

**Bismarck Public Schools
Parent & School Visitor
Code of Conduct**

Bismarck Public Schools is proud and fortunate to have supportive and friendly parents/guardians and other adults who help model appropriate behavior so all children can be successful at school and in the community. It is important that students see people who can work together as this is a life skill we want them to develop to be healthy, productive citizens. Education of our children is a partnership with parents and others in our community.

We, as caring adults, believe we should:

- Respect school staff and what they are doing to help our children learn;
- Ask the school for help if we don't understand something happening at school or want more detail;
- Respect teaching time by not disrupting class or areas of the school during school hours;
- Set a good example by displaying appropriate behavior, respectful language, a moderate tone, and an even temper;
- Work to resolve school issues and conflicts in a constructive manner with open dialogue;
- Ask the school for their view of any incidents to determine if it is the same as the child's view before taking matters further (*ask before you act—see chain of command below*);
- Follow the proper "chain of command" when addressing a school issue. Reports of concerns would normally be made directly to the teacher. If the response is not satisfactory or it's not a classroom issue, the chain of command moves to the Assistant Principal or Principal, then the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary or Secondary Schools, then the Superintendent, and finally the School Board;
- Refrain from questioning decisions made by the school in front of children or other parents or school visitors as these are private matters;
- Refrain from criticizing or demeaning a child or parent about something that may have happened with another child;
- Refrain from criticizing the school, staff, students, other parents, etc. on the school premises or on school or personal social networking sites like Facebook or Twitter.

School staff, parents, visitors and students can work together to provide a safe, respectful school environment.

PLEASE NOTE:

Bodily harm or the threat of bodily harm to a staff member, student, parent or other school visitor will not be tolerated and is against the law. This includes abusive or threatening communications such as phone calls, texts, emails or social media posts. Use of tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs while on school grounds or at a school event are illegal and will be prosecuted.

Parents or other school visitors who do not respect this Code of Conduct for appropriate school-related behavior may be banned from school grounds, buildings, and/or events. Authorities will be contacted if needed. Legal advice will be sought if disparaging or demeaning remarks are made or written about a school or staff member, student, etc. that could jeopardize the reputation of that person, the school or the district.