

MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL

R. Gonzalez, Principal

CODE OF CONDUCT 2017—2018

9th Grade Rev. Dr.
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Dream Academy



Dr. Daniel Hale
Williams STEM
Academy



Sojourner Truth
College Prep & Law
Academy

AVID

Benjamin Banneker Business
& Entrepreneurship
Academy

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Sonya Wingate-Simmons, Administrator - Dean of Students

MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

The Mount Vernon High School Administration, Faculty and Staff are committed to ensuring that all students receive a quality education and educational services in a safe and orderly environment where responsible and appropriate behavior is expected in order to create an atmosphere based on mutual respect, citizenship and good character.

The Code of Conduct serves as the framework for responsible behavior and provides guidelines which outline what is expected of all students and makes clear all disciplinary action to be enforced for acts of misconduct and violation of the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct below also complies with the Dignity for All Students Act (“DASA”).

All students have the right to a free and quality public education. All students also have the responsibility:

- To attend and arrive to school daily and on time;
- To remain in the school building all day until dismissal avoiding any unlawful and unauthorized early exits prior to the official dismissal time;
- To follow all standard rules of dress and grooming;
- To obtain a pass before exiting any classroom or office to walk in the hallways (students will be **sent back** to obtain a pass before proceeding to bathroom or other destination);
- To show ID card or hall pass to a Safety Officer of School Personnel upon request;
- To refrain from any and all acts of inappropriate behavior and misconduct, threatening and bullying, harassing and discriminating acts against others or the property of others; such acts must immediately be reported to a teacher, school employee or administrator, or MVPD School Resource Officer (SRO);
- To show respect to other students, staff, teachers, school and district personnel of diverse culture, race, religion, gender and any other distinguishing groups.

Failure to adhere to the responsibilities listed above can and will be subject to disciplinary action enforced on four (4) infraction levels:

Level 1 (Insubordinate/Inappropriate Conduct):

Disciplinary Action: Teacher -issued consequences, teacher-student conference, verbal/written parent notification, detention, or other appropriate actions determined by school officials to address the infraction

Level 2 (Disorderly/Disruptive Conduct):

Disciplinary Action: Teacher -issued consequences, teacher-student conference, removal from classroom or location where act(s) of misconduct occurs, conference with administrator and/or SRO, verbal/written parent notification, detention, or other appropriate actions determined by school officials to address the infraction

Level 3 (Conduct that Endangers the Morals, Health and Welfare of Students and Staff):

Disciplinary Action: Teacher -issued consequences, teacher-student conference, removal from classroom or location where act(s) of misconduct occurs, conference with administrator and/or SRO, verbal/ written parent notification **and** suspension for 1-5 days, Superintendent's hearing for repeat offenses or other appropriate actions determined by school officials to address the infraction

Level 4 (Violent and Dangerous Conduct):

Disciplinary Action: Suspension for 5 days
Superintendent's Hearing
Removal from school/homebound instruction or other alternative instruction

Detailed Guidelines for Appropriate and Lawful School Conduct

INFRACTIONS / OFFENSES	DISCIPLINARY ACTION
<p><u>Inappropriate Dress/Attire:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Headgear - (hats, hoods, du-rags, scarves) • Footwear - (flip flops, fluffy slippers) • Revealing Garments - (see-through clothing revealing and not properly covering body parts or underwear/undergarments: <i>tube tops, net tops, shirts or blouses with low-cut necklines, or jackets to cover exposed or visible backsides</i>) • Sagging - (low-sagging jeans/sweatpants, etc. revealing underwear or body parts) • Gang or Profane Paraphernalia - (clothing revealing vulgar, sexual language consisting of profanity, gang terms or signs, promoting danger or violence or use of drugs, alcohol) • Dangerous Jewelry - (spiked bracelets or neck collars) <p><i>(Final determination of what is appropriate will be determined by Principal, Administration, Official Designee when necessary)</i></p>	<p><i>(One, several or all actions listed may be enforced)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal or change of clothing • No access to class • Detention for repeat violation • Parent contact • Other appropriate actions determined by school officials to address the infraction
<p><u>Misconduct:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disruptive and distractive behavior in classroom or any area of building • Cutting class, missing school, skipping detention, leaving school without permission • Failure to comply with, or refusal to follow, directions of teachers, school employees, administrators or any official in charge of students • Using, viewing, displaying cell phone in class or during class instruction, especially after being directed to put phone away and out of sight • Refusal to produce or present identification to school employee when requested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written referral • Parent notification • Parent Conference • Conference with Administrator or SRO • Detention for repeat offense • In-School Suspension (ISS) • Daily Conduct Sheet for repeat offense • Counseling • Suspension for 1-5 days
<p><u>Physical, Dangerous or Violent Illegal Misconduct (serious offenses):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abusive language using profanity, sexual or lewd language, cursing and swearing at others • Fighting or engaging in any physical altercation • Gang-related activities • Possession, use, sale, exchange or distribution of illegal drugs and marijuana, prescription or over-the-counter medication, and illegal substance or weapons • Inappropriate, lewd, sexual, violent or graphic photographing, videotaping or posting of self or others for public computer or online display or viewing • False report of fire, bombs, or other type; misuse of 911 or pulling fire alarm or discharging fire extinguisher 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Referral • Parent notification/conference • Out-of-School Suspension • Homebound Instruction • In some cases, expulsion • Police Intervention/Arrest

