



**Code of Conduct  
2019-2020**

**Introduction**

This code of conduct reflects the acceptance of this school to take responsibility for both the success of all students and the security of the school environment. Acting as a district, this code of conduct preserves due process rights for students and is designed to provide a safe and secure learning environment for both students and faculty.

Without standards of conduct behavior boundaries for students are unclear and repercussions for violations may not be equitable or accepted by the community as a whole. This Code of Conduct not only provides for a safe and orderly learning environment, it also promotes responsibility within each student through the demands of the school community.

**School Regulations**

Our location on Main Street means that Founders' students have a responsibility to demonstrate good behavior. The school's reputation will be affected, either positively or negatively, by the actions and attitudes of the students. Violations of any of the school regulations as stated below will result in disciplinary action as defined in this code of behavior.

Every faculty and staff member in the school has the authority and responsibility to enforce the behavior expectations outlined in this code of conduct.

## Behavior Expectations

Beacon and Founders has three overarching expectations for student behavior. These expectations apply to student behavior in the classroom, in shared spaces, and in the community.

<b>Behavior Expectations</b>	<b>Classroom</b>	<b>Shared Spaces</b> (cafe, hallway, restroom, etc).	<b>Community</b>
<b>Academic Responsibility</b>	Be accountable - Know and strive to exceed expectations - Self-advocate for support	Model responsible behaviors for younger students - Follow instructions for/during emergencies and drills - Arrive/return to class promptly when transitioning	Respect your audience (language, images, allergies, etc). - Help others, academically (siblings, neighbors, friends) - Apply creative thinking and problem solving when faced with a challenge of any kind
<b>Relationships &amp; Interactions</b>	Listen actively when others are talking - Speak politely to classmates - Encourage others	Demonstrate courtesy (holding doors for others, saying "please," "thank you," "excuse me," etc.) - Respect personal space Avoid gossip	Respect diversity (race, culture, learning style, gender) - Demonstrate courtesy on buses and sidewalks - Be polite to Beacon's neighbors (businesses, restaurants, residents, etc).
<b>Perseverance</b>	Strive for more than "passing" - Use your resources - Stick with challenging tasks	Move quickly between destinations - Limit time out of class (e.g. bathroom breaks)	Follow through with commitments outside of school - Share your art with local venues

Note: Specific behavior violations (major and minor) are outlined in the Behavior Definitions document in the Appendix.

## Compliance Committee

The Compliance Committee is a body that has been authorized by the school's board to intervene in discipline matters, hold hearings, and enter into behavior agreements with students and/or make recommendations to the school's board.

The compliance Committee is made up of a broad range of stakeholders including teachers, students, school support professionals, administration, parents and board members. The committee will deliberate

on cases that have been brought to it through administrative action. Students will be afforded an opportunity to have rights to be heard, have the process explained to them, and have an advocate attend with them, hear specific charges and be given a clear explanation of the consequences. Consequences can range from detention to community service to the committee's recommendation for exclusion from school for 45, 90 or 180 days.

At the conclusion of a compliance meeting, the student will be informed of the committee's decision and a behavior agreement will be entered into.

### **Attendance**

Perfect attendance is a rare occurrence in public schools. Even under the best of intentions and circumstances, absence and tardiness sometimes happen. In all cases of absence and tardiness a note from the student's parent or guardian is required. Without a written note, the absence or tardiness is to be considered unexcused. Notes signed by the parent/guardian are due on the morning that the student returns to school. Students who forge notes from their parent/guardian will be suspended.

### **Absences**

Students' extended absences of three or more days require a doctor's note to be excused. Medical and clinical appointments should be scheduled after school. If scheduled during school, students are strongly encouraged to come to school before the appointment and return to school after. Parents may request homework and missed class assignments once the student has been absent for three or more consecutive days.

Any student who reaches four (4) days of absence (excused or unexcused) in the first quarter will be sent before a compliance committee for a review. This is a mandatory meeting that parents must be present for. Compliance committee will review why the student has been absent four (4) or more days in the first quarter and determine the best course of action to take.

After first quarter, attendance will continue to be monitored by the RtI (Response to Intervention) team and any students reaching ten (10) days of absence (excused or unexcused) will be referred to the compliance committee. Compliance committee will review why the student has been absent ten (10) or more days and determine the best course of action to take.

Students absent ten (10) days or more (excused or unexcused) can be referred directly to the Board of Trustees for intervention if the compliance committee deems it necessary.

