

► ***Bringing a weapon to ESBOCES:***

Any student determined to have brought a weapon onto ESBOCES property will be subject to suspension from ESBOCES for at least one calendar year. A student with a disability may be suspended only in accordance with the requirements of State and Federal law.

► ***Committing or threatening to commit violent acts:***

Any student determined to have committed or threatened to commit a violent act, other than bringing a weapon onto ESBOCES property, shall be subject to a minimum suspension from ESBOCES for at least four days.

► ***Repeatedly and substantially disrupting the educational process or repeatedly and substantially interfering with the teacher's authority over the classroom:***

Any student who is repeatedly and substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom, as defined by the Shared Decision Making Committee of the building in which the student is enrolled, shall be subject to a minimum suspension from ESBOCES for at least four days.

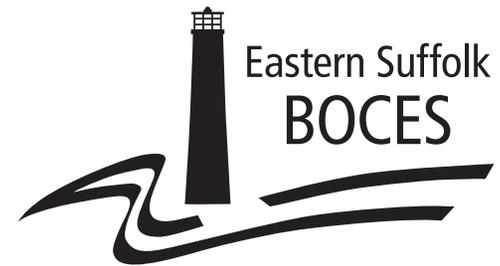
In **all** cases of suspension, parents/persons in parental relation are requested to accompany their child for a reinstatement conference prior to readmission to ESBOCES. In extreme cases of misbehavior or violation of the Code of Conduct, police intervention may be necessary.

## **PROCEDURES**

ESBOCES procedures adhere to all due process requirements and are consistent with Federal and State laws and ESBOCES policies. Clarification about these requirements, laws, and policies is included in the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) Implementation Documents available upon request in each of our facilities. Violation of the Code of Conduct may necessitate the use of time-honored building intervention techniques, formal removal from class, or suspension from ESBOCES. In the event that a formal removal or suspension from ESBOCES is authorized, a well-defined set of procedures is followed that will include a parent's/person in parental relation's right to timely notification and follow-up conference. Details of the Code of Conduct will be reviewed with students at a general assembly at the beginning of the instructional year and individually with mid-year entrants.

The complete version of the ESBOCES Code of Conduct is available for review at instructional sites and online at <http://www.esboces.org/codeofconduct>

Eastern Suffolk BOCES does not discriminate against any employee, student, applicant for employment, or candidate for enrollment on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, religion or creed, age, weight, national origin, marital status, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, transgender status, military or veteran status, domestic violence victim status, genetic predisposition or carrier status, or any other classification protected by Federal, State, or local law. This policy of nondiscrimination includes: access by students to educational programs, student activities, recruitment, appointment and promotion of employees, salaries, pay, and other benefits. ESBOCES also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. ESBOCES fully complies with all applicable rules and regulations pertaining to civil rights for students and employees (e.g., Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, §504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Dignity for All Students Act, §303 of Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act of 2001). Inquiries regarding the implementation of the above laws should be directed to either of the ESBOCES Civil Rights Compliance Officers at [ComplianceOfficers@esboces.org](mailto:ComplianceOfficers@esboces.org): the Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources, 631-687-3029, or the Associate Superintendent for Educational Services, 631-687-3056, 201 Sunrise Highway, Patchogue, NY 11772. Inquiries may also be addressed to the Office for Civil Rights at the US Department of Education, 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, 646-428-3800, [OCR.NewYork@ed.gov](mailto:OCR.NewYork@ed.gov).



Educational Services That Transform Lives

# CODE OF CONDUCT

Eastern Suffolk BOCES Board and Administration

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Lisa Israel

**Vice President**

William K. Miller

**Member and Clerk**

Fred Langstaff

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Robert P. Sweeney  
John Wyche

**District Superintendent**

David Wicks

**Chief Operating Officer**

Julie Davis Lutz, Ph.D.

## **PURPOSE**

The Eastern Suffolk BOCES (hereinafter “ESBOCES”) Board is committed to maintaining high standards of excellence for all students in all programs. The Board believes that providing a safe, orderly, and inclusive educational environment where students receive quality educational services without disruption or interference is essential. Maintaining a climate of inclusivity, mutual respect, and dignity promotes learning and ensures that students’ rights are honored. Accordingly, the Board has developed a Code of Conduct (Administrative Regulation 2410R.1) in accordance with New York State Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) Legislation and the Dignity for All Students Act.

