

Barker Central School
Student Handbook &
Code of Conduct

Pratt Elementary Grades PK-6

2025-2026





Barker Central School District

Strategic Plan 2023-2026

Vision, Mission & Foundational Values

Vision

To be a leader in bringing out the best in each individual in our community.

Mission

We will provide a school environment that fosters respect, compassion, tolerance, and nurtures life-long learners who make meaningful contributions to society. Foundational

Values

ACCOMPLISHMENT - A commitment to achieving and realizing goals/objectives.

ACCOUNTABILITY - Ensuring responsibility and liability for self and others.

COMMUNICATION - A commitment to the open and effective exchange of information.

COMMUNITY - A concern for positively impacting the world around you through the building of relationships.

COMPASSION - Taking into account the feelings and needs of others.

FAMILY - A belief that the health, fulfillment and kinship of family members is essential to sustenance, satisfaction, stability, and/or legacy.

HONESTY - A commitment to factual and objective straightforwardness.

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Elementary School Schedule

| | |
|--------|------------------------------------|
| 7:50am | Buses Arrive at School |
| 8:00am | School Day Begins |
| 2:28pm | Dismissal |
| 2:35pm | First Bus Run Departs from School |
| 3:11pm | Second Bus Run Departs from School |

Students Who Do Not Use Bus Transportation

Students need to arrive promptly to school at 7:50 am. The main doors will open at this time. The school will not be open until this time.

Code of Conduct Purpose and Intent

Academics

The intent of this Code of Conduct is to promote responsible behavior that creates an orderly and safe school environment. It is the belief of the Barker Central School District that everyone in our community must strive toward contributing to this goal. The objective is to develop a moral school community based on:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Responsible Behavior: | Use of self-control in your actions and language. |
| Mutual Respect: | Treat yourself and others with care and consideration. |
| Concern for Others: | Be truthful, honest and fair in your dealing with others. |
| Cooperation: | Listen and work together to make a positive contribution. |
| Personal Excellence: | Put forth your best effort in whatever you attempt. |
| Academic Integrity: | Academic integrity will be expected at all times. |

Barker Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Barker students have all the rights afforded to them by federal and state constitutions, statutes and regulations. The school reminds students that certain responsibilities accompany these rights.

| IT SHALL BE THE RIGHT STUDENTS: | IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY STUDENTS: |
|---|--|
| To have a safe, healthy, orderly and courteous school environment. | To be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules & regulations pertaining to student conduct. |
| To take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, sex, religion, national origin, or disability. | To work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward the highest level of achievement possible. |
| To attend school and participate in school programs unless suspended from instruction & participation for legally sufficient cause as determined in accordance with due process of law. | When participating in or attending school sponsored extracurricular events, to behave as a representative of the district and hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor & sportsmanship & accept responsibility for their actions. |
| To have school rules & conditions available for review and, when necessary, explanation by school personnel. | To seek help in solving problems that might lead to disciplinary procedures. |
| To be suspended from instruction only after their rights, pursuant to Education Law #3214, have been observed. | To be in regular attendance at school and in class. |
| In all disciplinary matters, to have the opportunity to present their version of the facts and circumstances leading to imposition of disciplinary sanctions to the professional staff member imposing such sanction. | To contribute to an orderly, learning centered environment, and to show due respect for other persons and for property. |
| To follow personal standards of dress and grooming. | To dress in accordance with standards promulgated by the Board of Education and the Superintendent. |
| To express their opinions verbally and long as their expression does not interfere with the right of others or disrupt normal school operations. | To make constructive contributions to the school, and to report fairly the circumstances of school related issues. |

Parent Partners:

All parents are expected to:

1. Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
2. Send their children to school ready to participate and learn.
3. Ensure their children attend school regularly and on time.
4. Ensure absences are excused.
5. Insist their children be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress code.
6. Help their children understand that in a democratic society, appropriate rules are required to maintain a safe, orderly environment.
7. Know school rules and help their children understand them.
8. Convey to their children a supportive attitude toward education and the district.
9. Build good relationships with teachers, other parents and their children's friends.
10. Help their children deal effectively with peer pressure.
11. Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.
12. Provide a place for study and ensure homework assignments are completed.
13. Teach their children respect and dignity for themselves, and other students regardless of actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender/gender identity, or sex, which will strengthen the child's confidence and promote learning in accordance with the Dignity for All Students Act.

Behavioral Expectations and Norms Provided to Elementary Students:

Students who consistently meet the expectations in the following chart will be eligible to participate in SPARK activities that will take place at various times throughout the school year.

Be A Spark

Student Performing Acts of Responsibility and Kindness

| SPARK | CLASSROOM | BUS | CAFETERIA | HALLWAY | PLAYGROUND | RESTROOM |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| RESPONSIBILITY | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have regular attendance and arrive to school on time - Follow teacher's directions as soon as they are given - Use all types of classroom materials appropriately - Complete all assignments to the best of your ability - Be prepared with supplies and homework - Always try your best | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow the directions of the driver and aide - Keep the bus clean - Keep track of your belongings - Remain seated at all times - Keep aisle clear | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow adults' directions - Be sure your area is clean when finished - Place all garbage in the trash - Ask for permission to leave your seat - Wait quietly in cafeteria line - When lights are turned off, do not talk and wait for instructions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stay in your assigned line - Face forward - Use walking feet - If not walking with a class, walk to and from your destination without stopping - Keep hallways neat and clean | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use all equipment the way it was intended - Line up as soon as signaled - Report unsafe actions of others to an adult - Report any injuries to an adult immediately - Tell your teacher when you need to enter the building for any reason | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use the restroom only when needed - Hush, Rush, Flush! - Keep the restroom clean - Wash and dry your hands when finished |
| KINDNESS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work together cooperatively to accomplish tasks - Take turns when speaking - Talk appropriately and use your manners - Keep hands, feet and other objects to yourself | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use quiet voices - Talk appropriately and use your manners - Keep hands, feet and other objects to yourself | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use quiet voices - Talk appropriately and use your manners - Keep hands, feet and other objects to yourself - Touch and eat only your food | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Give each other personal space - Keep quiet and use your manners - Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself - Be respectful of displays and work posted on bulletin boards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Play cooperatively by taking turns and including any who wants to join in - Talk appropriately and use your manners - Keep the playground free of trash | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wait your turn - Respect each other's privacy |

Section 1: Prohibited Student Behavior

Students may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from school, when: He/she/they engage in conduct that is:

