending any school sponsored activity or trip
- on the way to and from school; and
- off school property, when the acts lead to: (1) notification pursuant to [Va. Code § 16.1-305.1](#) or a conviction for an offense listed in [Va. Code § 16.1-260](#) (2) a charge that would be a felony if committed by an adult or (3) disruption of the learning environment.

The following are standards of student conduct established by the School Board for all students the consequences of any act are determined on the basis of the facts presented in each situation in the reasonable discretion of the Board, its designated committees, and other appropriate school officials. ([JFC-R](#))

## STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- 1. Student Dress:** Students are expected to dress appropriately for a K-12 educational environment. Any clothing that interferes with or disrupts the educational environment is unacceptable. Clothing with language or images that are vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene, or clothing that promotes illegal or violent conduct, such as the unlawful use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or drug paraphernalia or clothing that contains threats such as gang symbols is prohibited. Clothing should fit, be neat and clean, and conform to standards of safety, good taste and decency. Clothing that exposes cleavage, private parts, the midriff, or undergarments, or that is otherwise sexually provocative, is prohibited. Examples of prohibited clothing include, but are not limited to: sagging or low-cut pants, low-cut necklines that show cleavage, tube tops, halter tops, backless blouses or blouses with only ties in the back, clothing constructed of see-through materials and head coverings unless required for religious or medical purposes. Additionally, disciplinary action will be taken against any student taking part in gang-related activities that are disruptive to the school environment, which include the display of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, tattoo, or manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior. Parents of students requiring accommodation for religious beliefs, disabilities, or other good causes should contact the principal. Students not complying with this policy will be asked to cover the noncomplying clothing, change clothes or go home.
- 2. Attendance; Truancy:** Students shall attend school on a regular and punctual basis unless otherwise excused in accordance with School Board policy or regulation. (See [Policy JED Student Absences/Excuses/Dismissals](#)). If a student who is under 18 years of age has 10 or more unexcused absences from school on consecutive school days, the principal may notify the juvenile and domestic relations court, which may take action to suspend the student's driver's license.
- 3. Disruptive Conduct:** Students are entitled to a learning environment free of unnecessary disruption. Any physical or verbal disturbance which interrupts or interferes with teaching and orderly conduct of school activities, is prohibited.
- 4. Profane, Obscene or Abusive Language or Conduct:** Students shall not use vulgar, profane or obscene language or gestures or engage in conduct that is vulgar, profane, and obscene or disrupts the teaching and learning environment.
- 5. Threats or Intimidation:** Students shall not make any verbal, written, or physical threat of bodily injury or use of force directed toward another person. Students shall not use electronic technology or communication devices, such as the internet or cell phones, to intimidate or threaten for any reason.
- 6. Assault and Battery:** A student shall not assault or commit battery upon another person on school property, on school buses or during school activities on or off school property. An assault is a threat of bodily injury. A battery is any bodily hurt, however slight, done to another in an angry, rude or vengeful manner.
- 7. Bullying:** A student, either individually or as a part of a group, shall not bully others either in person or by the use of any communication technology including computer systems, telephones, pagers, or instant messaging systems. Prohibited conduct includes, but is not limited to, physical, verbal or written intimidation, taunting, name-calling, and insults and any combination of prohibited activities. "Bullying" means any aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim; involves a real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor or aggressors and victim; and is repeated over time or causes severe emotional trauma. "Bullying" includes cyber bullying. "Bullying" does not include ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict.
- 8. Gambling:** A student shall not bet money or other things of value, or knowingly play or participate in any game involving such a bet, on school property, on school buses or during any school related activity.
- 9. Use and/or Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, Anabolic Steroids, and Other Drugs:** A student shall not possess, use, and/or distribute any of the restricted substances listed below on school property, on school buses, or during school activities, on or off school property. A student shall attempt to possess, use, consume, procure, and/or purchase, any of the restricted substances listed in below or what is represented by or to the student to be any of the restricted substances listed below or what the student believes is any of the restricted substances listed below. A student shall not be under the influence of any of the restricted substances listed below, regardless of whether the student's condition amounts to legal intoxication. Restricted

Unlawful acts that will lead to police notification and may lead to suspension from classes, exclusion from activities or expulsion includes but is not limited to:

- selling drugs;
- assault/battery;
- sexual assault;
- arson;
- theft;
- shooting;
- homicide;
- burglary;
- malicious mischief;
- stabbing, cutting or wounding;
- intentional injury (bullying, fighting);
- gang or gang-related activity;
- bomb threats, including false threats, against school personnel or school property;
- use or possession of explosives (see [Policy JFCD Weapons in School](#));
- possession of weapons or firearms (see [Policy JFCD Weapons in School](#));
- extortion, blackmail, or coercion;
- driving without a license on school property;
- sex offenses (indecent exposure, obscene phone calls, sodomy and child molestation);
- any illegal conduct involving firebombs, explosive, or incendiary devices or materials, hoax explosive devices or chemical bombs;
- unlawful interference with school authorities including threats;
- possession or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, including marijuana and anabolic steroids, or drug paraphernalia;
- unlawful intimidation of school authorities; and
- other unlawful acts including being an accessory to any of these or other unlawful acts.

substances include but are not limited to alcohol, tobacco and inhalant products, and other controlled substances defined in the Drug Control Act, Chapter 15.1 of Title 54 of the Code of Virginia, such as anabolic steroids, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, marijuana, imitation and look-alike drugs, drug paraphernalia, and any prescription or non-prescription drug possessed in violation of School Board policy. The School Board may require any student who has been found in possession of, or under the influence of, drugs or alcohol in violation of School Board policy to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse, or both, and, if recommended by the evaluator and with the consent of the student's parent, to participate in a treatment program. In addition to any consequences which may result, a student who is a member of a school athletic team will be ineligible for two school years to compete in interscholastic athletic competition if the school principal and the division superintendent determine that the student used anabolic steroids during the training period immediately preceding or during the sport season of the athletic team, unless such steroid was prescribed by a licensed physician for a medical condition.

