

Student Code of Conduct



Advantage Academy

2009-2010

www.advantageisd.com

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTON	6
STUDENT PROFILE	7
VISION STATEMENT	7
MISSION STATEMENT	7
SCHOOL MOTTO.....	7
PLEDGES/MINUTE OF SILENCE.....	8
<i>United States Pledge of Allegiance</i>	8
<i>Texas Pledge of Allegiance</i>	8
<i>Minute of Silence</i>	8
PRAYER	8
STUDENT EXPECTATIONS	9
PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES	9
VISITOR RESPONSIBILITIES	10
SCHOOL INTEGRITY	10
ATTENDANCE/ABSENCES	10
<i>Truancy</i>	11
<i>Truancy Policy</i>	11
<i>Tardy Policy</i>	11
<i>Procedures for Reporting Absences/ Tardies</i>	12
<i>State Approved Excused Absences</i>	12
ACADEMIC DISHONESTY	12
<i>Plagiarism</i>	13
<i>Testing Environments/Areas</i>	13
DISCIPLINE RECORDS.....	14
DISCIPLINE JURISDICTION.....	14
<i>Discipline Techniques</i>	14
<i>Discipline Guidelines</i>	15
<i>Discipline of Special Education Students</i>	15
CAMPUS AND CLASSROOM RULES	15
DISCIPLINARY REMOVALS	15
<i>Formal Removal</i>	15
<i>Emergency Removal</i>	16

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS) 16

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS) 16

CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES 16

BULLYING..... 17

INAPPROPRIATE DISPLAY OF AFFECTION..... 17

CAFETERIA GUIDELINES..... 17
Food and Drink..... 17

FIGHTING/AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR 18
Self Defense..... 18
Physical Restraint 18

DUE PROCESS..... 19

APPEALS PROCESS 19

DRESS AND GROOMING STANDARDS 19
District Authority (Dress and Grooming) 19
Parent and Student Responsibility (Dress and Grooming) 20
Uniform Purchasing 20
Student Dress and Grooming Code..... 20

VIDEO CAMERA’S/ MONITORING 22

TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY..... 23

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT 24
School Bus Conduct Guidelines..... 24
School Bus Disciplinary Actions 24

STUDENT BEHAVIOR AT EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES..... 25

SUBSTANCE - ABUSE 25
Tobacco 27

MEDICINE 27

PROHIBITED ITEMS 27

PARKING/ VEHICLES ON CAMPUS..... 27

SEARCHES AND INTERROGATIONS 28
Use of Trained Dogs 28

VANDALISM AND DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY 28

INFRACTIONS AND CONSEQUENCES 29
Level I Infractions..... 30

<i>Level I Consequence</i>	30
<i>Level II Infractions</i>	31
<i>Level II Consequences</i>	31
<i>Level III Infractions</i>	32
<i>Level III Consequences</i>	32
PERSISTENT LEVEL III INFRACTIONS (RECOMMENDATION FOR EXPULSION)	32
TERMS AND DEFINITIONS	33
PARENT & STUDENT SIGNATURE AGREEMENT	39

INTRODUCTON

Advantage Academy's **Student Code of Conduct** contains important information that students and parents must know to ensure a safe and successful school year. The *Student Code of Conduct* is required by state law and is intended to promote a positive learning environment and safe school. The law requires the district to define misconduct that may or must result in a range of specific disciplinary consequences including removal from a regular classroom or campus, suspension and/or expulsion from school.

The student code of conduct provides methods and options for managing students in the classroom, on and off school property, disciplining students, and preventing student discipline problems. The Advantage Academy *Student Code of Conduct* provides information to students and parents regarding district standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct and procedures for administering discipline.

The contents of the *Student Code of Conduct* shall apply to all students, employees, parents, guardians, visitors and all others associated with or having business with a specific campus or the school district itself. The *Student Code of Conduct* has been adopted to promote adherence to district, campus, classroom, and all school sponsored activities policies and procedures, and to establish safety and orderly conduct in compliance with the Advantage Academy vision and mission statements.

