

## LA SALLE STUDENT CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The Code of Behaviour is the result of a co-operative effort by students, parents, and teachers. It reflects a philosophy of openness and mutual respect and, if followed in the intended spirit, will ensure the well-being and sense of security of everyone at La Salle. Our policy complies with the current directives of the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training and the Limestone District School Board, and thus, reflects the expectations of society.

As a representative of La Salle, you are expected to observe the La Salle Student Code of Behaviour at all times while on Limestone District School Board property and while attending any school activity, field trip, sporting or cultural event, and while riding a school bus. Incidents that occur off-site during and beyond the instructional day, and which are injurious to the moral tone of the school and/or the safety of students and/or staff, will result in school consequences and, where applicable, a referral to the police.

The “Safe Schools” section of the Education Act and Bill 212 provides a basis for the Limestone District School Board’s (LDSB) Policy E-7-Safe Schools: Codes of Student Behaviour and Discipline Policy. The Provincial Code of Conduct is available at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca>. The LDSB Policies and Procedures are available at <http://www.limestone.on.ca/policiesandprocedures>.

### STANDARDS OF BEHAVIOUR

#### *Respect, civility and responsible citizenship*

All school members must:

- respect and comply with all applicable federal, provincial and municipal laws;
- demonstrate honesty and integrity;
- respect differences in people, their ideas and opinions;
- treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, and especially when there is disagreement;
- respect and treat others fairly, regardless of their race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability;
- respect the rights of others;
- show proper care and regard for school property and the property of others;
- take appropriate measures to help those in need;
- respect persons who are in a position of authority;
- respect the need of others to work in an environment of learning and teaching.

#### *Physical Safety*

##### **Weapons**

All school members must:

- not be in possession of any weapon, including but not limited to firearms;
- not use any object to threaten or intimidate another person;
- not cause injury to any person with an object.

##### **Alcohol and Drugs**

All school members must:

- not be in possession of, or under the influence of, or provide others with, alcohol or illegal drugs.

##### **Physical Aggression**

All school members must:

- not inflict or encourage others to inflict bodily harm on another person;
- seek staff assistance, if necessary, to resolve conflict peacefully.

### ACTIVITIES LEADING TO SUSPENSION PENDING EXPULSION

A principal **shall suspend** a student if he or she believes that the student has engaged in any of the following activities while at school, at a school-related activity **or in other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on the school climate:**

- Possessing a weapon, including possession a firearm
- Using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person.
- Committing physical assault on another person that causes bodily harm requiring treatment by a medical practitioner.
- Committing sexual assault.
- Trafficking in weapons or in illegal drugs.
- Committing robbery.
- Giving alcohol to a minor.
- Any other activity that, under a policy of a board, is an activity for which a principal must suspend a student, therefore in accordance with this Part, conduct an investigation to determine whether to recommend to the board that the student be expelled.

#### ACTIVITIES LEADING TO POSSIBLE SUSPENSION

A principal **shall consider** whether to suspend a student if he / she believes that the student has engaged in any of the following activities while at school, at a school-related activity, **or in any other circumstances where engaging in the activity will have an impact on school climate:**

- Uttering a threat to inflict serious bodily harm on another person.
- Possessing alcohol or illegal drugs.
- Being under the influence of alcohol.
- Swearing at a teacher or at another person in a position of authority.
- Committing an act of vandalism that causes extensive damage to school property at the student's school or to property on the premises of the student's school.
- **Bullying.**
- Any other activity that is an activity for which a principal may suspend a student under a policy of the board.

## RESPECT FOR PROPERTY

A pleasant, safe school building makes it possible for a good learning environment. The health and safety of everyone in a school is a shared responsibility. If you lose, damage or destroy school property, including textbooks and library materials, you must pay the cost of repair or replacement. Costs associated with vandalism and theft are an additional financial burden to your parents/guardians and other taxpayers. Take care with all books that will be used by future students. You are expected to treat all school property, including school buses, with care. Willful destruction of school property may result in suspension and possible police action. Theft of personal or school property may result in suspension and a police report.

#### ELECTRONIC DEVICES

**(Includes but not limited to cell phones, CD players, iPods, MP3's, hand-held games)**

As the use of a range of communications technologies has expanded, so have the complications related to safety,



privacy and intrusion in our schools and communities. Cellular phones (and often electronic signaling devices) are disruptive if they are activated in class. Even if used for silent messaging, incoming signals distract your attention away from the instructor and can interfere with both learning and teaching.