10. **Electronic Cigarettes:** Students shall not possess electronic cigarettes on school premises, on school buses or at school sponsored activities.
11. **Vandalism:** Students shall not wilfully or maliciously damage or deface any school building or other property owned or under the control of the School Board. In addition, students shall not willfully or maliciously damage or deface property belonging to or under the control of any other person at school, on a school bus or at school-sponsored events.
12. **Defiance of the Authority of School Personnel:** Students shall comply with any oral or written instructions made by school personnel within the scope of their authority as provided by board policies and regulations.
13. **Possession or Use of Weapons or Other Dangerous Articles:** Students shall not have in their possession any type of unauthorized firearm or other article which may be used as a weapon, regardless of whether it is commonly accepted as such. (See [Policy JFCD Weapons in School](#)).
14. **Theft:** A student shall not intentionally take or attempt to take the personal property of another person by force, fear or other means.
15. **Bus-Related Offenses:** Students shall not behave in a disruptive manner or otherwise violate these Standards of Conduct while waiting for a school bus, while on a school bus or after being discharged from a school bus.
16. **Cheating:** Students are expected to perform honestly on schoolwork and tests. The following actions are prohibited:
  - cheating on a test or assigned work by giving, receiving, offering and/or soliciting information
  - plagiarizing by copying the language, structure, idea and/or thoughts of another
  - falsifying statements on any assigned schoolwork, tests or other school documents
17. **Trespassing:** Students shall not trespass on school property or use school facilities without proper authority or permission, or during a period of suspension or expulsion.
18. **Gang Activity:** Gang-related activity is not tolerated. Symbols of gang membership are expressly prohibited (i.e., clothing that symbolizes association, rituals associated with, or activities by an identified group of students). (See [Policy JFCE Gang Activity or Association](#).) Gang activity is defined as:
  - wearing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other thing that is evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang;
  - committing any act or omission, or using any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (such as gestures or hand-shakes) showing membership or affiliation in a gang;
  - using any speech or committing any act or omission in furtherance of the interests of any gang, including: (a) soliciting, hazing and initiating others for membership in any gang, (b) requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, (c) committing any other illegal act or other violation of school policy and (d) inciting other students to act with physical violence;
  - inappropriate congregating, bullying, harassment, intimidation, degradation, disgrace and/or related activities which are likely to cause bodily danger, physical harm, or mental harm to students, employees or visitors.
19. **Harassment:** A student shall not harass another student or any school employee, volunteer, student teacher or any other person present in school facilities or at school
20. **Communication Devices:** A portable communication device is any device that is capable of emitting an audible signal, vibration, displays a message, or otherwise receives or delivers a communication to the person possessing the device. Examples include, but are not limited to, cellular and wireless telephones, Smart phones, tablets, personal digital assistants and Wi-Fi-enabled or broadband access devices. In order to avoid disruption to the instructional process, secondary students shall not use or activate portable communication devices or other personal electronic devices during the instructional day unless such devices are being used for educational purposes under the direction and supervision of school division personnel. Elementary students are not permitted to use or activate portable communication or other personal electronic devices during the instructional day. The instructional day includes, but is not limited to, lunch breaks, class changes, locker rooms, restrooms, media center, cafeteria, gymnasium, auditorium and any other locations designated for instructional purposes. It is the students' responsibility to ensure that their portable communication device is turned off and stored out of sight during the instructional day unless the device is being used as part of a classroom instructional activity. If a student elects to bring a portable communication device to class, and that device is not being used for classroom instruction, a teacher or other school personnel may require students to place the turned off device in plain view on top of their desk to insure that it will not cause a disruption or distraction during the class period. Failure to comply with such a request may result in referral for disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the device. Special exceptions may be made by the school principal for students who are

members of a volunteer fire department, ambulance or rescue squad or who have specific, serious health issues. Such exceptions must be pre-arranged with the principal and made in writing. At no time may any device be used with an unfiltered connection to the Internet. The division is not liable for devices brought to school or school activities. Students who are issued an IWCS iPad are expected to adhere to all conditions specified in the school division's Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), iPad Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Responsible Use Agreement and the Technology Use Agreement. Penalties for students who fail to follow the guidelines for the use and possession of a portable communication device in Isle of Wight County Schools include:

- First Offense: The portable communication device will be confiscated and only returned to a parent/guardian at a time specified by the school. The student and parent will sign an Acknowledgement of Further Consequences statement, which will be filed in the student's discipline record.
- Second Offense: The portable communication device is confiscated and held until the last day of school or when the student withdraws from Isle of Wight County Schools.

Additional violations of these guidelines, after the second offense, will result in penalties for a second offense and disciplinary action. Failure to turn a portable communication device over to teachers and other school personnel when requested will lead to disciplinary action. In addition to penalties previously listed, school administrators may impose additional disciplinary actions for any electronic device violations that cause a disruption, invade the privacy of others, or negatively impact school operations. \*Isle of Wight County Schools and/or school personnel assume no responsibility in any circumstance for loss, destruction, damage, theft or bills for a portable communication device.