Students being taken out of school for vacations will need to notify the school at least one week in advance. Families who do not notify the school of the absence one week in advance will not be given any school work for the time period they are away. Upon return the student will be given the work to make-up

with one day to complete the work for every day they were absent. Example: student is out four days they have four days to complete the work a teacher assigns upon their return.

Compliance Committee at their discretion can implement the Give Back Program. When assigned to this program, students will give back time either with an extended school day or an extended school year until the prescribed number of days have been made up.

### **Tardies**

Daily attendance is taken in the first block of the day; a student arriving late to their first block class will be considered late to school. Students who are present in school but do not report to class will be subject to disciplinary referral. When a student enters the school grounds or a school event, all school rules apply. Any student arriving after 10:30 a.m. will be considered absent for that school day. Students who arrive late to school on a day there is a school-associated event (dance, field trip, play, etc.) will not be permitted to attend.

Four tardies in a quarter will be treated as an unexcused absence and are calculated as part of the “give back” program if a student has met the threshold for maximum absences per year.

### **Dismissals**

Students will not be dismissed early unless a signed note from a parent or guardian has been given to the front office by 8 A.M. Phone calls will not be accepted unless it is an emergency.

### **Loss of Credit for Courses due to Absence**

Students may not receive credit if they have missed more than eighteen (18) days of the school year for as documented by the front office staff. Parents will be notified of the student’s absence status through phone call and certified mail. After a student has accumulated eighteen (18) absences, he/she may not receive credit for the year. In totaling absences, all absences, excused or unexcused, will be counted. Absences for sickness with or without a doctor’s note, extra vacation, and truancy are all totaled together.

To receive credit for a course in which a student has been absent more than eighteen days, a student may be assigned to the Give Back Program at the discretion of the Compliance Committee.

Students who do not meet the necessary requirements as set forth by the Compliance Committee will be required to attend summer school at their own expense to remediate the lost credits.

## Promotion Requirements

Failure (69% or lower) of a Math and/or English course will result in mandatory summer school.

- Students may only fail one (1) of the following courses with a sixty (60%) or higher and still be promoted: Science, Social Studies, PE/Health, or Technology.
  - Students who fail these courses with less than a sixty (60%) will have to attend summer school to recover the credit for the course.
- Any combination of three course failures will result in retention to the current grade, regardless of summer school.

Eighth Grade students will be required to complete, present, and pass (with a composite score of 80% or higher) an Academic Portfolio in order to be promoted to high school.

## Basic Rules to Protect our Collective Quality of Life and the School Environment (Category 1)

### 1. Respect

All students are expected to treat every individual in the building, including faculty, staff and fellow students with respect. We all share a learning community and the opinions of all members of our community are valued. Behaviors that detract from the learning community harm everyone. Racially or sexually offensive language affects our community negatively. Every student will be held accountable for their unruly and disorderly conduct. Respect of privacy and property is expected. The school's anti-bullying rules are specifically designed to prevent disrespect between Beacon community members.

**MINOR: Defiance/Disrespect/Noncompliance**

**MAJOR: Defiance/Insubordination**

### 2. Dress Code

The dress code at Founders attempts to balance the rights of expression of the individual with the legal requirement that the school provide a safe and orderly educational environment for all students.

Prohibited:

- Clothing that promotes or portrays violence, offensive language, drugs or alcohol.
- Revealing clothing (regardless of gender). This includes, but is not limited to:
  - *Sleeveless shirts (e.g. tank tops, muscle shirts, halter tops, off-shoulder shirts, etc.)*
  - *Shirts that expose the midriff or undergarments.*
  - *Sleepwear, pajama bottoms or slippers.*
  - *Hats and hoods (With the exception of religious reasons and class requirements [e.g. in the kitchen, theatre, or laboratory])*
  - *Outdoor coats, mittens, or gloves inside the building.*
  - *Shorts, skirts, and dresses less than "fingertip length" (i.e. hem must naturally fall at least at the student's fingertips, with arms by sides and shoulders relaxed).*
  - *Open-toed sandals without heel straps (e.g. "flip flops," "athletic slides" etc).*
  - *Shoes with heels/soles bigger than 2 inches (e.g. stilettos, platform wedges, etc.)*

Violations of the dress code which are immediately correctable (e.g. a hat that can be easily removed) will result in a **minor** behavior referral.