## **RESPONSIBILITIES**

ESBOCES has a long-standing set of expectations for behavior of students, staff, parents/persons in parental relation, and visitors while on ESBOCES property, at ESBOCES functions, and on buses transporting students to/from ESBOCES facilities and ESBOCES functions. Meeting these expectations requires a partnership between ESBOCES, parents/persons in parental relation, and community. ESBOCES recognizes the need to clearly define these expectations for acceptable behavior and to identify the possible consequences of unacceptable behavior so that discipline, when necessary, is administered fairly and promptly.

In accordance with the provisions of the Dignity for All Students Act, each Building Administrator shall act as the Dignity Act Coordinator. For a complete listing of Dignity Act Coordinators, please refer to the ESBOCES website at [www.esboces.org](http://www.esboces.org).

## **GUIDELINES FOR BEHAVIOR**

We believe that the best behavior arises from self-discipline and self-control. Students who violate the Code of Conduct will be required to accept the consequences for their behavior. In accordance with the Code of Conduct, ESBOCES has established the following general guidelines:

### **Expected Behavior:**

- ▶ All students have the responsibility to be familiar with and abide by all ESBOCES policies, rules, and regulations dealing with student behavior.
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly environment that is conducive to learning and show respect to other persons and property.
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to attend class every day unless legally excused and be in class on time and prepared to learn (Board Policy 6110).
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to react to direction given by all ESBOCES employees in a respectful, positive manner.

- ▶ All students have the responsibility to utilize resources to control their anger (e.g., join an anger management group, speak to a guidance counselor or social worker, visit a BIR, consult with peer leaders, or engage in Restorative Justice practices).
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to seek help in solving problems (e.g., requesting permission to use a Conflict Resolution Program, being receptive to Non-Violent Crisis Intervention techniques and philosophy and Restorative Justice practices).
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for ESBOCES and ESBOCES functions. Students and their parents/persons in parental relation have the primary responsibility for acceptable student dress and appearance. Specific dress code guidelines are noted in the detailed version of the Code of Conduct.
- ▶ All students have the responsibility to be accountable for their actions and to conduct themselves as representatives of ESBOCES when participating in or attending ESBOCES-sponsored extracurricular events and hold themselves to the highest standards of behavior, demeanor, and sportsmanship.
- ▶ All students, parents/persons in parental relation, and other visitors have the responsibility to conduct themselves in an appropriate and civil manner, with proper regard for the rights and welfare of others, and for the care of facilities and equipment.
- ▶ All students, parents/persons in parental relation, and other visitors have the responsibility to assume and accept responsibility for their own behavior, as well as the consequences of their misbehavior.

### **Prohibited Behavior:**

- ▶ Behavior that is disorderly
- ▶ Behavior that is insubordinate
- ▶ Behavior that is disruptive
- ▶ Behavior that is violent
- ▶ Behavior that endangers safety, morals, health, or welfare of others
- ▶ Inappropriate behavior while on a school bus
- ▶ Academic misbehavior
- ▶ Inappropriate behavior off ESBOCES property that interferes with the educational process

## **CONSEQUENCES**

Students may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension from ESBOCES for violation of the Code of Conduct. When determining disciplinary action, ESBOCES will take into consideration the student’s age, nature of the offense and circumstances that led to the offense, student’s prior disciplinary record, effectiveness of other forms of discipline, information from parents/persons in parental relation, teachers, and/or others as appropriate, and other extenuating circumstances, such as medications. If the student’s behavior is related to a disability or suspected disability, specific procedures outlined in the detailed version of the Code of Conduct will be followed.

Suspension from ESBOCES is a severe consequence which may be imposed on insubordinate, disorderly, violent, or disruptive students, or those whose behavior otherwise endangers the safety, morals, health, or welfare of self or others. Short-term suspensions involve a period of one to five days. However, as prescribed by law, the following behaviors are serious enough to justify referral of students to the home school district for long-term suspension (more than five days): the home school district for long-term suspension (more than five days):