- 21. Reports of Conviction or Adjudication of Delinquency:** Any student for whom the superintendent has received a report pursuant to Va. Code [§ 16.1-305.1](#) of an adjudication of delinquency or a conviction for an offense listed in subsection G of Va. Code [§ 16.1-260](#) may be suspended or expelled.
- 22. Disciplinary authority of School Boards under certain circumstances; alternative education program [§ 22.1-277.2:1](#).** Students who have been charged, found guilty or not innocent of an offense listed in the *Code of Virginia*, 1950 as amended, [§ 22.1-277.2:1](#), may be assigned to an alternative education program regardless of where the crime occurred.
- 23. Laser Pointers:** Students shall not have in their possession laser pointers.
- 24. Internet Use:** Students shall abide by the Isle of Wight County School Division's Acceptable Computer Use Policy and Regulation. (See [Policy IIBEA Acceptable Computer System Use](#).)
- 25. Felony Charges:** Students charged with any offense, wherever committed, that would be a felony if committed by an adult may be disciplined and/or required to participate in prevention/ intervention activities.
- 26. Bomb Threats:** Students shall not engage in any illegal conduct involving firebombs, explosive or incendiary materials or devices or hoax explosive devices or chemical bombs as defined in the *Code of Virginia*. Moreover, students shall not make any threats or false threats to bomb school personnel or school property.
- 27. Hazing:** Students shall not engage in hazing. Hazing means to recklessly or intentionally endanger the health or safety of a student or students or to inflict bodily harm on a student or students in connection with or for the purpose of initiation, admission into or affiliation with or as a condition for continued membership in a club, organization, association, fraternity, sorority, or student body regardless of whether the student or students so endangered or injured participated voluntarily in the relevant activity. The principal of any school at which hazing which causes bodily injury occurs shall report the hazing to the local Commonwealth Attorney.
- 28. Stalking:** Engaging in conduct directed at another person with the intent to place, or when he knows or reasonably should know that the conduct places that other person in reasonable fear of death, criminal sexual assault, or bodily injury to that other person or to that other person's family or household member is forbidden as defined in [§ 18.2-60.3](#). The Code of Virginia [§ 22.1-279.3:1D](#) requires principals to report violations of this offense to law enforcement.
- 29. Extortion:** No student may obtain or attempt to obtain anything of value from another by using a threat of any kind.
- 30. Fighting:** Exchanging mutual physical contact between two or more persons by pushing, shoving or hitting with or without injury is prohibited.
- 31. Failure to Report Violations:** In order to maintain safety and security in our schools, students are responsible for reporting serious violations of the *Standards of Student Conduct* to teachers, administrators, or other appropriate staff. Information about drugs, weapons, alcohol, bomb threats, or other factors which may be harmful to the school environment should be reported **immediately** to a teacher, bus driver, administrator or other appropriate staff. Disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, may be taken against any student who fails to report the aforementioned items.
- 32. Other Conduct:** In addition to these specific standards, students shall not engage in any conduct which materially and substantially disrupts the ongoing educational process or which is otherwise a violation of federal, state or local law (i.e., being in an unauthorized area).

**CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:** The following corrective actions are among those available to the school administration for violation of the Student Code of Conduct. The facts and circumstances of each offense are considered fully in determining reasonable corrective actions.

1. Counselling
2. Admonition

3. Reprimand
4. Loss of privileges, including access to the School Division's computer system, etc.
5. Parental conference
6. Modification of student classroom assignment or schedule
7. Student behavior contract
8. Referral to student assistance services
9. Removal from class
10. Initiation of child study process
11. Referral to in-school intervention, mediation, or community service programs
12. Tasks or restrictions assigned by the principal or his designee
13. Detention after school or before school
14. Suspension from school-sponsored activities or events prior to, during, or after the regular school day
15. In-school suspension
16. Out-of-school suspension
17. Referral to an alternative education program
18. Notification of legal authority where appropriate
19. Recommendation for expulsion including recommendation for expulsion for possessing a firearm, destructive device, firearm muffler, firearm silencer or pneumatic gun on school property or at a school-sponsored event.
20. And recommendation for expulsion for having brought a controlled substance, imitation controlled substance or marijuana onto school property or a school sponsored activity
21. Evaluation for alcohol or drug abuse
22. Participation in a drug, alcohol or violence intervention, prevention or treatment program

Conduct which is a violation of the law on or off school grounds will be a violation of the law on school grounds. An additional consequence for the violation of the offense will be the loss of the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities, including academic clubs, athletics, school dances or prom.

The school principal may request the student's parent or parents, if both have legal and physical custody, to meet with the principal or principal's designee to review the School Board's Standards of Student Conduct and the parent's or parents' responsibility to participate with the school in disciplining the student and maintaining order, to ensure the student's compliance with compulsory school law, and to discuss improvement of the child's behavior, school attendance, and educational progress. The administrator of the building should exercise reasonable judgment and consider the circumstances in determining the disciplinary action to be administered. The principal or principal's designee notifies the parent of any student involved in an incident required to be reported to the superintendent and Virginia Board of Education.

If a parent fails to comply with the requirements of this policy, the School Board may ask the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to proceed against the parent in accordance with the requirements of the *Code of Virginia*.

**STUDENT SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (JGD/JGE, JGD-R/JGE-R):** Pupils may be suspended or expelled from attendance at school for sufficient cause; however, in no case may sufficient cause for suspension include only instances of truancy. Any student for whom the division superintendent of the school division in which the student is enrolled has received a report pursuant to Va. Code § [16.1-305.1](#) of an adjudication of delinquency or a conviction for an offense listed in subsection G of Va. Code § [16.1-260](#) may be suspended or expelled from school attendance. Suspension or expulsion, or both, are used to prevent the disruption of the educational program or school activities; to ensure the safety and welfare of the students and/or staff; and/or to maintain a safe, drug-free, healthy school environment that is conducive to learning. A student on suspension or expulsion is prohibited from coming on school property and to school activities, including participation in clubs and/or athletic events.

**Suspension Less Than Ten (10) School Days (Short Term Suspension):** A pupil may be suspended for not more than ten school days by a school administrator. The administrator may suspend the pupil after giving the pupil oral or written notice of the charges against him and, if he denies them, an explanation of the facts as known to school personnel and an opportunity to present his version of what occurred. In the case of any pupil whose presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, or whose presence is an ongoing threat of disruption, the pupil may be removed from school immediately and the notice, explanation of facts, and opportunity to present his version shall be given as soon as is practical thereafter.

Upon suspension of any pupil, the administrator responsible for such suspension shall report the facts of the case in writing to the division superintendent or his designee and the parent of the pupil suspended. The division superintendent or his designee shall review the action taken by the administrator upon a petition for such review by any party in interest and confirm or disapprove such action based on an examination of the record of the pupil's behavior.

A student may be suspended for ten (10) school days or less by a building administrator. The following are grounds for suspension of ten (10) school days or less:

- The use of threats or the intimidation of other students for extortion or for any reason.

- The use of sexual harassment.
- Disruptive conduct and/or physical confrontation which includes the intentional kicking, shoving, pushing, hitting, or fighting that results in either no injury or minor injury treatable at school or medically treatable at a later time.
- The use and/or possession of tobacco.
- Repeated violations of the Standards of Student Conduct or other student behavior determined by the principal as serious enough to warrant suspension.