- Violations of the dress code which cannot be immediately corrected (e.g. the student does not have another shirt to cover a sleeveless top) will result in a **major** behavior referral, and the student will not be permitted to return to class until a change of clothing can be provided.

### 3. Textbooks

All Beacon textbooks are to be returned before or upon completion of the final exam.

NOTE: If textbooks are NOT returned, students will be ineligible to take their final exam and/or receive credit for their course work. Student will pay for all lost/missing books.

### 4. Phones

- No student is permitted to use the telephones in the classroom, Main Office or other offices without permission. In case of emergency, students should obtain a pass to see a non-teaching staff member who will assist the student in making the necessary call.

The use of cell phones or other text-enabled devices is prohibited during school hours. Student cell phones are expected to be turned off during the school day.

- Students may not be contacting parents or guardians regarding early dismissal or illness via cell phones or other text-enabled devices.
- Parents/guardians should not contact students via cell phones during the school day, and are expected to call the main office for all correspondence.
- Teachers may, at their discretion, allow cell phone use for classroom activities, however, students are expected to immediately power cell phones off upon completion of the activity.

#### **MINOR: Technology Violation**

#### **MAJOR\*: Technology Violation**

\*If a student refuses to surrender a cell phone to a faculty/staff member in response to a minor technology violation, the student is immediately sent to the Principal. The Principal will collect the phone and will issue a major behavior referral.

### 5. Food/Drink

Students are allowed water only in the classrooms during instructional time. Students arriving late to school with food/drink (e.g. iced coffee, breakfast sandwiches, etc), with the exception of their lunch, will be asked to discard the items before proceeding to their class.

#### **MINOR: Property Misuse/Defiance**

#### **MAJOR: Defiance/Insubordination/Property Damage/Vandalism**

## 6. Electronic Devices

Electronic devices, including cell phones, tablets, laptops, etc., are only permitted at teacher discretion throughout the school day. Cell phones and other devices can potentially be a nuisance in the classroom. They can be stolen, cause interruptions to learning, and create tension between adults and students. In emergency situations, parents should call the school rather than their child.

If a staff member or faculty member asks a student to surrender the electronic device then the student must do so. Failure to comply with the request for an electronic device will result in a major behavior referral. Confiscated electronic devices will be returned only after the issue has been resolved.

If a student brings an electronic device to school, Founders takes no responsibility, financial or otherwise, for a lost, confiscated, damaged or stolen device.

**MINOR: Technology Violation**

**MAJOR: Technology Violation/Disruption/Defiance/Insubordination**

## 7. Smoking

Founders is a smoke-free campus and smoking, including electronic vaporizing, is not permitted within 1,000 feet of the school building. The three major reasons for this policy are:

1. Smoking is bad for your health and has proven to be fatal;
2. RI State law requires that schools be smoke free; and
3. Smokers need to find smoking spots and spread litter; this adversely affects our many valued neighbors.

**MAJOR\*: Tobacco/Drugs/Out of Bounds**

\*In addition to resulting in a major behavior referral, Violation of this policy may result in fines, and/or mandatory smoking cessation classes.

## 8. Vandalism / Defacement of Property

Students must respect our school and neighborhood. Vandalism or defacement of any school property will not be tolerated. Actions such as writing in school textbooks, writing on desks or walls, carving into woodwork, desks, tables, or walls, breaking/damaging walls or school furniture, and spray-painting (graffiti) are actions of vandalism/defacement. Anyone caught vandalizing the school or local property will be disciplined and required to pay for damages or make restitution. The police will be called if a neighbor's property is affected.

**MAJOR: Property Damage/Vandalism**

## 9. Plagiarism and Academic Dishonesty

Plagiarism or cheating of any kind will not be tolerated. Students who are caught plagiarizing or cheating will receive a zero for the assignment and a mandatory lesson on properly citing sources. No make up

assignments will be given to recover the zero. If the student plagiarizes or cheats again, the student will fail the course automatically.

**MAJOR: Forgery/Plagiarism**

10. Internet Acceptable Use Policy

Technology is a vehicle to access the most current and extensive sources of information which will prepare students for 21st Century careers. As such, school internet access is a privilege for educational purposes only and will be revoked if any of the following conditions occur:

Students will not access or create offensive, profane, or pornographic files, plagiarize works or violate copyrights or trademarks, damage, alter, or modify hardware or software or attempt to bypass computer security, nor will they engage in behaviors that constitute cyber bullying.

