

# MATAWAN-ABERDEEN MIDDLE SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

Returning to school in Fall of 2020 presents new challenges for our school community. Students, families, and educators have experienced multiple disruptions to instruction for several months. Resuming school brings yet more changes which significantly impact the lives of all stakeholders. While some may have maintained skills during remote learning, inequities in or interruption of access to services, supports and instruction may have increased the educational divide for many students. Students are returning to a newly structured environment to allow for safe health practices and effective distancing. Mask requirements may make it more difficult for students and educators to establish positive connections. Resources (time, space, budget) may be limited as a focus shifts from developing strong practices to safety and improving new systems for virtual learning.

Given these conditions, Matawan Aberdeen Middle School is committed to fostering strong, positive relationships between students and staff to bring a sense of belonging and connectedness to the school community. We strive to develop an instructional framework that embraces building accountability, promotes social-emotional growth, and supports positive behaviors of students.

Paired with meaningful interventions, deliberate instruction, and positive guidance, consequences are used to improve student outcomes. These consequences should be consistent, reasonable, fair, age appropriate, and matched to the severity of the student's misconduct.

Students with repeated violations will be referred to the MAMS Counseling Team for additional support and restorative practices. These practices may include but are not limited to the following activities:

- *Counseling - Individual and/or Group*
- *Participation in a Character Education Program*
- *Referral to the I&RS Committee*
- *Community Service*

When applicable, the administrative team will consult with the MAMS Counseling Team/ Child Study Team prior to administering consequences.

Violation	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
<p><b>Academic Integrity Violation:</b> to include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● cheating,</li> <li>● plagiarism,</li> <li>● inappropriately using content from the internet of other published source.</li> </ul>	<p>Zero on assignment with opportunity to do alternate assignment for partial credit at teachers discretion.</p> <p>Academic Probation with possible loss of eligibility for academic honors and awards including valedictorian/ NJHS</p> <p>Restorative Practice led by counselor or case manager</p>	<p>Zero on assignment with opportunity to do alternate assignment for partial credit at teachers discretion.</p> <p>After school detention and loss of eligibility for academic honors and awards including valedictorian/ NJHS</p> <p>Restorative Practice led by counselor or case manager</p>	<p>Zero on assignment plus:</p> <p>AEP and loss of eligibility for academic honors and awards including valedictorian/ NJHS</p> <p>Restorative Practice led by counselor or case manager</p>
<p><b>AEP Violation:</b> Refusal to complete assigned work and/or create a disruption.</p>	<p>1-2 Days AEP</p> <p>Parent Notification</p>	<p>3-5 Days AEP</p> <p>Parent Notification</p>	<p>1-2 Days OSS</p> <p>Re-Entry Meeting</p>
<p><b>Assault 18A:37-2</b> Physical attack on another student or a staff member.</p>	<p>OSS 2 day minimum</p> <p>Police notification/ Incident Report Filed</p> <p>Counseling Referral</p> <p>Possible <b>“Fit to Return”</b> evaluation /Re-Entry Meeting</p>	<p>OSS 4 day minimum</p> <p>Police notification/ Incident Report Filed</p> <p>Counseling Referral</p> <p><b>“Psychiatric Fit to Return”</b> evaluation/ Re-Entry Meeting</p>	<p>OSS 9 day minimum</p> <p>Police notification/ Incident Report Filed</p> <p>Counseling Referral</p> <p><b>“Psychiatric Fit to Return”</b> evaluation/ Re-Entry Meeting</p>
<p><b>Bias Incident</b></p>	<p>1-2 Days OSS</p> <p>Police notification/ Incident Report Filed</p> <p>HIB Report Filed</p> <p>Parent Notification</p> <p>Character Education Program</p>	<p>3-5 Days OSS</p> <p>Police notification/ Incident Report Filed</p> <p>HIB Report Filed</p> <p>Parent Notification</p> <p>Character Education Program</p>	<p>Up to 9 Days OSS</p> <p>Police notification/ Incident Report Filed</p> <p>HIB Report Filed</p> <p>Parent Notification</p> <p>Character Education Program</p>
<p><b>Bomb Threat/ False Alarm/Terroristic Threat</b></p>	<p>Up to 10 days OSS</p> <p>Superintendent/BOE Hearing</p> <p>Mandatory Police/Fire Marshall Notification</p> <p>Mandatory <b>“Fit to Return”</b> Evaluation</p>		