**The decision of the Superintendent or his/her designee regarding a suspension for ten (10) days or less shall be final.**

Any oral or written notice to the parent of a student who is suspended from school attendance for not more than ten days shall include notification of the length of the suspension, information regarding the availability of community-based educational programs, alternative education programs or other educational options, and of the student's right to return to regular school attendance upon the expiration of the suspension. No suspended student shall be admitted to the regular school program until such student and his/her parent have met with school officials to discuss improvement of the student's behavior, unless the school principal or his/her designee determines that readmission, without parent conference, is appropriate for the student.

**Suspension In Excess Of Ten (10) School Days (Long-Term Suspension):** A pupil may be suspended from attendance at school for more than ten days after written notice is provided to the pupil and his parent of the proposed action and the reasons there for and of the right to a hearing before the School Board, or a committee thereof, or the superintendent or his designee, in accordance with regulations of the School Board. If the regulations provide for a hearing by the superintendent or his designee, the regulations shall also provide for an appeal of the decision to the committee of the School Board. Such appeal shall be decided by the committee of the School Board within thirty days.

If the regulations provide for a hearing by a committee of the School Board, the regulations shall also provide that such committee may confirm or disapprove the suspension of a student. Any such committee of the School Board shall be composed of at least three members. If the committee's decision is not unanimous, the pupil or his parent may appeal the committee's decision to the full School Board. Such appeal shall be decided by the School Board within thirty days.

The written notice of a suspension for more than ten days shall include notification of the length of the suspension and shall provide information concerning the availability of community-based educational, alternative education, or intervention programs. Such notice shall also state that the student is eligible to return to regular school attendance upon the expiration of the suspension or to attend an appropriate alternative education program approved by the School Board during or upon the expiration of the suspension.

A student may be suspended in excess of ten (10) school days. A suspension in excess of ten (10) school days is a suspension for a specific number of days, the remainder of the semester, the remainder of the school year or the assignment of a student to the alternative school for the remainder of the semester or the remainder of the school year.

The principal shall suspend the student for ten (10) school days and recommend that the Superintendent impose a suspension in excess of ten (10) school days or recommend that the Superintendent assign a student to the alternative school. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall review the matters which led to the suspension and render a decision on the recommendation. Only the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee may suspend a student for more than ten (10) school days. The following are grounds for a suspension in excess of ten (10) school days:

- The possession or use of any weapon or article considered a potential weapon.
- The use and/or possession of a restricted substance or repeated use and/or possession of alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs.
- The inappropriate use and/or possession of prescription or non-prescription drugs.
- Disruptive conduct, physical confrontation, or fighting which results in either a serious injury treated at a later time but attributed to fighting or an injury which requires the removal of a person from school grounds for medical treatment.
- Gang or gang-related activity.
- Repeated suspensions of ten (10) school days or less or other student behavior determined by the principal as serious enough to warrant a ten (10) day suspension with a recommendation for a suspension in excess of ten (10) school days.
- Any disruptive behavior which materially and substantially impacts school operation or the educational process and/or which is otherwise considered a violation of federal, state, or local law.

**Expulsion:** A student may be expelled from school by the School Board. The principal shall suspend the student for ten (10) school days and recommend that the suspended student be expelled. The following are grounds for consideration for expulsion from the Isle of Wight County Schools:

- Any threat of bodily harm or injury towards or the use of force directed at school personnel.
- The possession, distribution, use, or sale of a restricted substance or any substance that a student represents as or believes is a restricted substance.
- Assault and battery which results in an injury which requires the removal of a person from school grounds for medical treatment.
- Repeated sexual harassment or other behavior socially inappropriate or unacceptable.
- Being under the influence of alcohol, a restricted substance, or other drugs.

- The use or possession of a gun or the repeated possession or use of any weapon or article considered a potential weapon.
- Repeated suspensions or other student behavior determined by the Superintendent as serious enough to warrant expulsion.
- Any behavior which materially and substantially disrupts school operation or the educational process and/or is considered a violation of federal, state, or local law.

Recommendations for expulsions for actions other than those specified below shall be based on consideration of the following factors:

- the nature and seriousness of the conduct;
- the degree of danger to the school community;
- the student's disciplinary history, including the seriousness and number of previous infractions;
- the appropriateness and availability of an alternative education placement or program;
- the student's age and grade level;
- the results of any mental health, substance abuse, or special education assessments;
- the student's intent to inflict physical harm or injury;
- whether the student was in possession of a weapon as enumerated in this policy;
- whether the student was in possession of an object that would cause a reasonable person to believe it was in fact a weapon as defined in this policy;
- whether the student was in possession of an object not generally considered a weapon and does not meet the definition of a weapon as set forth in this policy, but the student's intent was to use the object as a weapon to inflict harm or injury;
- the student's attendance and academic records; and
- other appropriate matters

No decision to expel a student shall be reversed on the grounds that such factors were not considered. Nothing in this subsection shall be deemed to preclude the School Board from considering any of the factors listed above as "special circumstances" for purposes of expulsions discussed in the following subsections.

**Appeals Procedure:** In the case of a suspension for more than ten (10) days, the student and his parent(s), guardian, or person having control or charge of the student may appeal the decision to the School Board Disciplinary Committee pursuant to Policy JGD/JGE. The School Board Disciplinary Committee decision shall be final and may not be appealed to the full School Board if it is unanimous. If the School Board Disciplinary Committee decision is not unanimous, it may be appealed to the full School Board pursuant to Policy JGD/JGE. If appealed to the full School Board, the appeal shall be decided by the School Board within thirty days. In the case of expulsion, the decision may be appealed to the School Board Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee's decision may not be appealed to the full School Board if it is unanimous. If the School Board Disciplinary Committee decision is not unanimous, it may be appealed to the full School Board pursuant to Policy [JGD/JGE](#). If appealed to the full School Board, the appeal shall be decided by the School Board within thirty days

**Re-admission of Expelled or Suspended Students:** Any student who has been suspended from an IWCS school is not eligible to attend any other school within the division until eligible to return to his or her regular school. Any student who has been expelled or suspended for more than thirty days from attendance at school by a School Board or a private school in this Commonwealth or in another state or for whom admission has been withdrawn by a private school in this Commonwealth or in another state may be excluded from attendance in the Isle of Wight County Schools, in accordance with Policy [JEC \(G\)](#).