Internet access has been provided to teachers and students as an educational tool and should be used as such. The use of the internet for illegal, commercial, or unethical actions is strictly prohibited. All illegal activities such as transmission of any material in violation of any U.S. or state regulations are prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to; copyrighted material, threatening or obscene material, or material protected by trade secret.

Founders students will be utilizing the internet to create an online portfolio and are reminded that this is not a Founders *Tumblr* page. What you place on this page is open for public viewing and represents not just yourself but Founders as well.

**MAJOR\*: Technology Violation**

\*Bullying can and does happen electronically and we refer students to the Bullying Policy for further definition and actions that can be taken by the school for such acts.

**Rules Against Injury to Others (Category 2)**

1. Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is against the law and will not be tolerated. A student will not use words, pictures, objects, gestures, or other actions relating to sexual activity or a person's gender as defined by the law that violates the rights of any person. Sexual harassment will be reported immediately to an administrative team member of the school.

**MAJOR: Harassment/Sexual Misconduct**

2. Theft/Possession of Stolen Property

A student will not, without permission of the owner or custodian of the property, take property nor have in his/her possession any property that does not belong to him/her.

**MAJOR: Theft**

### 3. Bullying

Bullying is clearly a violation of RI State law. Please see the bullying policy at the conclusion of this document.

#### **MAJOR: Bullying**

### 4. Creation of an Unsafe Environment

Students who pull fire alarms, set off fire extinguishers, smoke inside of the school building, incite others to unruly behavior, misbehave on busses, leave school grounds without permission and engage in other destabilizing behaviors create an unsafe environment and are subject to disciplinary action.

#### **MAJOR: (Several may apply)**

### **Rules Covering Major Offenses (Category 3)**

The school has ZERO tolerance regarding the possession of weapons, fireworks, alcohol and/or drugs, and the use violence. Students who commit any of these Category 3 offenses will be referred to the Compliance Committee and/or the Board of Trustees.

#### 1. Weapons

Any student found to be in possession of a weapon will be suspended and referred to the Compliance Committee for a hearing, which may result in exit from our school for up to 180 days or the duration of the school year in accordance with the Rhode Island State Law.

#### **MAJOR: Weapons**

#### 2. Alcohol and Drugs

Alcohol and Drug use is strictly prohibited. A student will not possess, use, offer to buy or sell controlled substances, dangerous drugs, prescriptions drugs, counterfeit drugs, intoxicating substances, or alcohol. Any student who possesses drugs or alcohol will be automatically suspended and referred to the

Compliance Committee.

Students required to take prescription drugs during school hours must present a copy of the prescription showing required times and dosages to the school nurse. All prescriptions must be kept in the office.