Student Profile

A student of Advantage Academy is expected to uphold the following qualities adopted from the seven pillars of a Champion:

1. Integrity- To be honest
2. Humility-To be humble
3. Authority-To be a servant leader
4. Stability-To be dependable
5. Community-To be cooperative
6. Prosperity-To be a good financial manager
7. Victory-To overcome obstacles and win with honor

Vision Statement

Advantage Academy will be a professional learning community and will create a character-based culture of excellence based on the principles that made America “One Nation under God” so that students and educators will be transformed into champions in the areas of their gifting.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to educate children in an academic, character-based environment of excellence and to cultural diversity, partnering with parents, churches and businesses. We are dedicated to providing innovative instruction using technology and quality resources to inspire students to be productive, successful champions by offering them a future and a hope.

School Motto

“Building Champions with a Future and a Hope”

Pledges/Minute of Silence

With the passing of Senate Bill 83 in the Texas legislature, public school districts now require students to recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States and Texas flags and to also observe a minute of silence following the recitation of the pledges. During the one minute of silence, each student may reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity that is not likely to interfere with or distract another student.

United States Pledge of Allegiance

The **Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag** is an oath of loyalty to the country. The pledge should be recited by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart.

Texas Pledge of Allegiance

The **Texas Pledge of Allegiance** is an oath of loyalty to the State of Texas. The pledge should be recited by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart.

Minute of Silence

One **Minute of Silence** will follow recitation of the pledges. Each student may choose to reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity during that minute so long as the silent activity does not interfere with or distract others.

Prayer

Each student has a right to individually, voluntarily, and silently pray or meditate in school in a manner that does not disrupt instructional or other school activities. The school will not require, encourage, or coerce a student to engage in or to refrain from such prayer or meditation during school activity.

Student Expectations

Each student is expected to respect the rights and privileges of all administrators, teachers, school staff members, and other students. Students are expected to exercise their individual rights responsibly and help foster and maintain a climate of mutual respect for others. Students are also expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy to others
- Behave in a reasonable manner
- Attend all classes regularly and on time
- Prepare for each class; take appropriate materials and assignments to class
- Follow the dress code and be well groomed at all times
- Respect district property, facilities, and the property of other individuals
- Cooperate with and assist school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline
- Avoid violations of the Student Code of Conduct
- Complete homework assignments and return them on time to the appropriate teacher
- Strive to build a meaningful relationships with all school staff

Parent Responsibilities

The following are the expectations and responsibilities that apply to the parent of a child attending an Advantage Academy school.

- Provide for the physical and emotional needs of the child
- Encourage the child to develop proper study habits at home
- Teach the child to pay attention and obey all rules
- Be sure the child attends school regularly. Promptly report and explain all absences and tardies to the school office.
- Participate in meaningful parent/teacher conferences to discuss the child's progress and welfare
- Be sure the child meets dress code regulations
- Stay informed of academic requirements and school policies
- Discuss school assignments and report cards with the child
- Bring to the attention of school personnel any learning problem or condition that may relate to the child's education
- Maintain up-to-date home, work, and emergency telephone numbers and other contact information
- Cooperate with school administrators and teachers
- Arrange to have children at school no earlier than 1 hour prior to the start of the first class
- Arrange to have children off campus at the end of the school day and no later than 30 minutes after their last class
- Strive to build meaningful relationships with the child's teachers and other school staff

Visitor Responsibilities

The public is always welcome at any of our campuses and we encourage citizens to watch education in action; however, in order to ensure safety for all, we do require all visitors – including parents, and volunteers – to check in at the school office with a valid State ID and complete the *Visitors Sign-in Sheet* to obtain a visitors pass. All visitors are required to wear the visitor's pass at all times while visiting on school property and then return to the School Office at the end of the visit to sign- out. In case of family emergencies student will be called to the office. Trespassing on school premises is strictly prohibited in accordance with Section 37.107 of the Texas Education Code. Any person found on the school grounds without a Visitors Pass is trespassing and is subject to police arrest.

For the safety and security of each child, all parents, and other visitors are requested to enter the building through the front door and proceed directly to the front office.