No suspended student shall be admitted to the regular school program until such student and his parent have met with school officials to discuss improvement of the student's behavior, unless the school principal or his designee determines that re-admission, without parent conference, is appropriate for the student.

If the parent fails to comply with this policy or Policy [JEC](#), the School Board may ask the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court to proceed against the parent for willful and unreasonable refusal to participate in efforts to improve the student's behavior.

**Disciplining Students with Disabilities:** A disabled student with a current Individualized Education Program (IEP) may be suspended or expelled in accordance with the procedures outlined in *Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia* and School Board policy [JGDA Disciplining Students with Disabilities](#) as appropriate. Any proposed disciplinary action which denies a disabled student with an IEP the right to attend a class, classes, or school for more than ten (10) school days aggregate is a change in placement and requires a causal hearing before the disciplinary action is imposed. *Regulations Governing Special Education Programs for Children with Disabilities in Virginia*, §[3.3.B.11](#) governs the Suspension or Expulsion of Children with Disabilities and §[3.3.B.4](#) governs parent participation in this process.

**Student Conduct on School Buses (JFCC, JFCC-R):**

Students are required to conduct themselves on school buses in a manner consistent with established standards for classroom behavior. The school principal may suspend or revoke the riding privileges of students and/or take other disciplinary actions for students who are disciplinary problems on the bus. Parents (or guardians) of children whose behavior and misconduct on school buses violates the

Student Code of Conduct or otherwise endangers the health, safety and welfare of other riders shall be notified that their child/children face the loss of school bus riding privileges and/or other disciplinary actions. If a student's riding privileges are suspended or revoked, the student's parents are responsible for seeing that the student gets to and from school safely. The bus driver is responsible for maintaining the orderly behavior of students on school buses and shall report misconduct to the student's principal and provide a copy of the report to the transportation office.

In the interest of the safety and welfare of school bus passengers, the School Board desires the Superintendent of schools and his designees to establish and enforce strict school bus discipline and safety regulations. Students who do not conform to all regulations and directives concerning discipline, safety, and conduct or whose behavior could be detrimental to the safety or welfare of others or the safe operation of the bus may have their bus riding privileges suspended or revoked in accordance with this regulation.

#### Procedural Guidelines

The following general procedural guidelines should be followed when administering this policy:

1. Initially, bus drivers should try to resolve the discipline problem or violation of rules directly with the student(s) involved. (Bus drivers may also attempt to confer with parents and request their cooperation in resolving the problem.) These actions should be documented by the driver.
2. For problems not resolved by step 1, continuing misbehavior, or in cases of more serious discipline or safety problems, a discipline referral may be made to the school principal or designee ("administrator"). In such cases, unless more severe sanctions appear warranted, the administrator will give the student a formal warning, notify the parents, and provide the parents with a copy of the discipline referral.
3. If there is continued misbehavior resulting in a second discipline referral or, in the case of an initial discipline referral involving a serious discipline or safety problem, the following procedure shall apply:
  - a. The administrator will advise the student orally or in writing of the charges.
  - b. If the student denies the charges, the administrator will explain the evidence against the student and give the student an opportunity to present the student's side of the incident.
  - c. If, on the basis of this discussion, the administrator believes the student to be guilty of the misconduct charged, the administrator will suspend the student's bus riding privileges from one (1) to five (5) school days.
  - d. The administrator shall immediately notify the parents of the suspension of bus riding privileges, the grounds for such suspension, the duration of such suspension, and the time and place for the parents to meet with the administrator to review the suspension. Such meeting shall be held prior to reinstatement of the student's bus riding privileges. The parents shall also be provided with a copy of the discipline referral. Telephone notification of parents is always to be attempted, and written notification of parents shall always occur. The student's bus riding privileges will not be reinstated until a meeting with parents and the administrator has taken place or until, in the discretion of the administrator, the parents have substantially agreed to review the suspension. The administrator may also reinstate such privileges where parents cannot be contacted or if the parents repeatedly fail to appear for scheduled meetings. Such reinstatements without meeting with parents shall be summarized in writing to the parents.
4. If a student, who has previously had bus riding privileges suspended during the current school year, receives another discipline referral, the administrator will follow the procedures in steps 3.a. through d. above with the following modifications:
  - a. If the administrator believes the student to be guilty of the misconduct charged, the administrator will suspend the student's bus riding privileges from six (6) to ten (10) school days; and
  - b. The student's bus riding privileges will not be reinstated until a meeting with the parents and the administrator has taken place or until, in the discretion of the administrator, the parents have substantially agreed to review the suspension. The administrator may also reinstate such privileges where the parents cannot be contacted or if the parents repeatedly fail to appear for scheduled meetings. A written summary of such reinstatement shall be prepared and sent to the parent.
5. If a student, who has twice previously during the current school year had bus riding privileges suspended, receives another discipline referral, the administrator will follow the procedures in steps 3.a. through d. above with the following modifications:
  - a. If the administrator believes the student to be guilty of the misconduct charged, the administrator will suspend the student's bus riding privileges for thirty (30) school days; and
  - b. The student's bus riding privileges will not be reinstated until a meeting with the student, the parents, the bus driver, the administrator, and the Transportation Supervisor has taken place.
6. In cases of severe and/or continuing problems, the school principal or the Transportation Supervisor may, after following the steps in 3.a. through d. above, suspend privileges for an additional fifteen (15) days, during which time an informal hearing will be scheduled before the Superintendent of schools or designee with the student, the parents, and division officials for the purpose of considering the revocation of the student's bus riding privileges for the remainder of the current school year.
7. An appeal may be taken to the School Board from any decision of the Superintendent revoking a student's bus riding privileges.
8. These guidelines shall not preclude the school principal or Transportation Supervisor from eliminating any of the steps in the process, if in their judgment the misconduct by the student warrants more severe action. This policy and applicable

regulations shall not be limited in their application to bus riding privileges alone, but shall also extend to all division provided or supervised transportation. Disorderly conduct by students at bus stops shall be reported and acted upon in the same manner as misconduct on buses.