#### **MAJOR: Alcohol/Drugs**

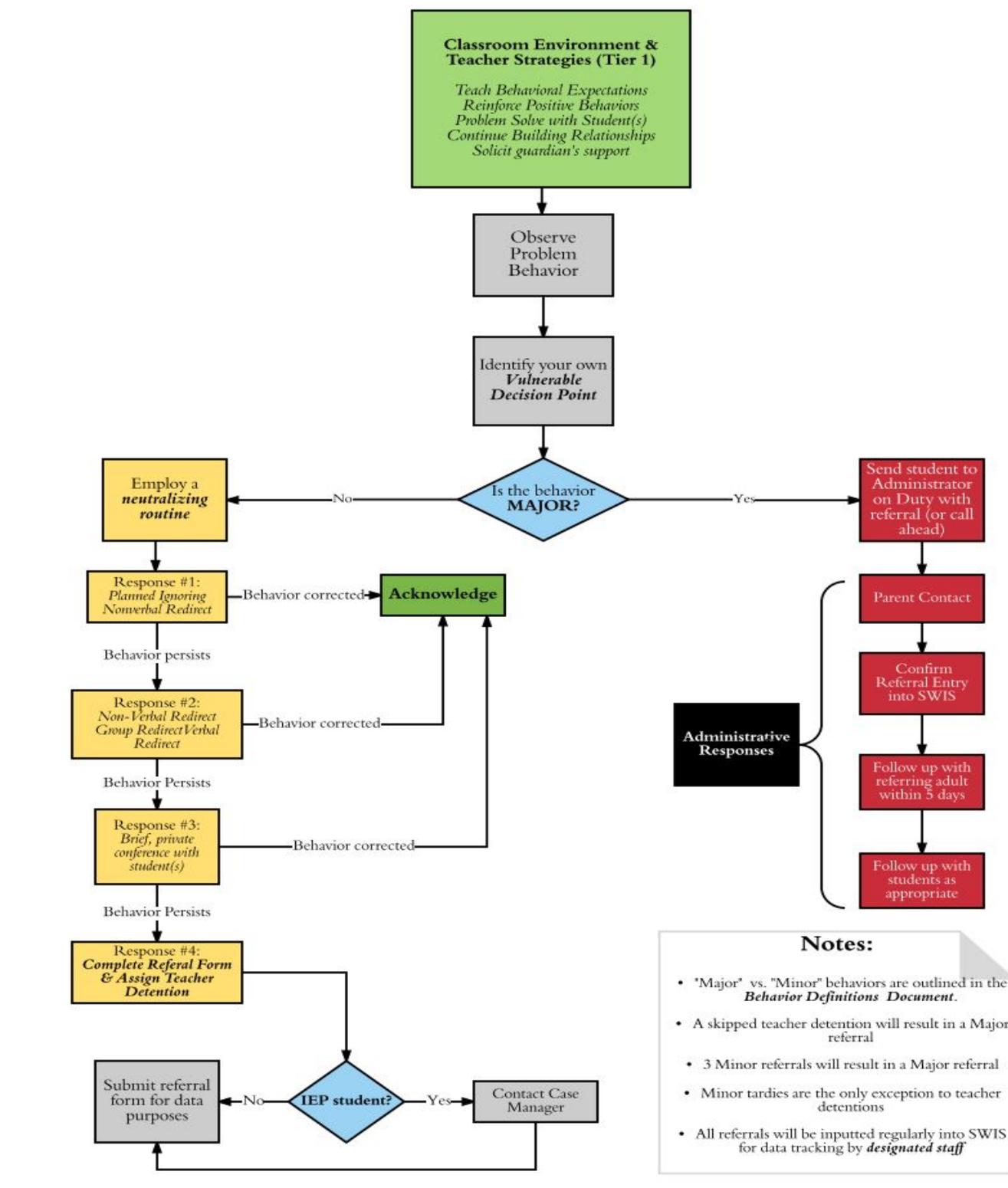
#### 3. Physical Violence

Any student who assaults another student or staff member will be automatically suspended and referred to the Compliance Committee.

#### **MAJOR: Fighting**



# School Responses to Rule Violations



If a student is sent to in-house suspension, all student activities will be conducted within the in-house suspension room until 2:45 PM. Teachers are responsible for supplying work to the student or the Principal at the time of dismissal from class. The student is responsible for doing classwork/schoolwork while in the in-house suspension room.

Parents of students with special needs should refer to their procedural safeguards handout for more information on interventions and discipline.

### **Outline of Due Process Rights for Students and their Parents and/or Guardians**

In cases of suspension from school and possible exclusion from school, the process is:

- The school gives notice in writing to the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) describing the problem, the length of suspension, and instructions to appear at the date and time of a reinstatement hearing/appointment.
- At this hearing/appointment, the student and parent(s) and/or guardian(s) have the right to be heard.
- Parent(s) and/or guardian(s) may bring an advocate with them for support.
- If the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) disagrees with the decision of the Principal, Superintendent or Compliance Committee, a letter of appeal must be written to the chair of the Board of Trustees within ten (10) days of the decision. The board, or a special subcommittee of the board, will meet within ten (10) days of their receipt of the appeal letter and hold a separate hearing where the due process rights outlined above will remain in force.

### **Bullying Prohibition and Prevention**

The State of Rhode Island and the Dept. of Education have taken a strong stand against bullying in our schools. Founders Academy strongly supports their policies and is working to eliminate bullying and harassment in all forms within our school in order to provide a safe and secure school climate so that all students may learn.

As part of the Anti-Bullying Education Program at Founders Academy it is important that all members of our community are aware of school policies including what bullying looks like. All students and their parents/guardians should read and sign the policies below.

#### **Founders Academy Statement of Non-Discrimination**

No person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any educational program or activity available in school on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression or mental, physical, or sensory disability, intellectual ability or by any other distinguishing characteristic.

## Bullying Prohibition and Prevention Policy

Bullying is a form of harassment. For the purposes of this policy, bullying is defined as:

The repeated intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted, or emotional abuse, or through attacks on the property of another. It may include, but not be limited to actions such as verbal taunts, name-calling, and put downs, including ethnically-based or gender-based verbal put downs, and extortion of money or possessions.