Parents or guardians must make arrangements 24 hours in advance with their child's principal and teacher to observe in the classroom. The parent must have a student enrolled in the school and the class being observed. Since students are engaged in learning activities throughout the school day, *out-of-town friends or relatives may only visit students at the school during the lunch period.*

School Integrity

It is critical that each student, parent/guardian, guard the reputation and public perception of the school and refrain from any activity that would cast a negative light on Advantage Academy or cause someone to question our core values. Advantage Academy will guard the reputation of the school, its campuses, and individual persons affiliated with the school, by assigning severe consequences for violations of this policy.

Students, parents/guardians are not authorized to use the school name, logo, insignias, or reference themselves as being affiliated with Advantage Academy on blog sites, chat rooms, or any other public or internet forum without prior written permission from the schools central office administration.

Attendance/Absences

The first and most basic factor necessary for a student to be successful in school is good attendance. Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. The Texas Education Code states that it is the responsibility of parents to monitor their child's attendance and to ensure their child attends school and arrives at school on time.

Truancy

Schools are required by law to file truancy report(s) on parents of students who have accumulated numerous unexcused absences within a specific period of time. Any day a student is absent puts the student behind in his/her learning. It is essential that the school have the support of parents to help our students achieve maximum success and to become champions.

Under the Texas State law, if your child is absent ten (10) or more days within a six-month period, or three (3) or more days or parts of days within a four-week period “without an excuse”, you and your child are subject to prosecution. Parents must maintain compliance with the Compulsory Attendance Law in the State of Texas. Failure to comply will be considered a violation of the Texas Compulsory Attendance Law and is considered a Class C Misdemeanor, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$500.00 for each offense. Additionally, you may be required to attend a class to help you work with your child to ensure he or she attends school.

Truancy Policy

It is the policy of Advantage Academy to:

Send out a warning letter to parent of students who have accumulated **5** unexcused absences (letter must be signed and returned).

- Immediately begin the process to file the appropriate paperwork with a justice or municipal court for students who have accumulated **10** unexcused absences within a six month period.
- Call an Administrative committee hearing for students who have accumulated **18** excused or unexcused absences (considered *excessive* by Advantage Academy) to determine whether student shall lose credit, is retained, or if the appropriate paperwork is filed with a justice or municipal court and student is withdrawn in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Student Attendance and Accounting Handbook.

Please note that no student shall be given credit for a class unless the student is in attendance 90% of the days the class is offered. In the case of extenuating circumstances, such as illness, an attendance committee will determine requirements for making work, etc.

Tardy Policy

Texas Education Code 25.085 requires a child to attend school each school day for the entire period the program of instruction is provided. Promptness is important to reduce interruption of the learning process. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to get the child to school on time.

A student who arrives late to school must check in at the attendance office before proceeding to class and present a written, parent signed letter. If a student is late to any class during the regular school day, he/she will be reported tardy regardless.

The tardy discipline procedure is as follows;

- 1) Three (3) tardies = (1) detention
- 2) Three (3) detentions = (1) ISS
- 3) Three (3) ISS = (1) OSS

Procedures for Reporting Absences/ Tardies

- 1) If a parent calls the school to report an absence/ tardy, the parent must still send a written excuse to the school explaining the absences.
- 2) An absence/ tardy must be justified in writing within three (3) days or it is unexcused.
- 3) The written excuse must be signed by the students' parent or guardian.
- 4) The written excuse must be submitted to the school campus attendance office.

State Approved Excused Absences

The following is a list of state approved excused absences.

1. School related activities – must have prior approval from the teacher or principal
2. Illness – When a student's absence for illness exceeds three (3) consecutive days, the parent(s) shall present a statement from the physician or health clinic, verifying that the illness or condition requires the student's extended absence from school.
3. Family issues and/or emergencies – immediate family only
4. Death in family
5. Religious Holy Days – must have prior approval from principal and be documented by a rabbi, minister, priest, or other professional clergy.
6. Health care appointment – if a student attends classes until the appointment, or returns to school by 10:00 AM on the same day of the appointment
7. Extenuating circumstances (see list below)

Extenuating Circumstances recognized by Advantage Academy

- A. Required screening, diagnoses, and treatment for medical – eligible students
- B. Temporary absence resulting from any cause acceptable to the school principal
- C. Any absence required by state or local welfare authorities
- D. Absence due to mandatory court appearance