1. **Disorderly:** Examples of disorderly conduct include, but are not limited to:
 - A. Running in hallways.
 - B. Making unreasonable noise.
 - C. Using language or gestures that are profane, lewd, vulgar or abusive.
 - D. Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
 - E. Engaging in any willful act that disrupts the normal operation of the school community.
 - F. Trespassing. Students are not permitted in any school building, other than the one they regularly attend, or at such times as they are not attending educational activities or school functions. There should be no students in unwarranted areas.
 - G. Computer/Electronic communications misuse and destruction, including any unauthorized use of computers, software, or internet/intranet account; accessing inappropriate websites: evading the District's content filter; using and outside wireless network; including any software or other work of any other individual; or any other violation of the district's acceptable use policy.
 - H. Unauthorized use of personal electronic devices/equipment (i.e. cell phones, MP3 devices, cameras, and other personal electronic devices deemed inappropriate by the administrations).
 - I. Unauthorized use of personal computer, laptop, tablet or E-reader and /or other computerized information resources through the District computer system is prohibited.
2. **Insubordinate:** Examples of insubordination include, but are not limited to:
 - A. Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees in charge of students or otherwise demonstrating disrespect.
 - B. Lateness for missing or leaving school without permission.
 - C. Skipping detention or class
 - D. Engaging in conduct that is disruptive. Examples of insubordination that causes disruption may include but are not limited to:
 - i. Failure to relinquish electronic device in class, hallways, etc.
 - ii. Refusal to change out of clothing that violates the dress code
 - iii. Undermining the authority of a school employee
3. **Violent:** Examples of violent conduct include:
 - A. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon a teacher, administrator or other employee or attempting to do so.
 - B. Committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, and scratching) upon another student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting to do so.

- C. Engaging in harassing conduct, verbal threats, intimidation, or abuse that reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical well-being.
- D. Possessing a weapon. Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on school property or at a school function. This can include but is not limited to knives, firearms, explosives, fireworks, etc.
- E. The possession of ammunition, used or unused, whether or not there is an accompanying weapon on premises or person.
- F. Displaying what appears to be a weapon.
- G. Threatening to use any weapon.
- H. Intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
- I. Intentionally damaging or destroying school district property.

4. **Endangering** the safety, morals, health or welfare of others.

Examples of such conduct include, but are not limited to:

- A. Lying to school personnel.
- B. Stealing the property of other students, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function.
- C. No public display of affection of any type is allowed in school.
- D. Defamation, which includes making false or unprivileged statements or representations about an individual or identifiable group of individuals that harm the reputation of the person or the identifiable group by demeaning them – This can include posting or publishing video, audio recording or picture (written material, cell phones, Internet, YouTube, etc.).
- E. Discrimination, based on a person's actual or perceived race, age, sexual orientation, use of a recognized guide dog, hearing dog, or service dog, color, creed, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, sex, gender or gender identity, marital or veteran status, or disability as a basis for treating another in a negative manner on school property or at a school function.
- F. Harassment, the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by verbal threats, intimidation or abuse that has or would have the effects of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional, or physical wellbeing based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, political affiliation, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, marital or veteran status, use of a recognized guide dog, hearing dog or service dog, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex.
- G. Bullying or Intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm.
- H. "Internet bullying" (also referred to as "cyber bullying") including the use of instant messaging, email, websites, chat rooms, text messaging, or by any other electronic

means, when such use interferes with the operation of the school; or infringes upon the general health, safety and welfare of students or employees.

- I. Taking photos, recording or videotaping another student, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function without their permission or with permission that are of actions in violation of the Code of Conduct.
 - J. Posting photos, recordings or video of another student, school personnel or any other person lawfully on school property or attending a school function on social media without their permission or with permission that are of actions in violation of the Code of Conduct.
 - K. Hazing, that includes any knowing and/or intentional and/or reckless act directed against another for the purpose of initiation into, affiliating with or maintaining membership in any school-sponsored activity, organization, club or team.
 - L. Selling, using, or possessing obscene material.
 - M. Using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing.
 - N. Possession and/or use of tobacco and/or tobacco product including, but not limited to smoking a cigarette or E-cigarette, cigar, pipe or using chewing or smokeless tobacco. Any confiscated tobacco and/or tobacco product will be surrendered to the SRO and will NOT be returned to student/parent/guardian.
 - O. Possessing, consuming, selling, distributing or exchanging alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, counterfeit and designer drugs, or paraphernalia for the use of such drugs or being under the influence of such substance on school property or at a school function. "Illegal substances" include, but are not limited to, inhalants, marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids, cocaine, LSD, PXP, GHB, Ecstasy, Ketamine, amphetamines, heroin, steroids, look-alike drugs, and any substances commonly referred to as "designer drugs". Any confiscated substance mentioned above will be surrendered to the SRO and will NOT be returned to student/parent/guardian.
 - P. Inappropriately using or sharing prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Any student suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or drugs is subject to a field-screening test. The police, school resource officer or an administrator will administer this test.
 - Q. Gambling
 - R. Indecent exposure, that is, exposure to sight of the private parts of the body in a lewd or indecent manner.
 - S. Initiating a report warning of fire or other catastrophe without valid cause, misuse of 911, or discharging a fire extinguisher.
5. **Sexual Harassment** whether intentional or not, as further set forth in District Policy which includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, taking, sending or receiving sexually explicit videos, pictures or auditory recordings and other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature.

6. Bus Regulations

You are expected to ride school buses in a safe and orderly manner, demonstrate courtesy and respect for the rights of others. **Only students who are working with a teacher, are assigned detention, or are participating in after school activities are eligible to ride the late buses (3:11) A pass from the teacher/advisor in charge is required.** *This means that students will not be permitted to leave school grounds and then walk back to school to board the bus.*

Student Transportation of America follows the position of no glass, food, animals, aerosol cans, hazardous materials or loose items are allowed on the bus. Drivers are informed that everything has to be in a backpack or bag. No weapons of any kind are allowed on the bus. The following guidelines will assist you in achieving this goal:

- A. Be on time at your bus stop.
- B. Do not fool around, push, fight, or stand in the road at your bus stop.
- C. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before getting on or off.
- D. Remain in your seat, sit facing forward, and do not block the bus aisles while the bus is in motion.
- E. When assigned to a seat by the driver, you **must** sit in the seat unless permission to change is granted by the driver.
- F. Eating, drinking, or smoking* are not allowed on the bus.
- G. Fighting, horseplay, profane language, gestures, and other unnecessary nonsense are not allowed on the buses.
- H. Potentially dangerous objects such as glass jars, bottles, knives, guns, etc. Are not allowed on the buses.
- I. Radios are not allowed on the buses.
- J. Throwing objects on or from the buses is not allowed.
- K. Keep all parts of your body completely inside the bus at all times.
- L. Be courteous to your driver and other students and enjoy reasonable conversation, but refrain from shouting, whistling, and other loud noises.
- M. Before crossing in front of the bus, wait for the driver's signal and then cross approximately ten (10) feet in front of the bus.
- N. Keep your bus clean and treat the bus and its equipment with care.
- O. Report to designated bus boarding areas when expected (ex: Cafeteria, Library, etc) and remain there.

If you have any questions concerning these rules, please feel free to contact Student Transportation of America.

***NOTE: SMOKING, LIGHTING MATCHES, OR USE OF E-CIGARETTES ON A BUS IS A CIVIL CRIME. SUCH BEHAVIOR WILL BE DEALT WITH IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LAW.**

Students violating bus regulations can be denied the privilege of riding the bus.