Such conduct is disruptive of the educational process and therefore, bullying is unacceptable behavior at Founders Academy and is prohibited.

Students who engage in any act of bullying while at school, at any school function, in connection to or with any school sponsored activity or event, or while in route to or from school are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion. Law enforcement officials shall be notified of bullying incidents, as required by law.

There are many ways to bully someone. A bully wants to hurt the other person (it's not an accident). Bullying is UNFAIR. There are four main types of bullying:

1. *Physical bullying* when someone hits, shoves, kicks, spits or beats up on others, including damaging or stealing another student's property.
2. *Verbal bullying* name-calling, mocking, hurtful teasing, using comments of a sexual nature, humiliating or threatening someone, making people do things they don't want to do.
3. *Social bullying* excluding others from the group, spreading gossip or rumors about others, making others look foolish, making sure others do not spend time with a certain person.
4. *Electronic/Cyber bullying* using computer, e-mail, social media, instant messaging, and phone or cellular phone text messages to: threaten or hurt someone's feelings, single out, embarrass or make someone look bad, spread rumors or reveal secrets about someone.

To help maintain Founders' open and supportive school culture and climate, all teachers and students who witness or have knowledge of bullying are required to report the incidence to an administrative team member.

Retaliation or threat of retaliation, in any form, designed to intimidate the victim of bullying, those who are witness to bullying, or those investigating an incident of bullying, shall not be tolerated. Retaliation or threat of retaliation will result in the imposition of discipline in accordance with a Category 2 offense in the code of conduct.

## Appendix

<b>Behavior Definitions</b>	
<b>Minor</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Defiance/Disrespect/ Noncompliance	<b>Failure to respond</b> to adult requests (verbally or nonverbally).
Disruption	<b>Brief</b> interruption to class, education or activity.
Dress Code	Students violate dress code in a way that can be <b>immediately</b> corrected (e.g. wearing hats, sleeveless shirts, images that promote alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, illegal activity, otherwise inappropriate for a school setting).
Inappropriate Language	Language or topics (verbal or written) which make others uncomfortable, and are not appropriate for the school/setting they are in. <b>Not directed at someone specifically, non “aggressive.”</b>
Physical Contact	Physical horseplay, brief displays of affection (e.g. hugging, a ‘peck’, hand-holding etc.), or <b>non-aggressive touching</b> .
Property Misuse	Student engages in misuse of property <b>that does not lead to injury or property damage</b> .
Tardy	Student arrives between 5-10 minutes late to class after the start of block, <b>without a pass</b> . *Classroom tardies must always be documented with a referral
Technology Violations	<b>Unauthorized/inappropriate use</b> of technology (school or personal) including cell phones, mp3 players, computers, cameras, tablets etc.

<b>Major</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Abusive language/profanity	<b>Aggressive</b> language (verbal or written), racial/ethnic/religious slurs, homophobic language. Offensive language or topics that are <b>directed at another person/group of people</b> .
Alcohol	Student is in possession of, using, or under the influence of <b>alcohol</b> on school property or during a school-sponsored event.
Arson	To unlawfully and intentionally <b>damage</b> or attempt/plan to damage any real or personal property <b>by fire or incendiary devices</b> .
Bomb Threat	Any threat, verbal, written or electronic by a person to <b>bomb or use other substances or devices for the purpose of exploding</b> , burning, or causing damage to a school building or school property, or to harm students/staff.
Bullying	<b>Sustained, repeated, or excessive</b> attacks (verbal, nonverbal, or electronic) directed toward a student(s) or adult.
Cheating	Student has <b>copied the work of another</b> or has <b>used dishonest means</b> in order to gain an academic advantage.
Combustibles	Student is in possession of a <b>combustible substance/ object(s)</b> readily capable of causing bodily harm and/or property damage (matches, lighters, fireworks, gasoline, lighter fluid).
Defiance/ Insubordination	<b>Refusing</b> the directive of a teacher, administrator or other adult (verbally or nonverbally).
Disruption	<b>Prolonged and/or continual</b> interruption to class, education, or activity.
Dress Code	<b>Repeated</b> violations of dress code (e.g. wearing hats, sleeveless shirts, images that promote alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, illegal activity, or gang affiliation, otherwise inappropriate for a school setting). <b>Cannot be immediately corrected</b> .
Drugs	Student is in possession of, using, or under the influence of <b>illegal drugs/paraphernalia or drug imitations</b> (e.g. bath salts, salvia, etc) on school property or during a school-sponsored event.
False Alarm	Deliberate attempt to create a <b>false emergency situation</b> leading to building evacuation/lockdown (e.g. pulling a fire alarm, yelling "fire" in a hallway, etc.)
Fighting	Actions involving serious physical contact or aggression <b>where injury may occur</b> (e.g. Hitting, punching, kicking, shoving, slapping,

