STUDENT CONDUCT

All student behavior should be based on respect and consideration for the rights of others.

Students shall receive annually at the opening of school, a publication listing the rules and regulations to which they are subject. These rules should be developed cooperatively by the faculty and students, approved by the administration, and filed with the Superintendent of Schools. Any restrictions on student behavior must be concerned with speech or action which disrupts the work of the school or interferes with the rights of other students.

Students should recognize a responsibility to know and respect the rules and regulations of the school.
One goal of the Salem School District is that the public schools shall help each student to achieve maximum development of individual knowledge, skills, and competence, and to learn behavior patterns which will enable him or her to be a responsible, contributing member of society. These guidelines have been prepared to further this goal by aiding local districts in developing local policies which will assure that:

- Consistency of discipline is assured for all students
- “Fairness” or “reasonableness” required by the due process provisions of the Constitution is the essence of conduct codes written conscientiously
- Learning takes place in an atmosphere of open communications, self-discipline, and clearly understood control
- Student conduct will enable both school staff and students to release their best potential since productivity of the teaching-learning process is directly affected by a confused and disorderly student body

The Guidelines

1. Local school should seek wide local input during preparation of student conduct codes from students, teachers, administrators, community members, attorneys, and agencies of local government.

2. The district should engage in legal research to assure that their codes are in keeping with the laws and ordinances governing their areas.

3. The district should review existing policies, including those that relate indirectly to student conduct and discipline, to ensure parallelism.

4. The district should make provisions for annual review of their codes to assure that they continue to reflect local conditions, community attitudes, and changes in the law.

5. The district should give careful consideration to brevity, clarity and readability. Codes should contain positive, rather than negative, rules and regulations.

6. The school board may wish to consider more than one code of student conduct and discipline because certain concerns for younger students may not be relevant to older students.

7. Because titles and assignments differ, the specific responsibilities for implementing various portions of the code must be spelled out clearly.

8. Consider mailing copies of the codes to each parent or guardian in the district.

9. Copies of the codes may be placed on local public bulletin boards.

10. Copies of the codes should be distributed to local news media.

11. Transfer students and their parents should receive copies of the codes.