7. Academic Misconduct of any form.

Examples of academic misconduct include, but are not limited to Plagiarism, Cheating, Copying, Altering records, assisting another student in any of the above actions.

Violators of this policy will be disciplined on a case-by-case basis depending on the seriousness of the violation, prior violations, and other factors. Disciplinary measures may include, but are not limited to, redoing assignments/retaking test, receiving a failing grade on the project/test, receiving a lower overall grade in the class, detention, suspension, or expulsion.

8. Disciplinary Consequences

The main purpose of the public school is to provide all student an equal educational opportunity. We recognize as citizens, that students have rights granted to them both by the Constitution and laws of the United States and the State of New York. At the same time all rights carry with them corresponding responsibilities. As a school and a community we have established guidelines and rules to govern our behavior. The foremost guidelines are respect and reasonableness. Only if we respect the rights of others can we justifiably insist on our own rights. The actions and decisions of a "reasonable person" have been historically to determine appropriate behavior in those areas where there are no specific laws. So that we can maintain the orderly environment that makes learning possible, we expect all members of the school community to use good judgement and to be respectful of others at all times.

While we are confident that most of our students live up to our expectations for student behavior, we believe that there should be appropriate consequences when they do not. Further, we believe in progressive discipline. In other words, if a student breaks a rule a second time, consequences should be stronger than they were the first time. Our goal is, of course, that students will learn to discipline themselves. By setting forth clear rules in areas of most frequent concern, and by spending time to explain the regulations and the reasons for them, both at the beginning of the year and when students are referred to administrators for discipline, we hope that students will be helped toward the goal.

No set of rules can include every possible infraction, hence the need for good judgement on the part of all members of the school community, including students, teachers, administrators and parents. Nor will the consequences fit every situation. The administrators reserve the right to use their good judgement to modify these guidelines and consequences when appropriate.

Students who receive any of the following behavior consequences are subject to removal from the current SPARK activity. Removal of student from participating in the SPARK activity will be determined by the principal and/or instructional support specialist.

A. DETENTION

i. Administrative

This detention will be issued by the administration. A written referral will be placed in the student's discipline file. These detentions will be served during 10th period in the R & R room. Extended detention will be from 2:31 – 5:15 p.m. Once detention is assigned, the date will not be changed unless done so by the main office.

ii. **Teacher**

- a) Students are required to attend detention on the date assigned. Students who skip teacher detention will receive further consequences.
- b) Teachers may assign detention for breaking the classroom rules of school wide rules.
- c) Detention will be with the teacher from 2:31 – 3:06 p.m.

Extended Detention

This is also a teacher supervised after-school program for students who have violated school rules; however, extended detentions are held from 2:31 – 5:15 p.m.

B. SUSPENSION

i. In School Suspension

The Purpose of in school suspension is to isolate, within the building, those students who cannot behave in an acceptable way while in school, while still providing them the opportunity to fulfill their academic responsibilities. In school suspension is considered to be a very serious disciplinary step. Placement in in-school suspension will be assigned to students who commit serious and/or repeated violations of the school rules as listed in the Code of Discipline and Responsibilities.

Student expectations for in school suspension include:

- a) Report as assigned by the Principal.
- b) Maintain absolute silence except to speak to the adult in charge.
- c) Bring work to do – homework assignments, pen, pencil.
- d) No sleeping
- e) No passes.
- f) If assigned for the day, students will:
 - Eat lunch in the in school suspension room
 - Not participate in activities such as assemblies, special activities unless given permission by the Principal.
- g) Students will complete an R & R Reflection sheet

C. OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION

External suspension will be assigned by the administration. Any student on external suspension is **not** allowed on school property during the time of suspension unless given permission by the principal. **The student may not participate in any extracurricular activities during the time he/she is suspended. If suspended over a weekend, the student is not allowed to attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities or be on school property.**

A parent conference will be offered. Students suspended externally may be required to report to school from 3:00 – 5:15 to attend tutoring.

D. 10th PERIOD RESTRICTION

Students who violate the expectations of 10th period may be required to leave on the 9th period dismissal bus and not be allowed to stay for academic help or extra-curricular activities.

E. DISCIPLINE OPTIONS

Guidelines for student behavior and other school policies are always under review. If changes occur in any of the information presented in the handbook, students and parents will be notified in writing by means of District Newsletter or by a separate elementary school mailing.

Every encounter between a student and a staff member is a learning/teaching experience. The District reserves the right to modify these guidelines when necessitated by circumstances. Behavior not covered by the guidelines will be dealt with according to its severity.

The purpose of a student discipline code is to help maintain a positive, orderly school environment so that all students have the opportunity to do their best. If a student discipline code is to be effective, the cooperation of students, staff, parents, and administration is absolutely necessary. This code of conduct has been designed so that the disciplinary practices and procedures are consistent, reasonable, fair, and equitable.

All examples and procedures of the disciplinary code are applicable in school, on school buses, during school-sponsored field trips, and from the time of departure from school until arrival home including school activities on weekends and/or evenings. This includes any form of distance or virtual learning.

Section 2: Electronic Device Use

Part A: Electronic Use

USAGE GUIDELINES

Network account holders are responsible for appropriate behavior when using the district computer network. It is expected that all network account holders will comply with the districts standards and regulations as described in this Code of Conduct. Network account holders are held responsible for their actions and activity within their accounts. Some examples are:

- Using the network for any illegal activity, including plagiarism or violation of copyright laws;
- Damaging or disrupting network equipment, software or system performance;
- Altering the configuration of any computer or network device;
- Gaining unauthorized access to network resources or entities;
- Transferring or installing any hardware/software program;
- Using the network in an unsupervised setting;
- Using another person's network account;
- Playing internet-based games or other computer games without specific permission from a teacher or staff member;
- Using, accessing or transmitting profane, offensive, prejudicial or inappropriate material or language;
- Using technology in a way that is inconsistent with existing Barker Central School policy.

Infractions of this Technology Agreement will result in punishments consistent with Barker Central School disciplinary procedures. The penalties can include but are not limited to consequences detailed in this Code of Conduct.

ACCEPTABLE USE

The use of an assigned account must be in support of education and research and within the educational goals and objectives of the Barker Central School District (These may be found in the district document on the Barker Central School District Website www.barkerksd.net entitled "Barker Central School District Technology Plan." The user is personally responsible for this provision at all times when using the electronic information services.

This inappropriate use of electronic information resources can be a violation of local, state and federal laws and users can be prosecuted for violating those laws. Please be advised of the following guidelines:

- Use of other organizations' networks or computing resources must comply with rules appropriate to that network;
- Transmission of any material in violation of United States law or other state organization law is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to: copyrighted material, threatening material, or material protected by trade secret;
- Use of commercial activities by for-profit institutions is generally not acceptable;
- Use of product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited;
- Use of profane, offensive, prejudicial or inappropriate material or language is prohibited.