Communication devices also have the potential to be used for academic dishonesty. Integrated digital imaging devices (such as camera capabilities of phones) can be used in a manner that violates the privacy, dignity and safety of others. Expectations for electronic devices are as follows:

- electronic items must not be visible or turned on in classrooms during class time, except when advance approval has been sought from the Principal
- cell phones provide easy access to the Internet and text messaging between students. As such, they are prohibited in the school before 2:45 PM.
- LSS will not be held liable or responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged electronic items
- electronic items that are seen, heard or used during class time may be confiscated, returned to the parent / guardian after the instructional day, or as appropriate.

#### LOCKERS

Your locker is the property of the Limestone District School Board and is on loan to you as a student in which to keep books and personal effects. You must not mark or deface it. Keep your locker clean. You will be charged for any damages. Every student will be assigned a locker. You are solely responsible for your locker. You are not to share your locker or lock combination with another student. Only combination locks approved by the school are permitted. The combination must be registered with the office. Non-approved locks may be removed without notice and replacement is the responsibility of the student. It is advised that expensive clothing, money, jewelry or other valuables are not to be left in lockers. The school and the school board are not responsible for lost or stolen items. If there is a problem with your locker, please contact the Main Office immediately.

## **LOCKER SEARCHES**

Items such as alcohol, drugs, weapons, or substances which threaten health or safety are prohibited on school property at all times. If there is suspicion that a locker contains any of these items, it will be opened and searched. On occasion, police with drug detecting dogs will conduct searches of school halls, and if a locker is identified as containing drugs, it will be opened and searched, and consequences will apply if a prohibited substance or weapon is found. It is also important that you occupy only the locker assigned to you, as you will be responsible for items found in your locker.

## **SECURITY**

Do not store valuable items or cash in change rooms. While theft is not a common occurrence, it is upsetting to lose items in this fashion. Keep track of your personal belongings at all times. Label personal items – including notebooks and textbooks – with your name. If necessary bring valuables to the Main Office for safe keeping.

## **FIRE ALARMS**

When the fire alarms sounds, everyone must exit the building. In each room there is a yellow fire exit sign that indicates the primary and alternate exit. Upon exiting the building, students must remain with their teacher so that attendance can be taken. Do not enter the building until directed by a staff member. Vehicles may not enter or leave property during a fire alarm.

<p>IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE TO TAMPER WITH THE FIRE ALARM SYSTEM. POLICE CHARGES WILL BE LAID.</p>
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## **HALLWAYS**

Teachers are responsible for your whereabouts during class time. Students must seek permission from the teacher to leave the classroom at any time during the period. During class time, you are not to be in the hallways without permission. Senior students with a spare period, may use the library or study in the Great Hall, when in the school building.

## SCHOOL DANCES

Dances are planned by Student Council to be fun, energetic and well-regulated social events. Doors open at 7:30 p.m. and close at 8 p.m. Once students leave the dance, they will not be allowed to return to the dance. You may invite one guest from another school who will then be your responsibility for the duration of the dance. Guests must be registered in the Main Office before NOON on the day of the dance. Upon arrival, all coats and bags will be examined by staff and placed in a designated coat check area supervised by the Dance Committee. Late arrivals are not admitted unless prior approval has been obtained from the Vice-Principal. If you leave the dance, you will not be permitted to return. Smoking is not permitted inside the school or on school property. No outside beverages may be brought into a dance, however, beverages will be available at the canteen. You are not allowed to go to your locker. Only the foyer and the Great Hall areas are used for the dance.

If you and/or your guest arrive at a dance under the influence of alcohol or drugs, you will be admitted, and given any assistance needed. Your parents, guardian and/or police will be notified and you will be sent home and face a possible suspension.

## PERSONAL SAFETY

Anyone who is not a current student or staff member of La Salle is a visitor, and must request a visitor's pass from the Main Office. If you plan to bring a friend to school, you must obtain permission from the Vice-Principal and your teachers **24 hours before the visit**. If the visitor drives a car to the school, the visitor's parking lot at the front of the school must be used.

Students are expected to show concern for the personal safety of themselves and others at all times. Students should not engage in potentially harmful activities, in the school, or on school property. This includes play fighting, "rough-housing", running in the halls, shoving, or engaging in other conduct potentially harmful to themselves or others. Consequences will be administered as appropriate. Persistent misconduct could lead to suspension.

IF YOU SEE SOMEONE YOU RECOGNIZE AS AN OUTSIDER IN THE SCHOOL, PLEASE TELL A TEACHER, OR SOMEONE IN THE OFFICE.
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## DRESS CODE

Different forms of dress are appropriate in different situations. All members of the school community must dress in a way consistent with a casual workplace tone, that reflects personal pride and respect for others. Expectations for dress are as follows:

Members of the school community are required to be dressed in a manner which is appropriate for an educational environment.

Members of the school community must not wear clothing or accessories with images or wording that might be interpreted by some as sexually provocative, demeaning, degrading, rude or promote substances which are prohibited at school.

