

Catharine Blaine K-8 School Code of Conduct

Vision Statement

The staff, families, and community of Catharine Blaine K-8 School envision a creative, student-centered school environment. We encourage every child to develop a love of learning, to appreciate diversity, and to reach his or her highest potential intellectually, socially, physically, and emotionally.

We believe the following behavior expectations will allow students at Catharine Blaine optimal opportunities to develop a love of learning, to appreciate diversity, and to reach his or her highest potential intellectually, socially, physically, and emotionally.

Expectations

1. **Safety:** Are my actions safe for others and myself?
2. **Respect:** Do my actions show respect for others and myself?
3. **Honesty:** Do my words and actions represent the truth?
4. **Responsibility:** Do my actions meet the expectation to take care of myself and be a dependable member of the community?
5. **Courtesy:** Do my actions help make this a nice place, where people feel welcomed and accepted, and where they can work without disruptions?

Zero Tolerance

A. What Is Meant By "Zero Tolerance"?

Zero Tolerance sends the message that there will be consequences for certain behaviors. The consequences will depend on the severity of the behavior and the specific circumstances that apply to each incident of misconduct.

Zero Tolerance means that every single time children engage in particular types of misconduct the educator is going to identify the behavior and apply the right level of consequence and/or intervention. Therefore, under our Zero Tolerance policy a student could be short term suspended, long term suspended, or expelled.

B. Zero Tolerance And Progressive Discipline

When a student violates school or district rules those violations will be looked at and handled on a case-by-case basis, so that we have the opportunity to take into account extenuating circumstances when disciplining our students. We do not want to be forced to punish all students identically when the circumstances surrounding the offense differ in each case.

1. **Exceptional Misconduct (Expulsion):**
Firearm – Mandatory One Year Expulsion
Firearm --Carry a firearm onto school property or possessing a firearm on school property, on school-provided transportation, in areas of facilities being used exclusively on school district property, or school sponsored-events or activities. The District has a policy of not tolerance for weapons. See, RCW 9.41.010 or 18 U.S.C. § 921 for firearm definition.
2. **Exceptional Misconduct (Suspension)¹:**
The School Board and a ad hoc citizens committee has determined that these behaviors amount to "exceptional misconduct" warranting suspension for the first offense, provided that disciplinarians and hearing officers may grant exceptions in cases involving extenuating or exceptional circumstances, or

after considering the background of the individual student: Exceptional misconduct includes among other things: Selling drugs and alcohol , assault, fighting, threats of violence, toys that appear to be weapons, dangerous weapons, common knives, explosives, stealing, possession of stolen property, property damage, threatening students, teachers, principals, and other staff, false alarms, false reporting, computer trespass.

3. **District Offense-- Disruptive Conduct (Short-Term Suspension):**

Disruptive Conduct is now defined as Flagrant conduct that substantially interferes with teaching or learning in the classroom, school activities, or extracurricular activities, including but not limited to:

- Physical or verbal hostility, abuse, or harassment toward students, staff, or faculty; or
- Disruptive use of any electronic device, including cellular telephones, on school grounds or at school events; or
- Behavior that passes beyond the limits of mutual teasing, including name-calling; or
- Individuals or the congregation of individuals that blocks building entrances, hallways, or stairways for the purpose of deliberately disrupting normal passage of others.
- Inappropriate use of school computers.

Consequences: Warning > Parent Contact > Loss of Recess/Detention > Saturday School > Suspension

Dress Code

1. Hats, hoods, bandanas, visors, or sweatbands will be removed upon entering the building and stored in student lockers.
2. Coats that are an impediment to student learning will not be worn in class.
3. Unacceptable clothing includes: fishnet shirts, visible undergarments, halter-tops, short shorts or skirts, [revealing clothing²](#), clothing with drug/ alcohol related words, unacceptable words or gestures, gang related clothing, etc.
4. Hems of skirts and shorts must extend at least to the end of the fingertips when arms are held straight down at one's side. Straps on shirts must be the width of two fingers.
5. Pants and shorts that hang too low will require a belt.

Catharine Blaine House Rules/ Expectations

1. **Attendance:** Students will be on time every school day. The school day begins at 8:50 AM. At the 8:50 AM bell students are expected be in their classrooms and ready to begin the school day. Throughout the day students will continue to arrive to class on time with all needed materials.
2. **Campus:**
 - Catharine Blaine School is a closed campus. Once arriving at school or getting on the school bus, students must remain on campus until the end of the school day. The community center and Albertson's are off-campus and may not be visited during the school day. (Unless with a teacher)
 - Students will respect the campus as their home during the school day. Students will leave school property in the same or better condition than they found it in.
 - Students will be aware of others and their safety when using the hallways. When walking through the campus students will remain on the right hand side of the hallways.
3. **Emergency Drill Behavior:** For everyone's safety, students will not talk or exhibit distracting behavior during any emergency drill. Students will attend to their teachers or other adults in charge for directions or changes in procedure. Students should speak only when asked, from the time the drill starts until the time the drill is completely over.
4. **Food, drink, candy, and gum:** Food and drink are only to be consumed in the cafeteria, not in the hallways. Students may eat in the classroom only during parties or specified occasions. Gum is not allowed in the school at any time.
5. **Lockers:** Students will keep their personal belongings in their lockers. Students in 5th-8th grades receive locks from the school to be used on school lockers only. Students will keep their locker

combinations private.

*Although lockers are assigned to students they remain school property and can be checked at any time.

6. **Lunchtime:** Students will eat at the tables, and will clean up after themselves.
7. **Personal Possessions:**
 - The following items are distracting to the learning process and are not to be brought to school: Games, toys, collectable cards, pagers, and laser pointers.
 - The following items are distracting to the learning process and are not to be used in the school building from 7:30 AM until 4:30 PM:
Portable CD players, portable audio players/ walkmans, & cell phones.
8. **Wheels:** Bicycles, scooters, roller blades, and skateboards will not be used in the school building or on the playground from 8:30 AM-3: 30 PM. During school hours, bicycles should remain locked outside of the school building. Scooters, roller blades, and skateboards are to be stored inside student lockers.
9. **Student to Student Physical Displays of Affection:** In order to create a comfortable learning environment, students will not participate in any physical displays of affection. Including kissing and all other forms of sensual touching.

Catharine Blaine K-8 School is a Drug Free, Weapons Free, and Harassment Free Zone.

[For further information, please read the Seattle Public Schools Students Rights and Responsibilities.](#)

¹ NOTICE TO STUDENTS AND PARENTS REQUIRED BY FEDERAL DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1989

The Seattle School District prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of school activities. Compliance with this rule is mandatory; students who disregard the prohibition will be long-term suspended or expelled. The possession and use of illegal drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol are wrong and harmful to health and education. The District offers, or can assist in arranging access to, drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs; for further information, contact your school's principal or counselor.

² Revealing clothing exposes skin of the back, midriff, chest, or upper thighs.