PRIVACY

Data files and other electronic storage areas will be treated like school lockers. This means that such areas shall be considered to be school district property subject to control and inspection. The Technology Coordinator may access all such files and communications to maintain system integrity and to ensure users are complying with the requirements of this agreement and accompanying regulations. Students and other users should NOT expect that information stored on the Barker Central School District computer system will be private.

SERVICES

The Barker Central School District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. Barker Central School District will not be responsible for any damages suffered while using this system. These damages include loss of data as a result of delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by the system or your errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the electronic information system is at your own risk. Barker Central School District specifically disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy of information obtained through its service.

VANDALISM

Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy the data of another user or any other agencies or networks that are connected to the system. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses or any physical damage to equipment. Any vandalism will result in the loss of computer services, disciplinary action and legal referral.

INTERNET CONTENT FILTERING/SAFETY POLICY

The Barker Central School District has implemented an Internet filtering system on all networked computers through Erie 1 BOCES that strives to block access to objectionable Internet sites. Barker Central School thinks that the benefits to students from access to the Internet exceed possible disadvantages. Utilization of the Internet must be in support of, and consistent with, the educational goals and objectives to the Barker Central School District.

When using the Internet, all users must adhere to the requirements of this agreement and accompanying regulations and existing Barker Central School rules.

In compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and Regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the Barker Central School District has adopted and will enforce this Internet Safety Policy that ensures the use of technology protection measures on all District computers with Internet access. Such technology protection measures apply to Internet access by both adults and minors with regard to obscene visual depictions, child pornography, or, with respect to the use of computers by minors, as determined by the building/program supervisor, will also be enforced to ensure the safety of students when accessing the Internet. Please be advised of the following guidelines:

- Students are not allowed to engage in an online activity unless under the direct supervision of a Barker Central School employee.
- Students are not permitted to share or transmit confidential, sensitive or private information to others including outside parties.
- The use of any email account not assigned to you by Barker Central Schools is prohibited. The use of Barker Central School email will be strictly monitored. Use of the email system must be under the direct supervision of a Barker Central School approved email sponsor.
- Use of chat rooms and/or other forms of direct electronic communications is prohibited unless directed and supervised by a Barker Central School District teacher or administrator.
- Students should not attempt unauthorized access or other unlawful activities while online.
- Students should not post or send personal contact information about self or other people on the Internet. Personal contact information includes but is not limited to home address, home telephone number(s), work address, etc.
- Students should not download, upload or install program files.
- Students should not transmit profane, offensive, prejudicial or inappropriate material or language.
- Students are not allowed to play games or listen to music through the Internet unless directed and supervised by a Barker Central School District teacher or administrator.
- Students should check copyright permissions before downloading any data, such as images, from the Internet.

MOBILE DEVICES

Mobile devices brought to the school are only permitted for assigned educational projects under the direct supervision of a teacher. Students are permitted to connect mobile devices for educational work to the BarkerBYOD wireless network with authentication to the network account assigned to each student.

Part B: Cell Phone Use and Internet Enabled Devices

In addition to the policy below, *headphones/earbuds are not to be worn during passing time in the hallways and are only to be worn at the discretion of the teacher/staff member, unless otherwise stated on a student's IEP or 504 plan.*

Per Policy #7316: USE OF INTERNET-ENABLED DEVICES AND CELL PHONES DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

The District consulted with local stakeholders including employee organizations representing each bargaining unit, parents, and students to develop this policy to prohibit the use of Internet-enabled devices and cell phones by students during the school day on school grounds. This policy aims to ensure that students remain focused on their academic responsibilities throughout the school day, which includes all instructional and non-instructional periods such as homeroom, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

a) "Internet-enabled devices" means and includes any smartphone, tablet, smartwatch, or other device capable of connecting to the Internet and enabling the user to access content on the Internet, including social media applications;

"Internet-enabled devices" does not include:

1. Non-Internet-enabled devices such as communication devices not capable of connecting to the Internet or enabling the user to access content on the Internet; or

2. Internet-enabled devices supplied by the District, charter school, or Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) that are used for an educational purpose.

b) "Cell phones" means non-smartphones capable of sending or receiving phone calls, text messages, and other digital form of communication.

c) "School day" means the entirety of every instructional day as required by subdivision 7 of the Education Law Section 3604 during all instructional time and non-instructional time, including but not limited to homeroom periods, lunch, recess, study halls, and passing time.

d) "School grounds" means in or on or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, or land contained within the real property boundary line of a district elementary, intermediate, junior high, vocational, or high school, a charter school, or a BOCES facility.

Students are generally prohibited from using Internet-enabled devices and cell phones during the school day anywhere on school grounds.

However, students may be authorized to use an Internet-enabled device or cell phone during the school day on school grounds:

- a) If authorized by a teacher, principal, or the District for a specific educational purpose;
- b) Where necessary for the management of a student's health care;
- c) In the event of an emergency;
- d) For translation services;
- e) On a case-by-case basis, upon review and determination by a school psychologist, school social worker, or school counselor for a student caregiver who is routinely responsible for the care and well-being of a family member; or
- f) Where required by law.

Students must be permitted to use an Internet-enabled device or cell phone where the use is included in the student's:

- a) Individualized Education Program (IEP); or
- b) Section 504 Plan.

On-Site Storage of Internet-Enabled Devices Including Cell Phones

Students must store their Internet-enabled devices in designated on-site storage areas during the school day. On-site storage areas include student backpacks and/or student lockers. The designated on-site storage areas must be easily accessible to students and provide adequate security to ensure the safekeeping of the student's devices. The District will communicate the procedures for storing and retrieving devices, ensuring that students understand their responsibilities in using the on-site storage facilities provided.

Methods for Parents to Contact Students During the School Day

To accommodate necessary communication, parents or persons in parental relation may use the following methods to contact their student during school hours while adhering to this policy:

- a) School Office Phone: Parents or persons in parental relation may call the school's main office, and the office staff can relay messages to the student or call the student to the office to speak with their parent or person in parental relation.
- b) Email: Parents may email their student through the district provided email that is accessible on district issued student Chromebooks during the school day.

Parents and persons in parental relation will be notified in writing of the methods that are available for contacting their student during school hours upon enrollment and at the beginning of each school year.

Student Discipline for Accessing Internet-Enabled Devices and Cell Phones During the School Day

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary or remedial action, as determined appropriate by the District, including but not limited to potential confiscation of devices, detention, or other methods in accordance with district guidelines.

While students may not be suspended from school where the sole reason is that the student accessed a personal electronic/internet enabled device or cell phone on a single occasion in violation this policy, a pattern of insubordination in violation of this policy and/or engaging in other misconduct while utilizing a personal electronic/internet enabled device or cell phone in violation of the Code of Conduct or Board of Education policy may result in discipline, up to and including suspension from school. For the first offense of a student using a device that violates this policy, the student's phone shall be confiscated by staff and held in the main office until the end of the day when the student can retrieve the phone. For the second offense of a student using a device that violates this policy, the student's phone shall be confiscated by staff and held in the main office until a parent retrieves the phone. For a third and subsequent offenses of a student using a device that violates this policy, the student's phone shall be confiscated by staff and held in the main office until a parent retrieves the phone and the student shall serve a day of in school suspension.