<p><b>Cafeteria Violation</b> to include, but not limited to,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• tampering with another's food,</li> <li>• throwing food or other items running around/horseplay.</li> </ul>	1-3 Days Lunch detention	3-5 Days Lunch Detention/After School Detention	10 Days Lunch Detention  Possible Removal from Cafeteria for the Remainder of the Year
<p><b>Cutting Class</b> A student who is absent from class without the proper permission, or is out of class for more than 10 minutes for any reason (including being 10 minutes or more late).</p>	Lunch detention to make-up missed work/ assignments	After-school detention to make-up missed work/ assignments	AEP  Parent Conference/Hall Pass Restriction
<p><b>Dangerous Behavior</b> 18A:37-2 Conduct of such character as to constitute a continuing danger to the physical well-being of other pupils.</p>	1-3 Days After-school detention	3-5 Days After-school detention, Parent Conference/Possible Loss of Privileges	AEP/Parent Conference/ Principal Hearing/Loss of Privileges
<p><b>Detention Violation</b> To include but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Failure to Report/Cutting,</li> <li>• Late Arrival,</li> <li>• Disruptive Behavior/ Misconduct.</li> </ul>	1-3 Days After-school detention  Parent Notification	3-5 Days After-school detention  Parent Conference	AEP  Parent Conference
<p><b>Disruptive Behavior/ Misconduct</b> Conduct that is written, verbal, or physical that disrupts the learning environment for other students.</p>	1-3 Days After-School Detention  Parent Notification by Teacher	3-5 Days After-school detention  Parent Conference with Teacher	AEP  Parent Conference/ Principal Hearing
<p><b>Dress Code Violation</b> to include, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• short skirts/shorts,</li> <li>• strapless shirts/dress</li> <li>• exposed midriff,</li> <li>• sheer/low cut blouses or shirts,</li> <li>• sagging pants,</li> <li>• clothing with offensive sayings, pictures or symbols,</li> <li>• clothing with reference to drugs or weapons,</li> <li>• hats or bandanas</li> <li>• visible boxer shorts, briefs or undergarments,</li> <li>• inappropriate footwear</li> </ul>	AEP until change of clothes arrives  Parental Notification	AEP until change of clothes arrives  After school detention  Parent Notification	AEP until change of clothes arrives  2 After school detentions  Parent Notification

such as slides, flip-flops and backless sandals.			
<b>Electronic Devices</b> to include, but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using the phone to text, take pictures or videos or make calls,</li> <li>• visibly displaying or wearing of headphones or earbuds/ airpods,</li> <li>• using phone, i-pod or any other device <b>other than when permitted.</b></li> </ul>	Warning and a chance to put the device away  Student refusal or repeat violation will result in AEP and confiscation of the device for student pick up in the main office at the end of the day	Device confiscated and returned to Parent/guardian at the end of the day  After School Detention	Device confiscated and returned to Parent/guardian at the end of the day  AEP  Continued violation will result in AEP/Possible OSS
<b>Fighting</b>	1-3 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Re-Entry Meeting  Police Notification  Conflict Resolution/ Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager	3-5 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Re-Entry Meeting  Police Notification  Conflict Resolution/ Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager	Up to 9 Days OSS  Possible <b>“Fit to Return” evaluation</b> /Principal Hearing/Re-Entry Meeting  Police Notification  Conflict Resolution/ Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager
<b>Hallway Violation</b> to include, but not limited to, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• roaming without a pass,</li> <li>• being present in an area of the building other than what is on the pass,</li> <li>• distracting other classes when out on a pass.</li> </ul>	Lunch detention	After-School Detention  Hall Pass Restriction	2-3 Days After-School Detention  Hall Pass Restriction  Continued violations will result in AEP/OSS
<b>Harassment, Intimidation, Bullying, Sexual Harassment, Cyber Bullying/ Confirmed HIB</b>	AEP  HIB Report Filed  Administrative No-Contact Order  Parent Notification  Character Education Program	1-2 Days OSS  HIB Report Filed  Administrative No-Contact Order  Parent Notification  Character Education Program	3-5 Days AEP  HIB Report Filed  Administrative No-Contact Order  Parent Notification  Character Education Program