If your clothing is found to be inappropriate, you may be reminded of the expectations by a staff member and referred to the Vice-Principal or Principal.

## HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION

All students have the right to be treated with respect, courtesy, and fairness. You are expected to treat others in that manner. Specifically, you should not engage in any activity that could be interpreted by others as harassment or intimidation. Do not use language, display pictures or wear clothing (hats and T-shirts) or accessories that show words or images that are sexually suggestive, racially explicit, demeaning, degrading, rude, or promote illegal drugs, or could be seen as being offensive to others in the school.

**IF YOU ARE THE RECIPIENT OF A PHYSICAL THREAT OR PHYSICAL ASSAULT, DO NOT RESPOND TO VIOLENCE WITH VIOLENCE. INFORM ANY STAFF MEMBER IMMEDIATELY.**

Conduct which can cause harm or discomfort to the mental and physical well-being of others does not make for a secure learning environment. Harassment, is any unwelcome behaviour (including physical intimidation, sexual attack – verbal or physical-- and racism) that interferes with the well-being of others, and is not tolerated in work environments or in social situations. If you harass or intimidate others, you can expect your behaviour to be addressed by a staff member and you will be referred to the Vice-Principal or Principal. Your parent/guardian will be notified and you may be suspended.

### **SMOKING**



For your health, we hope that you do not smoke. Our curriculum strongly supports a healthy lifestyle. All Ontario schools and their properties, including school buses and parking lots are smoke free zones. You are not permitted to use tobacco or tobacco products anywhere on school property. It is a criminal offense to sell or provide cigarettes to students under the age of 19. Smoking on school property will result in a phone call to your parent/guardian, and possible suspension. There will be more extensive suspensions for subsequent occurrences. The Health Unit patrols the school regularly, and will fine students who smoke on school properties.

### **ALCOHOL AND DRUGS**

You are not to come to school under the influence of, or in the possession of, alcohol or drugs or drug paraphernalia. Alcohol or drug use interferes with academic success. Students younger than 19 may not purchase alcohol products. Possession and trafficking in alcohol or illegal drugs in a school is against the law. If you are found under the influence of alcohol or drugs, in possession of either, at school, your parent/ guardian will be contacted, and you may be suspended. You will be referred to a drug counsellor. Consequences for additional offences and expectation for readmission are found in the Board Administration Procedures on Alcohol and other Drug Uses. The police may be involved. If you are believed to be engaged in trafficking at school, you will be suspended and possibly expelled.

### **RESPECT FOR STAFF AUTHORITY**

Throughout your life you will have to respect authority. The Principal and members of staff have been given authority under the Education Act to impose requirements for academic perseverance and appropriate behaviour.

You are expected to be courteous and co-operative with all staff while you are at school. This includes out-of-school activities organized by the school, and travel on buses owned by or under contract to the Board. Staff includes: teachers, office staff, educational assistants, caretakers, bus drivers, and other support staff such as volunteers, teacher candidates, and peer tutors. If your behaviour is unacceptable, you may be asked to account for your actions to a staff member. Continued inappropriate behaviour will result in suspension. Students must correctly identify themselves with their full name immediately upon being asked to do so by a member of staff. Students who are sent to the office will comply immediately. Failure to comply with these requests may result in immediate suspension.

### **STUDENT DRIVERS**

It is a privilege to bring a vehicle to school. All vehicles must have a parking permit - available from the Vice-Principal. The school may tow improperly parked vehicles at the owner's expense. Handicapped parking is reserved in marked spots. Students park in the north section of the back lot, staff in the south section. The visitors' parking lot in the front of the school is not designated for students or staff. The school is not responsible for damage to parked vehicles. Students may not sit in parked cars at any time.

**MOTORISTS MUST YIELD TO SCHOOL BUSES  
AT ALL TIMES ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.  
DANGEROUS DRIVING IN THE PARKING LOT WILL RESULT IN SUSPENSION  
OF PARKING PRIVILEGES, AND WILL BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE.**

## **BUS PROCEDURES**

Riding on a school bus is a privilege and not a right. Students must exercise extreme caution when entering or exiting a school bus or city bus. Students must obey the bus driver at all times. Remain seated while riding the bus. Disruptive behaviour is unsafe and will result in suspension of bus privileges. Persistent unsafe behaviour will result in permanent suspension from the bus.

When a student violates the safe bus procedures the driver will deal with the student(s) as soon as it is safe to do so. Students will be placed in front seats and taken to their destination. The driver will complete a student behaviour form and will forward a copy to the Vice-Principal. Parents/guardians will be notified. If a student is suspended from riding the school bus, it is the student's responsibility to find alternate means of transportation.

If you wish to ride on another school bus, you must obtain written permission from home and then permission from the Vice-Principal beforehand. Students suspended from La Salle are not permitted to ride on school buses during suspension.