Posting and Translation of Policy

The District will post this policy in a clearly visible and accessible location on its website. Translations of the policy into the 12 most common non-English languages spoken by limited-English proficient individuals in the state will be provided upon request by a student or other persons in parental relation to a student.

Reporting and Mitigation Action Plan

Beginning September 1, 2026 and annually thereafter, the District will publish an annual report on its website detailing enforcement of this policy within the District in the prior school year. This report will include non-identifiable demographic data of students who have faced disciplinary action for non-compliance and analysis of any demographic disparities in enforcement of this policy. If a statistically significant disparate enforcement impact is identified, the report will include a mitigation action plan.

(Education Law Section 2803)

Section 3: Attendance, Academics, and Extra-Curricular Activities

Part A: Attendance

Good attendance is an important factor in your success in life. You have the opportunity to acquire this skill during your school career. Good attendance is your personal responsibility. At the beginning of the school year, your teachers will inform you how their

grading systems work. Daily attendance may impact your grade. This means that your daily attendance in class is very important.

You are expected to be in school daily and ON TIME. Parents should call the Health School office if they know their child will not be in school on time or not be in attendance.

If students arrive **late**, they should:

Report to the elementary school office immediately and present a note from a parent or guardian explaining why they are late. If students do not have a note, they should submit a note from a parent or guardian to the elementary school office the following day explaining the tardiness. This can also be entered into Pick-up Patrol.

Consequences may be assigned for habitual tardiness to school.

If students are **absent**, they should:

Bring in a written note signed by parent or guardian stating the dates of the absence and the reason with a telephone number. Failure to do so within three (3) days constitutes an illegal absence. Entering the absence in Pick-up Patrol will also suffice.

The following are considered **legal** absences:

Sickness of student, serious sickness or death in the immediate family, religious observance days (state approved), court appearance

Examples of **illegal** absence:

Visiting, hunting, vacation, missed the bus, needed at home, caring for baby

Excessive tardiness or absences may result in additional consequences and parent meetings to develop an improvement plan. At the request of the principal, frequent telephone calls to parents are made to check on suspected truancy. A student is considered truant when he or she is absent or tardy without parent or school permission or knowledge. Student absence without the knowledge and consent of the parent is considered truancy. Truancy is a violation of New York State Law and is subject to disciplinary measures imposed both by the school and Family court.

COMPREHENSIVE STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

(Plain Language Summary)

Statement of overall objectives:

School attendance is both a right and a responsibility. The School District is an active partner with students and parents in the task of ensuring that all students meet or exceed the New York State Learning Standards. Because the School District recognizes that consistent school

attendance, academic success and school completion have a positive correlation; the School District will develop, review, and, if necessary, revise a Comprehensive Student Attendance Policy to meet the following objectives:

- A. To increase school completion for all students
- B. To raise student achievement and close gaps in student performance
- C. To identify attendance patterns in order to design attendance improvement efforts
- D. To know the whereabouts of every student for safety and other reasons
- E. To verify that individual students are complying with education laws relating to compulsory attendance
- F. To determine the District's average daily attendance for state aid purposes

Determination of Excused and Unexcused absences, tardiness and early departures

- A. Excused: An absence, tardiness or early departure may be excused if due to personal illness, illness or death in the family, impassable roads due to inclement weather, religious observance, required court appearances, attendance at health clinics, approved college visits, approved education trips, military obligations or other such reasons as may be approved by the Board of Education.
- B. Unexcused: An absence, tardiness or early departure is considered unexcused
- C. If the reason for the lack of attendance does not fall into the above categories (e.g. family vacation, hunting, babysitting, haircut, obtaining learners permit, road test, oversleeping).

Student Attendance/Course Credit

Students may be afforded the opportunity to make up excessive absences. Each individual teacher will determine the makeup procedure and provide written documentation to the building principal. It is the responsibility of the individual student to make up the missed work in a reasonable period of time to be determined by the individual teacher.

There is **no distinction** between excused and unexcused absences in applying the attendance policy in regards to course credit. Attendance at school-sponsored events that occur during the school day shall be counted as regular school attendance.

Student attendance record keeping/data collection

The record of each student's presence, absence, tardiness and early departure shall be kept in a register of attendance in a manner consistent with the Commissioner's Regulations. An absence, tardiness or early departure will be entered as "excused" or "unexcused" along with the district code for the reason.

Disciplinary Consequences

Parents/persons in parental relation will be notified by designated district personnel at periodic intervals to discuss their child's absences, tardiness or early departures and the importance of class attendance and appropriate interventions. Individual buildings/grade levels will address

procedures to implement the notification process to the parent/person in parental relation. Consequences and referrals to outside agencies may be applied.

Building review of attendance records

Commencing with the 2003 – 04 school year, the building principal will work in conjunction with the building attendance clerk and other designated staff in reviewing attendance records at the end of each term. This review is conducted to identify individual and group attendance patterns and to initiate appropriate action to address the problem of unexcused absences, tardiness and early departures.

Annual review by the Board of Education

The Board of Education shall annually review the building level student attendance records and, if such records show a decline in student attendance, the Board shall make any revisions to the policy and plan deemed necessary to improve student attendance.

Part B: Academics

1. ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

Students are expected to conduct themselves honestly and with integrity in their work. All forms of cheating and plagiarism are prohibited. Behavior that is unacceptable includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying another student's homework;
- Working with others on projects that are meant to be done individually;
- Looking at or copying another student's test or quiz answers;
- Allowing another student to look at or copy answers from your test or quiz;
- Using any other method to get/give test or quiz answers;
- Taking a test or quiz in part or in whole to use or to give others;
- Copying information from a source without proper attribution; and
- Taking papers from other students, publications, or the Internet.

Violators of this policy will be disciplined on a case-by-case basis depending on the seriousness of the violation, prior violations, and other factors. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, redoing assignments/retaking test, receiving a failing grade on the project/test, receiving a lower overall grade in the class, detention, suspension, or expulsion.

2. HOMEWORK

You are expected to promptly complete assigned homework and class work. If you do not complete the work according to the time limits and directions given by the teacher, it may have a negative impact on your grade. This could also result in a 10th period detention with your instructor.

If you are not in school due to illness, you may request assignments by calling the elementary school office.

It is your responsibility to obtain homework or makeup work from teachers when absent from school.

3. TEXTBOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS

- You are provided with all textbooks free of charge.
- You are expected to keep these textbooks in good condition.
- If a textbook is lost or damaged, you are required to make restitution.
- If a library book is lost or damaged, you are required to make restitution.

4. SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Students are asked to bring some school supplies. A list of supplies needed for each grade will be sent home at the end of the school year. The list is also posted on the school website.

Part C: Extra-Curricular

1. ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies are an integral part of school life and are scheduled at various times throughout the year. Students will be dismissed by the public address system for attendance at assemblies. Teachers will escort their classes to the assemblies and sit with their students during the entire assembly. Proper behavior is expected at all times.

2. 10TH PERIOD/AFTER SCHOOL USE OF BUILDINGS

Your use of the building 10th period and after school is restricted to the following:

- A. Staying to receive help from a teacher at your request (with teacher's permission) or the teacher's.
- B. Participation in activities such as, but not limited to band, chorus, student council, intramurals and/or the musical
- C. Being assigned to teacher or principal detention.

At 2:30 p.m., all students will need to leave the building unless they are with a teacher, administrator or assigned detention. There will be **no exceptions**.

Students who violate this will be in violation of the code of conduct and are subject to disciplinary actions, including 10th period restriction.

Section 4: Cafeteria/Food/Drink

1. CAFETERIA

All food purchased in the cafeteria must be eaten in the cafeteria during the breakfast or lunch period only. Loud or disruptive behavior, throwing food, leaving wrappings on the tables or the floor will not be tolerated. Once you finish eating, you are to dispose of your trash in an appropriate manner. Wandering the halls during your lunch period is not permitted. Leaving the cafeteria area without permission is not acceptable. Students must have express permission from the cafeteria supervisor in order to leave. Failure to obey reasonable requests of the school staff will be considered insubordination and will result in an office referral.

There will be adult supervision in the cafeteria. Students are expected to follow the directives of the supervisors. Students may be asked to sit in specific sections, tables, or have assigned seating.

2. BREAKFAST PROGRAM

Breakfast will be available in the Elementary School Cafeteria. Students who wish to eat breakfast should report to the cafeteria at that time. Students are to notify their teacher before going to breakfast. All cafeteria and school rules apply during the breakfast program. Students should eat their breakfast and then immediately head back to class.

3. FOOD AND BEVERAGE CONSUMPTION

Students must responsibly possess and consume food/drink during the school day. Students may only consume food and beverages in the cafeteria during breakfast and lunch periods, or as otherwise allowed by individual classroom teachers. Water fountains exist throughout the school. Open bottles or containers may be confiscated and checked for appropriate content.

4. BIRTHDAY TREATS

When sending in treats for birthdays or special holidays, please be sure that they are store bought and commercially wrapped. Please check with the classroom teacher to inquire about classroom allergies. Some snacks can be purchased from our food service department. Please call for details.

Section 5: School/Student Safety and Health

The safety of the school building is the responsibility of everyone: administrators, teachers, faculty, staff and students. It is important that students follow safety procedures, report suspicious or dangerous activity, and create as safe of an environment as possible.

1. Emergencies/Closings

It is extremely important that a recent emergency phone number be on file with the school where parents or a guardian may be reached at all times.

Parents: If your child calls you to say they are sick, please tell your child to ask to report to the nurse or the office if they feel they can't make it to the nurse's office.

If a student becomes ill or is involved in an accident on school property during school hours, it should be reported to the nurse's office immediately. If it is determined that the student is to leave school, the school nurse will contact the parent or guardian and sign the student out.

In case of severe weather conditions causing the closing of school or delay of opening, announcements are broadcast over **RADIO STATIONS:** WBENAM (930), WLVLAM (1340), WYRK/WJYE (106.5). **TELEVISION STATIONS/WEBSITES:** Channels 2, 4, 7 & Time Warner News. The Emergency All-Call system may be utilized for information as deemed appropriate.

2. Emergency Procedures and Drills

Fire drills/evacuation: State law requires districts to complete fire drills each year. When the fire bell sounds, you are to exit quickly, quietly, and follow the exit route designated by your teacher. **Safety is most important, and your serious cooperation is essential.** In compliance with the law, fire drills will be held in order to provide instructions for evacuation of the building. Signs are posted in each room denoting direction for the appropriate exit.

During the fire drill –

- A. Lights should be turned off and all windows and doors in rooms should be closed upon leaving the room.
- B. Teachers will maintain order and keep students quiet during the entire drill and/or evacuation.
- C. Students should move out quickly and orderly to the appropriate exit using all doors.
- D. Students should move away from the building. Students are to remain under the supervision of the teachers until the "all clear" signal is sounded.

3. Lockout/Lockdown Drills

The school will practice several of these drills throughout the school year to ensure students understand the procedures for these types of situations.

- A. Lockout Drill: used to secure the building during an incident that poses an imminent concern outside of the building. All exterior doors and windows are closed and locked. Teachers will take attendance. Students will listen to announcements and follow any directives/updates. Classroom instruction can continue as normal.

- B. Lockdown Drill: used to secure building during an incident that poses an immediate threat of violence in or around the school. Students should report to the closest classroom and lock the door. Barricade if possible/necessary. Students move to a safe spot outside of view from the door. Leave lights/blinds as they are. Everyone should remain silent and silence cell phones. Do not communicate and do not respond to P.A. announcements. In a real scenario, students will be released by law enforcement.

4. Visitors

All visitors need to report to the main office to obtain a visitor's badge. In order to obtain a visitor's badge, visitors must have a valid form of identification such as a driver's license. All badges will be administered through the BCS visitor management system. Because of a disruption to the learning process, visitors are not allowed in the building until after 2:20 p.m. unless prior permission was granted. Visitors must sign out at the main office upon leaving.

5. Searches

School lockers, desks and other such equipment are not the private property of students but the property of the school district, and as such, may be opened and subject to inspections from time to time by school officials.

Under special circumstances, school officials may search students or student possessions, particularly if there is reasonable suspicion that a student possesses illegal matter such as a dangerous weapon or illegal drugs. Students must be aware that such items are forbidden both on school property and at school related activities.

6. Nurse's Office

- A. The school nurse is the only staff member authorized to dispense medicine and this can occur only with a doctor's direction. Accordingly, *all prescription and over-the-counter drugs must be taken to the nurse for safekeeping*. If you feel ill, you may request to go to the nurse. You must, however, obtain permission from your teacher. Your name, the time you arrive, the time you leave, and the reason for seeing the nurse will be logged in and kept on record. Students suspected of abusing this service by missing too much class time would have their parents notified with a request that parents seek a complete physical of their son or daughter.

The nurse will contact the parents of students too ill to remain in school. The decision to remain in school or go home will be made by the nurse upon consultation with the parents.

Legal excuses from participating in physical education *must* be brought to the nurse *before 1st period*. Once they are approved, you will be given a note to take to your P.E. teacher.

- B. Medical Procedures: The school nurse must have on file a written request from a physician indicating frequency and dosage of all internal medicine. The school nurse must have on file a written request from the parent to administer the medication, as specified by the family physician. The medication should be delivered directly to the school nurse by the parent in an appropriately labeled container. Please note this

includes all medications, both prescription and non-prescription (even cough medicine). Students are not allowed to carry or administer their own medications. If your child is allergic to bee stings, please be sure to contact the school nurse as soon as possible. If a sting should require immediate medication, this medication should be provided for the school nurse to administer.