<p><b>Prohibited Substances</b> (Possession/ Use) as defined in 18A:40A-9; including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• drugs,</li> <li>• alcohol,</li> <li>• Tobacco,</li> <li>• E-Cigarette, vape pens &amp; cartridges or related items,</li> <li>• paraphernalia,</li> <li>• intent to sell any of the above items.</li> </ul>	<p>4 Days OSS</p> <p>Police notification Immediate medical screening/ Re-Entry Meeting</p> <p>Referral to SAC, Nicotine and drug &amp; alcohol prevention program mandatory</p>	<p>9 Days OSS</p> <p>Police notification Immediate medical screening/ Re-Entry Meeting</p> <p>Referral to SAC, Nicotine and drug &amp; alcohol prevention program mandatory</p>	<p>10 Days OSS</p> <p>Police notification Immediate medical screening/ Re-Entry Meeting</p> <p>Referral to SAC, Nicotine and drug &amp; alcohol prevention program mandatory</p> <p>Superintendent review and/or BOE hearing</p>
<p><b>Lates to School/Class</b> including subject area classes, gym, lunch and electives.</p>	<p>Every 4th Late to Class will result in an After School Detention</p> <p>Excessive Lates will result in additional consequences and a referral to the Attendance Review Committee and possible loss of credit from the course.</p>		
<p><b>Profanity/Vulgarity/ Obscenity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• toward peer(s)</li> <li>• toward any adult including, but not limited to, substitute teachers, bus drivers, cafeteria workers, custodians, teachers, administrators, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Lunch Detention/ Removal from Activity/ Class</p> <p>AEP Parent/guardian notified</p>	<p>After-school detention/ Removal from Activity/ Class</p> <p>1 Day OSS/Re-Entry Meeting</p>	<p>Two-days after- school detention or AEP</p> <p>2-3 Days OSS/Re-Entry Meeting/Principal Hearing</p>
<p><b>Security Violation</b> Includes, but not limited to,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unauthorized opening of doors for those outside,</li> <li>• propping doors,</li> <li>• fooling around during security drills, etc.</li> </ul>	<p>Each offense will be considered based on severity Consequences below will be decided based on Administrator Discretion.</p> <p>Lunch Detention/After School Detention/ AEP/OSS/Parent Conference/ Possible Principal/ BOE Hearing</p>		
<p><b>Social Media - Inappropriate Use</b> When the content of a student's use of social media affects the educational environment to include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• written content,</li> <li>• photos,</li> <li>• videos.</li> </ul>	<p>1-3 Days After School Detention</p> <p>Device confiscated and returned to Parent/Guardian at the end of the day</p>	<p>3-5 Days After School Detention</p> <p>Device confiscated and returned to Parent/Guardian at the end of the day</p>	<p>AEP/OSS</p> <p>Device confiscated and returned to Parent/Guardian at the end of the day</p>
<p><b>Social Media - Malicious Use</b> When a student uses social media with malicious intent to target another individual (or should reasonably expect that individual to be harmed), including students</p>	<p>3-5 Days OSS, Parent Conference/Re-Entry Meeting</p> <p>Possible Police Notification/Complaint Filed</p>	<p>5-10 Days OSS, Parent Conference/Principal Hearing/Re-Entry Meeting</p> <p>Possible Police Notification/Complaint Filed</p>	<p>10 Days OSS, Parent Conference/Principal Hearing/Re-Entry Meeting</p> <p>Possible Police Notification/Complaint Filed</p>

and school employees. Includes written content, photos, or videos.	Possible HIB Referral/ Investigation	Possible HIB Referral/ Investigation	Possible HIB Referral/ Investigation
<b>Technology/Internet Usage Violation:</b> to include, but not limited to accessing or posting/ sending content considered to be discriminatory, derogatory, offensive, obscene, threatening, harassing, intimidating or disruptive.	After-school detention  Parent Notification  Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager	AEP  Parent Notification  Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager	1-2 Days OSS  Parent Notification  Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager  Possible Transition to Virtual Classes
<b>Theft</b> Includes <b>possession</b> of another person's property including students and school employees (18A:37-2)	1-3 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Re-Entry Meeting  Police Notification	3-5 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Re-Entry Meeting  Police Notification	Up to 9 Days OSS/ Principal Hearing/ Re-Entry Meeting  Police Notification
<b>Verbal or Written Threat</b> toward staff or peers.	1-3 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Re-Entry Meeting  Possible "Fit to Return" evaluation.  Police notification	3-5 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Re-Entry Meeting  "Fit to Return" evaluation/Re-Entry Meeting  Police notification	5-10 Days OSS/Parent Meeting/Principal Hearing  "Psychiatric Evaluation/Fit to Return " Re-Entry Meeting  Police notification
<b>Unauthorized leaving of classroom, lunchroom, gym, etc.</b>	After-school detention	1-3 Days After School Detention	AEP  Parent Meeting
<b>Unauthorized leaving of building/school grounds</b>	AEP  Parent Notification	1-2 Days AEP  Parent Notification	1-2 Days OSS  Parent Notification
<b>Vandalism/ Destruction/ Unauthorized Use of School Property</b> <b>18A: 37-2</b> includes, but not limited to, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• writing on desks, walls, bathroom stalls,</li> <li>• intentional destruction of school furniture, books and technology</li> </ul>	After-school detention  Restitution  Police Notification  Parent/guardian notified	AEP  Restitution  Police Notification  Parent/guardian notified	OSS  Restitution  Police Notification  Parent/guardian notified
<b>Weapons Possession</b> <b>18A: 37-2.1-1995</b>	10 Days OSS Police Notification Restorative Practice Activity Led by Counselor or Case Manager BOE Hearing		

<p><b>Failure to Comply with COVID-19 safety guidelines:</b> includes, but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● unauthorized removal of face covering,</li> <li>● not following appropriate socially distancing guidelines/ policies.</li> </ul>	<p>After-school detention</p> <p>Parent Notification</p>	<p>AEP</p> <p>Parent Notification</p> <p>Restorative Practice led by Counselor or Case Manager</p>	<p>1-2 Days OSS</p> <p>Parent Notification</p> <p>Possible Transition to Virtual Classes</p>
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Repeat offenders of the Student Code of Conduct will be referred to the MAMS Counseling Team for additional support and restorative practices. These practices may include but are not limited to the following activities:

- *Counseling - Individual and/or Group*
- *Participation in a Character Education Program*
- *Referral to the I&RS Committee*
- *Community Service*

When applicable, the administrative team will consult with the MAMS Counseling Team/ Child Study Team prior to administering consequences.