Nothing contained in this policy shall preclude the imposition of other disciplinary measures as appropriate, including suspension or expulsion from school, in accordance with other division policies and procedures.

**Attendance (Policy JFC):** The school principal may notify the parents of any student who violates a School Board policy or the compulsory school attendance requirements when such violation could result in the student's suspension or the filing of a court petition, whether or not the school administration has imposed any disciplinary action or filed such a petition. The notice shall state (1) the date and particulars of the violation; (2) the obligation of the parent to take actions to assist the school in improving the student's behavior and ensuring compliance with compulsory school attendance; (3) that, if the student is suspended, the parent may be required to accompany the student to meet with school officials; and (4) that a petition with the juvenile and domestic relations court may be filed under certain circumstances to declare the student a child in need of supervision.

### **Annual Notifications Required by State and/or Federal Law or Regulation**

**Acceptable Computer System Use (Policy GAB/IIBEA):** The School Board provides a technology including the Internet, to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication. All use of the Division's technology must be (1) in support of education and/or research, or (2) for legitimate school business. Use of the computer system is a privilege, not a right. Any communication or material used on the computer system, including electronic mail or other files deleted from a user's account, may be monitored or read by school officials.

**Administration of Surveys and Questionnaires (Policy KFB):** Questionnaires and surveys are not administered to public school students during the regular school day or at school-sponsored events without written, informed parental consent when participation in such questionnaire or survey may subsequently result in the sale for commercial purposes of personal information regarding the individual student.

**Availability of School Board Policies and Regulations:** Current copies of all division policies and regulations are available on the division's website: [www.iwcs.k12.va.us](http://www.iwcs.k12.va.us) Printed copies are available to citizens who do not have online access at the IWCS School Board Office at 820 W. Main St., Smithfield, VA 23430.

**Compulsory Attendance (Policy JEA):** Principals, attendance officers (if the School Board has appointed an attendance officer), and the superintendent shall follow all legal requirements with regard to the compulsory school attendance requirements of state law. Every parent, guardian, or other person having control or charge of any child who will have reached the fifth birthday on or before September 30 of any school year and who has not passed the eighteenth birthday shall send such child to a public school or otherwise provide the child with an education in accordance with state law unless the child is exempt from the state's compulsory attendance requirement. Further, in the case of any five-year-old child, the requirements of this policy may be alternatively satisfied by sending the child to any public educational pre-kindergarten program, including a Head Start program, or in a private, denominational, or parochial educational pre-kindergarten program.

The requirements of this policy apply to:

- (i) any child in the custody of the Department of Juvenile Justice or the Department of Corrections who has not passed his eighteenth birthday and
- (ii) any child whom the division superintendent has required to take a special program of prevention, intervention, or remediation as provided in Va. Code §§ 22.1-253.13:1.C and 22.1-254.01.

The requirements of this policy do not apply to

- (i) any person 16 through 18 years of age who is housed in an adult correctional facility when such person is actively pursuing a the achievement of a passing score on a high school equivalency examination approved by the Board of Education but is not enrolled in an individual student alternative education plan, and
- (ii) any child who has obtained a high school diploma or its equivalent, a certificate of completion, or a passing score on a high school equivalency examination approved by the Board of Education, or who has otherwise complied with compulsory school attendance requirements.

#### **Individual Student Alternative Education Plan**

The School Board may allow the compulsory attendance requirements to be met pursuant to an individual student alternative education plan developed in conformity with guidelines prescribed by the Board of Education under the following conditions:

1. The student must be at least sixteen years of age.
2. There shall be a meeting of the student, the student's parents, and the principal or his designee of the school in which the student is enrolled to develop the plan, which must include the following:
  - Career guidance counselling
  - Mandatory enrolment and attendance in a preparatory program for passing a high school equivalency examination approved by the Board of Education or other alternative education program approved by the school board, with attendance reported to the principal or his designee;
  - Counselling on the economic impact of failing to complete high school; and
  - Procedures for re-enrolment
3. A student for whom such an individual student alternative education plan has been granted but who fails to comply with the conditions of the plan shall be in violation of the compulsory attendance laws, and the superintendent or attendance officer shall seek immediate compliance with such laws.

#### Alternative Education Program

The Superintendent, pursuant to regulations adopted by the school board, may in accordance with the procedures set forth in Va. Code

§22.1-276.01 et seq. and School Board policy and upon a finding that a school-age child has been

- (i) charged with an offense relating to the Commonwealth's laws, or with a violation of school board policies, on weapons, alcohol or drugs, or intentional injury to another person;
- (ii) found guilty or not innocent of a crime that resulted in or could have resulted in injury to others, or of an offense that is required to be disclosed to the superintendent of the school division pursuant to subsection G of Va. Code §16.1-260;
- (iii) suspended pursuant to Va. Code §22.1-277.05; or
- (iv) Expelled from school attendance pursuant to Va. Code §22.1-277.06, 22.1-277.07, or subsection B of § 22.1-277, require a student to attend an alternative education program as provided by Va. Code §22.1-209.1:2 or 22.1-277.2:1.

Prior to requiring a student to attend an alternative education program, the Superintendent shall provide: (1) written notice to the student and his parent/guardian that the student will be required to attend an alternative education program and (2) written notice to the student and his parent/guardian of the right to a hearing before the superintendent or designee regarding the placement. The decision of the superintendent or his designee regarding such alternative education placement shall be final unless altered by the school board, upon timely written petition, as established in regulation, by the student or his parent, for a review of the record by the school board.

Whenever a court orders any pupil into an alternative education program, including a program of general educational development, offered in the public schools, the School Board shall determine the appropriate alternative education placement of the pupil regardless of whether the pupil attends the public schools it supervises or resides within its school division.