7. Weapons

Weapons, knives, fireworks (firecrackers, smoke bombs, popping pellets, etc.) are not allowed in school. Use of or possession of any of these items or similar ones will not be tolerated. Students will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include arrest. Toy guns and knives, or items that replicate and appear to be weapons, are not allowed in school.

8. Fighting

Respect for fellow students is as important as respect for yourself and respect for staff. Treat others as you yourself want to be treated – no hassles, no bullying, no arguments, no fights. Be very cautious of hearsay information. This causes problems because often the information is inaccurate, and people intentionally want to make unnecessary trouble for others. The increased use of electronic devices has caused a dramatic increase in fighting in and out of school. Rumors and, in some cases, pictures are spread rapidly over the Internet. Students on the receiving end of these hurtful messages should report them to their parents immediately. If your ability to function normally at school is difficult due to information being shared electronically, it is recommended that you stop communicating via that method and see your counselor or the principal to work out your difficulties with other students.

Fighting, pushing, shoving, or horseplay **will not** be tolerated. In addition to the fact that such actions show disrespect for others, serious physical injuries can result from such actions.

Fighting may result in suspension or ISS. In almost all cases, both parties will be suspended. Harsh comments or threats are just as inflammatory as initial physical contact.

9. Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco

Barker Central School has been identified by local, state, and federal laws as a Drug Free Zone. The school is committed to the prevention of alcohol and other substance use/abuse. No student may use, possess, sell, or distribute alcohol or other substances, nor may he/she use or possess drug paraphernalia, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events, except drugs as prescribed by a physician. The term "alcohol and/or other substances" refers to the use of all substances including, but not limited to, alcohol, inhalants, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, PCP, amphetamines, heroin. Any form of illegal drugs are prohibited on school property including prescriptions and over the counter drugs not approved by the nurse.

Additionally, the following persons are not permitted to enter school grounds or school sponsored events: any person who gives any visible and/or physical indication that he/she has used or consumed alcohol and/or other substances, or any person who school personnel have reasonable grounds to suspect has used alcohol and/or other substances.

Any narcotics found will be confiscated immediately. The parent/guardian of the student(s) involved will be called and appropriated disciplinary actions taken, up to and including permanent suspension. The district may bring legal charges against the student(s) involved,

including a lawsuit. In its effort to maintain a drug free environment, the District shall cooperate to the fullest extent possible with local, state and-or federal law enforcements agencies. Because of the Drug Free Zone status, penalties may be **doubled** for convicted violators.

Smoking is prohibited anywhere on school property. It is against State and Federal law. Possession, displaying, and handling of tobacco products, **including electronic cigarettes**, on school property is also prohibited. Students caught smoking on school property will be subject to in school or out of school suspension. Smoking or lighting matches on a bus is a civil crime and students will be treated in accordance with the law.

A Niagara County Sheriff's dog will be brought into the school on occasion to check lockers, back packs, etc. For drugs. Lockers and contents of book bags can and will be searched at the principal's discretion. Consequences through the school and/or law enforcement may be applied.

Use and/or possession or sale of illegal or look-alike drugs or implements on school property is NOT allowed at any time. This includes after-school activities.

Prescription and over-the-counter drugs for individual students MUST be given to the nurse who will dispense them according to the doctor's direction.

10. Extortion

Any student attempting to force another student to pay money or give information in return for protection is guilty of extortion and will be dealt with in accordance with the law.

11. Falsely Reporting an Incident

Falsely reporting an incident is a Class A misdemeanor and, as such, is very serious. When it is confirmed that a student has engaged in such a practice, he/she will be disciplined according to the law. This includes fire alarms, bomb threats, dialing 911, etc.

12. Leaving School Building or Property Without Permission

No student, under any circumstances, is allowed to leave the building or the property without permission. The only faculty members officially allowed to excuse a student is the principal or the nurse. Students are to sign out in the office and sign back in when they return.

13. Discrimination and Harassment/Sexual Harassment (Dignity for All Students)

Harassment and bullying shall mean the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by threats, intimidation or abuse, including cyber bullying that:

- A. Has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's education performance opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or
- B. Reasonably caused or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his or her physical safety;
- C. Reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause physical injury or emotional harm to a student; or
- D. Occurs off school property and creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property.
- E. Acts of harassment and bullying shall include, but not be limited to those acts based on a person's actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice; disability, hair style/texture, sexual orientation, gender or sex.
- F. For the purposes of this definition the terms "threats, intimidation or abuse" shall include verbal and non-verbal actions.
- G. "Cyber bullying" shall mean harassment or bullying as defined above where such harassment or bullying occurs through any form of electronic communication.

RESPECT is an attitude, reflected in behavior, in which people view other individuals as being as important as themselves. **DISRESPECT** is the failure to demonstrate this attitude through one's behavior.

Teachers are encouraged to counsel students regarding disrespectful behavior if it becomes abusive or disruptive to class instruction. Teachers will warn students of such behavior and will issue a verbal reprimand. Such reprimands will be issued in ways which will not belittle, humiliate, or publicly ostracize students and should include teacher expectations and possible corrective actions. Continued disrespect will result in an office referral with disciplinary action to exceed a verbal reprimand.

No student shall be subjected to harassment on school property or at a school sponsored activity.

Any act of sexual harassment will not be tolerated in school, on school property, or at school related activities. Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome flirtation, sexual advances, proposition, continual or repeated verbal abuse of a sexual nature, use of degrading sexual words and the display of sexually suggestive pictures.

Any student who believes that he/she has been subject to sexual harassment has the right to file a complaint with the elementary school principal. This complaint will receive prompt and appropriate attention. Students guilty of harassment may be subject to disciplinary consequences. Parents will be contacted, and if warranted, the principal may request that charges are pressed on the aggressor.

Section 6: Dress Code and Personal Appearance/Conduct

The intention of this dress code is not to shame, embarrass, or diminish anyone. Instead, it serves as a basic standard to support all students as they grow, explore their individuality, and develop a mindset appropriate for college and career readiness. Just as foundational skills are taught in

subjects like Math and English—allowing for individual specialization later—this dress code is designed to provide similar guidance in the area of personal presentation.

- The body must be covered with opaque fabric from a straight line that begins at the top of the armpit and extends across the front and back of the torso. Coverage must also extend downward from this armpit line to at least three inches below the buttocks and crotch on all sides. Clothing must remain in place and provide full coverage without requiring constant adjustment. Exceptions may be made for event-specific attire, such as certain athletic uniforms.
- All tops and dresses must have straps.
- Outerwear must cover underwear.