	hair-pulling, slapping, etc.). <b>Any physical contact directed at an adult.</b>
Forgery/ Plagiarism	Student has <b>signed a person's name</b> without the person's permission. Student has <b>deliberately</b> submitted the work of another as their own.
Harassment	Student delivers <b>disrespectful messages</b> (verbal, nonverbal, or electronic) to another person that includes threats and intimidation, obscene gestures, pictures, or written notes. Disrespectful messages include negative comments about race, gender, age, and/or ethnic background.
Inappropriate Displays of Affection/Sexual Misconduct	<b>Any act of a sexual nature</b> which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of the school day (or function). Includes: sexual activity, indecent exposure, and displays of pornographic imagery.
Inappropriate Location/ Out of Bounds	Student is in an area of the school/campus that is <b>explicitly "off limits" to students</b> . Includes: basement, roof, unattended classrooms, the elevator (without permission), back stairwell, loading dock, middle school building, etc.
Property Damage/ Vandalism	<b>Deliberately damages or impairs</b> the usefulness of property (e.g. graffiti, destruction of furniture or equipment).
Skipped Class	Student <b>leaves or fails to attend class</b> without permission.
Tardy	Student <b>repeatedly</b> arrives late to class/ arrives, <b>without a pass, more than 10 minutes after the start of the block.</b>
Technology Violations	Posting images, footage, etc. of others (students or adults) <b>without permission. Willfully damaging</b> electronic devices. Visiting sites that are not school appropriate. <b>Unauthorized access</b> to others' accounts and information.
Theft	Student has, <b>without authorization</b> , taken the property of another <b>with intent to permanently deprive the owner of the property.</b>
Tobacco	Student is in possession of, using, or under the influence of <b>tobacco, vaporizer pens, electronic cigarettes, hookah pens, etc.</b> on school property or during a school-sponsored event.
Truancy	Student is <b>deliberately and/or chronically absent</b> without proper documentation or authorization.
Weapons	Student is in possession of knives or guns (real or replica), or other <b>objects readily capable of causing bodily harm.</b>

### **Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct and Anti-Bullying Pledge**

As parents/guardians, we agree to join together with the Founders Academy community to uphold its Statement of Non-Discrimination and the State of Rhode Island's safe schools legislation in order to stamp out bullying at our school.

By signing this pledge, we agree to:

- Keep ourselves and our children informed and aware of school bullying policies and behaviors that are considered bullying and harassment.
- Work in partnership with Founders Academy to encourage positive behavior, valuing differences and promoting sensitivity to others.
- Discuss regularly with our children their feelings about school work, friendships and relationships.
- Inform teachers of changes in our children's behavior or circumstances at home that may change a child's behavior at school.
- Alert Founders Academy staff if any bullying has occurred.

Parent/Guardian's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### **Student Code of Conduct and Anti-Bullying Pledge**

I agree to join together with the Founders Academy community to uphold its Statement of Non-Discrimination and the State of Rhode Island's safe schools legislation in order to stamp out bullying at our school.

By signing this pledge, I agree to:

- Value student differences and treat others with respect.
- Not become involved in bullying incidents or be a bully.
- Be aware of Founders Academy policies and support system with regard to bullying.
- Report honestly and immediately all incidents of bullying to a faculty member.
- Be alert in places around the school where there is less adult supervision such as bathrooms, hallways, and stairwells.
- Support students who have been or are subjected to bullying.
- Talk to teachers and parents about concerns and issues regarding bullying.
- Work with other students and faculty to help the school deal with bullying effectively.
- Encourage teachers to discuss bullying in the classroom.
- Provide a good role model for younger students and support them if bullying occurs.
- I also acknowledge that whether I am being a bully or see someone being bullied, I have a responsibility to do something.

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Acknowledgement Page**

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Founders Academy Code of Conduct.

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Student Name

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Date

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Student Signature

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Parent Signature

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Date