#### Eating Disorders Awareness in the Public School Setting Authorization

The Code of Virginia requires that each school board shall annually provide parent educational information regarding eating disorders for pupils in grades five through twelve. Eating disorders are serious health problems that usually start in childhood or adolescence and affect both girls and boys. With early diagnosis, eating disorders are treatable with a combination of nutritional, medical, and therapeutic supports. Recognizing the importance of early identification of at-risk students, the 2013 Virginia General Assembly passed a law requiring each school board to provide parent educational information regarding eating disorders on an annual basis to students in the fifth through twelve grades. Parents who wish to receive information can visit the following links:

[http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/health\\_medical/index.shtml](http://www.doe.virginia.gov/support/health_medical/index.shtml) and the National Eating Disorders Association (NEDA)

<http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/> Parents may also contact the school principal for information.

#### Guidance and Counseling Program (Policy IJ)

A parent may decide whether a student may participate in the guidance and counseling program. Unless a parent makes a written request for the student to be excluded from a specific component, the student will be included in all guidance and counseling programs.

- **Academic Guidance:** Guidance assists students and their parents in understanding available curricular choices, planning a program of studies, arranging and interpreting academic testing, and seeking post-secondary academic opportunities.
- **Career Guidance:** Guidance helps students find information and plan action for work, jobs, apprenticeships, and post-secondary, educational and career opportunities.
- **Personal/Social Counseling:** Guidance assists students in understanding themselves; the rights and needs of others; conflict resolution; and individual goals based on interests, abilities, and aptitudes. Such counseling may be provided either (1) in groups in which generic issues of social development are addressed, or (2) through structured individual or small-group, multi-session

counseling which focuses on specific concerns of the participant(s). Information and records of personal/social counseling will be kept confidential and separate from a student's educational records and not disclosed to third parties without prior parental consent or as otherwise provided by law. Parents will notify the school division in writing if the student is not to participate in the personal/social counseling program. (Opt-Out)

**Graduation Requirement for Board of Education Diplomas:**

Diploma/Subject Areas	Standard Diploma		Advanced Studies Diploma	
	Standard Units of Credit	Verified Units of Credit	Standard Units of Credit	Verified Units of Credit
English*	4	2	4	2
Math	3	1	4	2
Science	3	1	4	2
History and Social Science	3	1	4	2
Foreign Language	0		3	
Health & Physical Education	2		2	
Fine Arts or Career & Technical Education	1		1	
Electives	6		2	
Student Selected Tests**		1		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>9</b>

\*Students usually earn one standard credit and the two verified credits through the English 11 class.

\*\*Students may choose a verified credit earned in an academic class or may choose a verified credit earned in a Virginia Board of Education approved test in computer science, technology and career and technical education.

More information about diplomas and graduation requirements can be found on the Virginia Department of Education website at:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/graduation/index.shtml>

**Prohibition against Harassment and Retaliation (Policy JFHA/GBA)**

The Isle of Wight County School Board is committed to maintaining an educational environment and workplace that is free from harassment. In accordance with law, the Board prohibits harassment against students, employees, or others on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law or based on a belief that such characteristic exists at school or any school sponsored activity. The Isle of Wight County School Board is an equal opportunity employer.

It is a violation of this policy for any student or school personnel to harass a student or school personnel based on sex, gender, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law or based on a belief that such characteristic exists at school or any school sponsored activity. Further, it is a violation of this policy for any school personnel to tolerate harassment based on a student's or employee's sex, gender, race, color, national origin, disability, religion, ancestry, age, marital status or genetic information or any other characteristic protected by law or based on a belief that such characteristic exists at school or any school sponsored activity, by students, school personnel or third parties participating in observing or otherwise engaged in school sponsored activities. Information on the complaint procedure can be found in policy JFHA/GBA.

**Sex Offender Registry:**

The Isle of Wight County school division recognizes the danger sex offenders pose to student safety. Therefore, to protect students while they travel to and from school, attend school or are at school-related activities, each school in the Isle of Wight County school division shall request electronic notification of the registration or preregistration of any sex offender in the same or contiguous zip codes as the school. Such request and notification shall be made according to the procedure established by the Virginia Department of State Police (State Police). In addition, information is available through the Sex Offender and Crimes against Minors Registry at <http://sex-offender.vsp.virginia.gov/sor/> (Policy KN)

**Student Fees (JN):** The School Board charges student fees and takes action to recover funds for the loss of or damage to School Board property in accordance with the state and federal law. No fee may be charged unless it has been approved by the School Board. The School Board provides, free of charge, such textbooks as are required for courses of instruction for each child attending public schools. Consumable materials such as workbooks, writing books, and drawing books may be purchased by the School Board and either provided to students at no cost or sold to students at a retail price not to exceed seven percent added to the publisher's price. If sold, the School Board shall ensure that workbooks, writing books, and drawing books are furnished to students who are unable to afford them at a reduced price or free of charge. Fees will not be charged to students for instructional materials, textbooks, or other materials used by a school board employee that are not directly used by a public school student. A list of fees charged in the division can be found in Regulation JN-R: Student Fees,

Fees are reduced or waived for economically disadvantaged students and students whose families are undergoing economic hardships and are financially unable to pay them, including but not limited to, families receiving unemployment benefits or public assistance, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medicaid; foster families caring for children in foster care; and families that are homeless. Each time a fee is charged, notice will be given that a fee waiver may be requested. The notice will include directions as to how to apply for a waiver. This policy will be provided to parents annually and posted on the division's website. The consequences for nonpayment of fees include exclusion from the activity related to the fee. Additional consequences are included in Regulation JN-R: Student Fees, Fines No student's report card, diploma or class schedule will be withheld because of nonpayment of fees or charges. No student will be suspended or expelled for nonpayment of fees or charges. The school board upon recommendation of the Superintendent may take action against a pupil or the pupil's parent for any actual loss, breakage, or destruction of or failure to return property, owned by or under the control of the School Board, caused or committed by such pupil in pursuit of his studies. Such action may include seeking reimbursement from a pupil or pupil's parent for any such loss, breakage, or destruction of or failure to return school property.

### **Student Fee Schedule (JN-R):**

Students are financially liable for loss of or damage to school board property, even when malicious intent is not involved. If malicious intent is involved, the case is treated as vandalism and the responsible student shall be charged for the lost or damaged item.

Any student fees levied by a teacher or principal must be in accordance with the fee schedule approved by the Superintendent. The school board may approve only those fees which are permitted by law or regulations of the State Board of Education.

