

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Elgin Park Secondary is a community of students, teachers, administrators and support staff who work together to achieve shared goals. This community is based upon a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect for all, inclusive of gender, race, color, religion, heritage or intellectual ability. The purpose of Elgin Park Secondary is to be a safe and respectful learning community where all students will prepare intellectually, socially and emotionally for their journey in a changing world.

SAFE & CARING SCHOOLS

ARE FREE FROM ACTS OF:

- Bullying (including cyber-bullying)
- Harassment, threat, intimidation and marginalization
- Intolerance and discrimination in any form i.e. based on an individual or group's race, colour, ancestry, place of origin, political belief, religion, marital status, family status, physical or mental disability, gender, sexual orientation, or age
- Abuse in any form (verbal, physical, sexual)
- Retribution against a person who has reported incidents

DO NOT TOLERATE THE PRESENCE OF:

- Intoxicating or banned substance (including alcohol, cigarettes, vapes and drugs)
- Theft and vandalism (or damage to personal property)
- Weapons or replica (toy) weapons (including laser pointers); explosives (including fireworks) and pepper spray or other obnoxious sprays
- Intruders or trespassers (all visitors must first report to the office)
- Inappropriate clothing or unacceptable slogans imprinted on clothing
- Smoking, vaping, using e-cigarettes on school and other District property

ELGIN PARK SECONDARY CODE OF CONDUCT

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to demonstrate acceptable behaviour while at school, attending school related activities (both on and off school grounds) or in any other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school environment. There will be rising expectations as students mature to take responsibility for their own learning, and to become positive role models for younger students.

Each student is expected to:

- 1. Respect themselves and others**
- 2. Respect learning**
- 3. Respect the environment**

STUDENTS' RIGHTS: Each student has the right:

- to receive responsible and competent instruction
- to receive a clear statement, in advance, in writing, of what is expected of students in each course
- to select courses best suited to personal needs (based on consultation with professional staff)
- to form clubs
- to be represented in a properly constituted student government
- To be free of discrimination based on race, religion, sexual orientation, nationality, economic status or political belief
- To have access to a fair hearing for grievances

STUDENTS' RESPONSIBILITIES: Each student has the responsibility:

- to accept the consequences of their own actions
- to strive to give the best effort in their studies and participate in class activities to the best of their ability
- To show consideration for the feelings of others
- To respect the rights and property of other students and staff
- To bring to the attention of staff or Students' Council conditions potentially harmful to the students in the school
- To do their best to keep lockers, classrooms, cafeteria and the school clean

ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES

To maximize learning experiences, students must attend school regularly and not be late for classes. The school does not endorse students missing school time for vacations. We strongly advise that families take their vacations during regular school breaks. If students miss classes, they are expected to work with the teacher to get caught up.

CELL PHONES AND DIGITAL DEVICES

All cell phones, cameras and other digital devices must be put away during class time, unless teacher permission is given. For privacy reasons, students are not permitted to take photos or videos of any students and/or staff at school unless directed by a teacher for learning purposes. Students are not permitted to use any digital devices during classroom and provincial assessments. The school accepts no responsibility for electronic devices if they are lost or stolen.

CLOTHING

Students are required to dress in an acceptable manner suited to the activity in which they are involved. Clothing worn is to be appropriate for a public secondary school. Students are asked to make good choices around their clothing as schools are considered to be professional work places for staff and learning places for students.

INTELLECTUAL HONESTY & INTEGRITY

Even when committed in ignorance, intellectual dishonesty - cheating on exams, taking exams for others, plagiarizing (using other people's words and ideas as one's own without proper acknowledgement and documentation) is serious and has serious consequences. The incident will be recorded by the teacher and communicated to the parent/guardian. The incident will also be reported to the administration and depending on severity may result in a meeting with administration. Parents will be included in this meeting. Further incidents of cheating may result in increased consequences.

With advances in technology including things like CHAT GPT, students are expected to use honesty and integrity as these types of technology, though useful in some situations, are considered to be a form of intellectual dishonesty if used to complete assignments that are being assessed and marked.

TECHNOLOGY USE

Students who wish to have access to technology resources in the school must complete with their parent/guardian the **District Technology Access and Use Agreement** form. Students using technology resources are expected to do so responsibly and ethically.

Students are reminded that any activity that involves the use of school technology falls under the jurisdiction of the school and that all communication is subject to monitoring and is not considered private. Students who use school computers must conduct themselves appropriately.

Elgin Park Secondary provides internet access and email accounts for authorized users. School internet access is a privilege, not a right. School internet users must understand and agree to the **District School Internet Use Policy**; and have appropriate signatures on their Internet Registration Form. Only these students can access the Internet through school computers including Library computers. School accounts shall be used only by the authorized owner of the account. Account holders are responsible for all activity within their account. Students are therefore reminded to log off after each computer session.

CONSEQUENCES

Consequences will be applied to unacceptable conduct and will be assigned at the discretion of the school administration. Each situation is different, each student is unique, and there is no "one size fits all" outline for consequences to problematic behaviors. Consequences will be progressive, and will focus on being restorative rather than punitive in nature.

School administration will advise and work with parties as follows:

- Parent/guardian of student exhibiting major behavior problem(s)
- Parent/guardian of injured/affected party
- School Board officials will be contacted as/when required by School District Policy (i.e. Level 1, 2 and 3 Suspensions)
- School staff and school community when/if deemed appropriate by the school administration and/or district administration.

Student privacy and well being remains at the forefront of the work that is done in school. Students are advised to refrain from posting or sharing problematic behaviors on social media or other formats especially if consent has not been given.