RULES AND RESOURCES SUPPORTING STUDENT ENFORCEMENT OF THE MOUNT VERNON HIGH SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

Entry/Scanning

ALL STUDENTS and STUDENT BOOKBAGS AND OTHER PROPERTY will be subject to a search and required to walk through the scanning machines to obtain entry into the building. Refusal to comply will result in immediate exit.

Students must produce and swipe ID cards before entry machine and adhere to the instructions and directives of ALL SAFETY OFFICERS AND SCHOOL OFFICIALS assembled.

All hats, hoods, scarves, du-rags MUST be removed at such time before entering building and proceeding with scanning procedures. Cell phones must be put away and turned off before entering classrooms.

Students wearing inappropriate attire will be pulled aside, must provide name and must change into appropriate attire or arrange for appropriate attire to be delivered. In some instances, students may be required to exit and return home to change into appropriate attire. Parents of all will be notified.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO ENTER THE BUILDING WITH A WEAPON, DRUGS OR ANY ILLEGAL OR UNAUTHORIZED SUBSTANCE!!!

ANY SUCH DISCOVERABLE ITEMS WILL BE CONFISCATED AND STUDENTS WILL BE SUBJECT TO IMMEDIATE SUSPENSION AND POSSIBLE ARREST!!!! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

If you are being bullied, threatened or harassed, never take matters into your own hands.

Immediately report any such acts to the School Resource Police Officer (SRO) and/or any school

Bathrooms

Bathroom Privileges – are extended with permission from, and at the discretion of, any teacher or supervising school employee.

Bathroom passes MAY NOT be issued during the FIRST and LAST 10 minutes of a class period.

Students may ONLY use bathrooms designated for students*

**Transgendered students with concerns about bathroom locations should speak to an administrator.*

Lunch, Cafeteria and Courtyard

ABSOLUTELY NO OUTSIDE FOOD MAY BE ORDERED FOR DELIVERY. Food will be confiscated and delivery persons WILL BE turned away.

Cafeteria food may not be taken out of the cafeteria (UNLESS students have an official pass issued by a school teacher, counselor, etc. indicating where student will be reporting for the lunch period).

All students must remain in the cafeteria throughout the entire lunch period; students in unauthorized areas will be subject to disciplinary action.

The Courtyard will NOT be accessible during the 6th period lunch.

Misuse and excessive incidence of during The 5th period lunch will result in loss of courtyard privileges during that lunch period.

Mount Vernon High School Policy and Guidelines on Cell Phone Use In School

Mount Vernon High School holds learning as a core value. Cell phones, widely used for communication are now undisputed tools for learning. Naturally, cell phones possess functions which, if used inappropriately, can disrupt the learning environment and create the possibility of problematic behavior. Realizing the undeniable benefits, MVHS has decided to adopt the policy of acceptable cell phone usage at school while creating reasonable expectations for limits of use that do not provide a benefit to the school environment.

Possession and use of cell phone must fall within these guidelines:

- 1. Teachers have the authority to allow or ban cell phone use during their respective class times.**
- 2. Cell phones must be on silent upon entering the building, unless directed by administration or teachers, and remain on silent throughout the remainder of the class day.**
- 3. School electrical outlets will not be used as charging stations for student cell phones.**
- 4. Cell phone cameras and audio recorders may only be used for specific educational benefits and only with prior permission from the teacher or administrator.**
- 5. Considerable leniency for cell phone use will be allowed in emergency situations, however, cell phone use should not interfere with the student's ability to follow directions or adhere to safely advisement from school personnel.**
- 6. Students who choose to bring cell phones to school do so at their own risk. MVHS assumes (no liability) for lost or stolen cell phones.**

Student use of cell phones at MVHS is a privilege not a right. Failure to adhere to established guidelines will result in consequences similar to the consequences levied for other disruptions to the educational process including the confiscation or learning of that individual student's cell phone.

First offense-The phone will be taken until the end of the school day (may be picked up by student)

Second offense-The phone will be taken away and may be picked up by parent

Third offense-Cell phone use will not be allowed in the building for that student.