Fees for loss of or damage to school board property shall be accounted for in accordance with procedures established by the Executive Director of Budget and Finance. Fees, for lost or damaged items shall be based upon the condition of school board property and prorated as follows: New condition – 100% of new cost; Good condition – 50% of new cost; Poor condition – 25% of new cost

Any unpaid fees shall have valid reasons for nonpayment before replacement or additional school board property is issued. A parent may request an application for waiver of fees if he/she claims economic hardship (Form JN-E). Failure to pay fees, fines, or charges may result in the student being not eligible for any extracurricular activities as a participant or a spectator. The student may not be a member of any club, run for any office, or attend any school activity. Once all fees, fines or charges have been satisfied, the student will be eligible for all activities.

Students are expected to protect textbooks, equipment and materials from weather and damage; to refrain from writing or drawing in textbooks and from cutting or tearing textbooks pages; to return unclaimed textbooks; and to present textbooks, equipment and materials for inspection when requested.

Fee Schedule:

- 1). Activity Fee – will be assessed for all junior or varsity sports activities or any VHSL sanctioned activity that involves face to face competition and participation is not a specific requirement of the student's coursework. The activity fee is set at \$40.00 per season per person with a \$100.00 maximum cost in any school year.
- 2). Parking Fee – High School - \$50.00 per semester or \$100.00 annually.

### **Student Records (Policy JO)**

- **Confidentiality of School Records:** School records are protected under School Board Policy JO and under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Information is available only to persons with a need to know, as outlined in policy JO, or to persons with court orders seeking disclosure. One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational concerns. A school official is a person employed by the Division as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, support staff member (including health and law enforcement); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the Division has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfil his or her professional responsibility.
- **Procedure to Inspect Education Records:** Parents of students or eligible students may inspect and review the student's education records within a reasonable period of time, which shall not exceed 45 days, and before any meeting regarding an IEP or hearing involving a student with a disability. Further, parents shall have the right to a response from the school division to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of the education record. Parents or eligible students should submit to the student's school principal a written request which identifies as precisely as possible the record or records he or she wishes to inspect. The principal (or appropriate school official) will make the needed arrangements for access as promptly as possible and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. When a record contains information about students other than a parent's child or the eligible student, the parent or eligible student may not inspect and review the portion of the record which pertains to other students.
- **Amendments and Disclosure of Student Records:** Parents or eligible students may ask Isle of Wight County schools to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. The request should be made in writing to the school principal, and should clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and describe why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school division decides not to amend the record, as requested by the parent or eligible student, the Division will provide notification of the

decision and of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information about the hearing procedures will also be provided to the parent or eligible student.

- **Directory Information:** “Directory Information” is contained in a student’s educational record that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes, but is not limited to, the student’s name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status, participation in officially-recognized activities and sports, weight and height, membership on athletic teams; degrees, honors, and awards received; and the most recent educational agency or institution attended (refer to Isle of Wight County Policy JO).
- **Complaints:** The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the school division to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4605.

### **Promotion, Retention, Remediation Policies (Policy JECC-R)**

**A student in kindergarten** who meets attendance guidelines will be promoted based on teacher recommendation and satisfactory progress as evidenced by the report card and kindergarten assessments of the Standards of Learning.

A student in first or second grades who meets attendance guidelines will be promoted to the next grade based on teacher recommendation and satisfactory progress in essential grade level English and mathematics skills as evidenced by the report card.

**A student in grades three through five, and grade six at Westside Elementary**, who meets attendance guidelines and who is recommended by the teacher will be promoted to the next grade if three (3) of the following four (4) criteria are met:

- Successfully masters essential grade level English skills as evidenced by the report card.
- Successfully masters essential grade level mathematics skills as evidenced by the report card.
- Passes an end-of-year test or Standards of Learning test in English.
- Passes an end-of-year test or Standards of Learning test in Mathematics.

**A student in grades K-5 and grade six at Westside Elementary, who does not meet criteria for promotion will be required to participate in interventions designated by the principal and Student Assistance Team.**

Interventions may include: Summer school; Before and after school tutoring; Participation in Title I and early intervention programs; Participation in special remedial course offerings; Retention in grade remediation during regular instructional day; Transitional class; Multi-age classroom; Retention with same teacher; Retention with different teacher; Next grade placement with remediation indicated.

**A student in grades six through eight** who meets attendance guidelines and who is recommended by the teacher will be promoted to the next grade if two of the following criteria are met:

- Earns a passing grade in the four (4) core academic areas of English, Mathematics, Science, and History.
- Passes the Standards of Learning test for English (RLR and writing) and Mathematics.
- Passes all but one of the required SOL tests.

*A student who does not pass the English or Mathematics class or the English or Mathematics Standards of Learning tests will be required to attend summer school as a prerequisite for being considered for promotion. Performance in summer school will be a factor in the consideration for promotion. Other factors may be considered at the principal’s discretion.*

**A student in grades 6-8 who does not meet the criteria will be required to participate in interventions designated by the principal and Student Assistance Team.**

Interventions may include: Summer school; Before and after school tutoring; Participation in special remedial course offerings; Remediation during regular instructional day; Retention in grade; Next grade placement with remediation indicated.

### **Requirements for Students who in grades nine through twelve:**

- Six units of credit with a total of three core academic courses including English, are required for promotion to the tenth grade.\*
- Twelve units of credit, with a total of six core academic courses, including English 9 and 10, are required for promotion to the eleventh grade.\*
- Fourteen units of credit, with a total of nine core academic courses including English 9, 10, and 11, are required for promotion to the twelfth grade.\*
- All twelfth grade students must be in position to graduate in June of the academic year in which they are classified as seniors. A minimum of twenty-two units of credit (twenty-four for Advanced Studies) is required to graduate with a diploma.
- Students must also take the state-mandated SOL tests that accompany classes in mathematics, science, history/social science, and English 11.

*\* Core academic courses include those taught in the areas of English, mathematics, science, and history and social science.*

**Students in grades 9-12 may be required by the principal to enroll in certain courses designed to improve students' basic academic skills.**

*No person, on the basis of race, sex, age, religion, color, national origin, handicapping condition, or marital status shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity operated by Isle of Wight County Schools.*