- All hats, unless there is a religious exemption, must be placed in a locker or inside a backpack for the entirety of the school day, 7:50 AM - 3:06 PM.
- No pajamas.
- Proper footwear must be worn at all times for appropriate classes or student activities.
- There are to be no references to alcohol, drugs, violence, or other items that go against the BCS Community Mission Statement.
- All religious or political clothing should be positive in nature and not negative or defamatory.

Students who violate the student Dress Code shall be required to modify their appearance by covering or removing the offending item, and if necessary or practical, replace it with an acceptable item. Clothing may be provided by the main office, or parents/guardians may have to drop off appropriate clothing for their child. Hats will be turned into the main office for students to pick up at the end of the day.

Any student who refuses to modify their appearance to be in compliance with the Dress Code shall be subject to discipline, up to and including in-school suspension for the day. Any student who repeatedly fails to comply with the Dress Code shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including out-of-school suspension. Parent communication will transpire for any repeated incidents or progressive discipline.

The principal and other designated personnel shall have the authority to require students to change their attire should it be deemed inappropriate according to the above guidelines.

Section 7: Student Privileges and Responsibilities

1. Lockers

Students in grades 3-6 may be assigned a locker at their teachers' discretion. Students in grades 5 & 6 may have lockers with combination locks. Combinations should NOT BE SHARED WITH ANYONE! If you have difficulty opening your hall locker, report it to your teacher. No writing, sign, or graffiti of any kind are allowed on the outside or inside of the locker. If

someone writes on your locker, notify your teacher immediately. You are responsible for the condition of your locker; it should be kept neat and presentable throughout the year. You are not allowed to change lockers or use another locker without permission from your teacher.

If either your locker is vandalized or broken into, notify your teacher. Lockers are issued for student convenience. However, the district cannot be held responsible for lost or stolen items.

District officials have access to your lockers at all times. Lockers are school property! School officials can open and check lockers at any time. You are only allowed to place your belongings in the locker assigned to you only.

2. Personal Belongings

Students should not bring personal belongings to school. When students bring personal belongings to school, the belongings are the student's responsibility. Barker Central School does not provide insurance to cover loss of student property, belongings, games, and toys that are brought to school. We do not want anything to happen to your possessions. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or misplaced items. Please leave your personal possessions at home.

3. Lost and Found

Report any lost or stolen items to the office. "Found" articles must be turned into the office as well. You have a moral obligation to report finding "lost" items to the office. Not to do so is the same as stealing. Unclaimed items will be given to charity.

4. Public Conduct While on School Property

Part A: Visitors

The board encourages parents and other district citizens to visit the district's schools and classrooms to observe the work of students, teachers and other staff. Since schools are a place of work and learning, however, certain limits must be set for such visits. The building principal or his or her designee is responsible for all persons in the building and on the grounds. For these reasons, the following rules apply to visitors to the schools:

- A. Anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school will be considered a visitor.
- B. All visitors to the school must report to the office of the principal upon arrival at the school. There they will be required to present valid photo ID and will be issued a visitor's identification badge, which must be worn at all times while in the school or on school grounds. The visitor must return the identification badge to the principal's office before leaving the building.
- C. Visitors attending school functions that are open to the public, such as parent-teacher organization meetings or public gatherings, are not required to register.
- D. Parents or citizens who wish to observe a classroom while school is in session are required to arrange such visits in advance with the classroom teacher(s), so that class disruption is kept to a minimum.
- E. Teachers are expected not to take class time to discuss individual matters with visitors.

- F. Any unauthorized person on school property will be reported to the principal or his or her designee. Unauthorized persons will be asked to leave. The police may be called if the situation warrants.
- G. All visitors are expected to abide by the rules for public conduct on school property contained in this code of conduct.

Part B: Public Conduct

The district is committed to providing an orderly, respectful environment that is conducive to learning. To create and maintain this kind of environment, it is necessary to regulate public conduct on school property and at school functions. For purposes of this section of the code, "public" shall mean all persons when on school property or attending a school function including students, teachers and district personnel. The restrictions on public conduct on school property and at school functions contained in this code are not intended to limit freedom of speech or peaceful assembly. The district recognizes that free inquiry and free expression are indispensable to the objectives of the district. The purpose of this code is to maintain public order and prevent abuse of the rights of others.

All persons on school property or attending a school function shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner. In addition, all persons on school property or attending a school function are expected to be properly attired for the purpose they are on school property.

A. Prohibited Conduct

No person, either alone or with others, shall:

- i. Intentionally injure any person or threaten to do so.
- ii. Intentionally damage or destroy school district property or the personal property of a teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.
- iii. Disrupt the orderly conduct of classes, school programs or other school activities.
- iv. Distribute or wear materials on school grounds or at school functions that are obscene, advocate illegal actions, appear libelous, obstruct the rights of others, or are disruptive to the school program.
- v. Intimidate, harass or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation or disability.
- vi. Enter any portion of the school premises without authorization or remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed.
- vii. Obstruct the free movement of any person in any place to which this code applies.
- viii. Violate the traffic laws, parking regulations, or other restrictions on vehicles.
- ix. Possess, consume, sell, distribute, or exchange alcoholic beverages, controlled substances, or be under the influence of either on school property or at a school function.
- x. Loiter on or about school property.
- xi. Gamble on school property or at school functions.
- xii. Refuse to comply with any reasonable order of identifiable school district officials performing their duties.
- xiii. Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts prohibited by this code.

- xiv. Violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or board policy while on school property or at a school function.

B. Penalties

Persons who violate this code shall be subject to the following penalties:

- i. Visitors. Their authorization, if any, to remain on school property or at a school function shall be withdrawn and they shall be directed to leave the premises. If they refuse to leave, they shall be subject to ejection.
- ii. Students. They shall be subject to disciplinary action as the facts may warrant, in accordance with the due process requirements.
- iii. Tenured faculty members. They shall be subject to disciplinary actions as the facts may warrant in accordance with Education Law §3020-a or any other legal rights that they may have.
- iv. Staff members in the classified service of the civil service entitled to the protection of Civil Service Law §75 or any other legal rights that they may have.
- v. Staff members other than those described in subdivisions 4 and 5. They shall be subject to warning, reprimand, suspension or dismissal as the facts may warrant in accordance with any legal rights they may have.

C. Enforcement

The building principal or his or her designee shall be responsible for enforcing the conduct required by this code. When the building principal or his or her designee sees an individual engaged in prohibited conduct, which in his or her judgment does not pose any immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall tell the individual that the conduct is prohibited and attempt to persuade the individual to stop. The principal or his or her designee shall also warn the individual of the consequences for failing to stop. If the person refuses to stop engaging in the prohibited conduct, or if the person's conduct poses an immediate threat of injury to persons or property, the principal or his or her designee shall have the individual removed immediately from school property or the school function. If necessary, local law enforcement authorities will be contacted to assist in removing the person.

The district shall initiate disciplinary action against any student or staff member, as appropriate, with the "Penalties" section above. In addition, the district reserves its right to pursue a civil or criminal legal action against any person violating this code.