Academic Dishonesty

Advantage Academy's definition of student academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to the following:

1. Student copying of another student's homework or test answers with or without that student's permission.
2. Using cheat notes during a quiz, test, or closed note and book assignment.
3. Having access to a teacher's answer sheets or books.
4. Obtaining test questions from students who have already taken tests.
5. Copying themes and other written paper from other students or alternative reference materials without properly quoting the source.
6. Allowing another student to copy homework or test answers.
7. Claiming work taken from the Internet or other resources as theirs.
8. Use of cell phones or other electronic devices during testing or class time to relay answers, take pictures of a quiz, test, or closed classroom assignment and then communicate its content to another student for academic gain.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the use of another person's original ideas or writing, as one's own, without proper credit given to its original source. Plagiarism is considered cheating and if a student cheats, that student will be subject to disciplinary action and the loss of credit for the work in question.

Testing Environments/Areas

Due to the seriousness of our TAKS testing days and our desire to make these days run as smoothly as possible, a stringent Testing Environment policy has been adopted by the Advantage Academy Board of Directors. This has been done in an effort to make sure that the school does not have any breaches in its testing security and confidentiality.

As a district, we must take every measure to ensure that there are no T.E.A. rule violations and that we have a consistent policy in force. **Any and all violations will have strict consequences.**

The Texas Education Agency takes each and every account very seriously; therefore Advantage Academy too must take each and every situation seriously.

Please see below, the ***TAKS/Benchmark Testing Protocol and Consequences:***

- Cell phones, MP3 Players, iPods, etc. are considered unauthorized electronic devices in the TAKS testing environment and therefore, will not be permitted in testing areas.
- All electronic devices will be taken up at the beginning of the testing day and must remain with the testing coordinator until the end of the testing day.
- Hands must remain out of pockets at all times. Pockets should be empty.
- In the case of any question of unauthorized items in pockets, the student will be asked to empty his/her pockets.
- **Students testing for the day will not be allowed to leave early. All doctor appointments and other appointments should be rescheduled during days of non-testing.**
- Students may not use mechanical pencils or pens; (No. 2 lead pencils only).
- Students may not wear Hoodies, Sweatshirts or any other type clothing with front pouch pockets during testing.
- **Regular school uniform** attire must be worn.
- Students, who have completed testing, may rest or read. No talking, card playing or visiting with friends.

Students found with an unauthorized electronic device, which was not turned in to the testing coordinator at the beginning of the testing day will have them confiscated and not returned until the conclusion of the semester.

Any students found with an unauthorized electronic device in any ***testing environment/area*** will constitute immediate disciplinary action, with a ***minimum of 3 days In-School Suspension and/or testing invalidation.***

Any determination of cheating or suspected cheating will constitute invalidation of test.

Discipline Records

It is the policy of Advantage Academy to properly secure, maintain and communicate all discipline records for a minimum of three years.

Discipline Jurisdiction

School rules and the authority of the district to administer discipline apply whenever the student is involved on or off school property, in conjunction with or independent of classes and school sponsored activities.

The district has disciplinary authority over a student;

- 1) During the regular school day
- 2) While the student is in transit to and from school, or other school sponsored activities or events.
- 3) While the student is at a school district assigned bus stop
- 4) While the student is on school property or within 300ft. of school property
- 5) While the student is participating in or is in attendance at any school sponsored activity or event during the school day or after school hours
- 6) While the student is on another district campus before, during, or after school
- 7) When an administrator, teacher, staff member, or school volunteer is threatened, regardless of time or location
- 8) When criminal mischief is committed on school property, or at any school related event.

Discipline Techniques

Students who violate the rights of others, or who violate district, campus, and/or classroom rules shall be subject to Disciplinary Techniques designed to correct the misbehavior. The following discipline techniques may be used by campus administrators in dealing with students who make poor choices. (*This list is not all inclusive.*)

- Assigned school duties
- Citation/fine
- Classroom removal – includes Formal and Emergency
- Confiscation of the article(s)
- Conferences – includes student/teacher, parent/teacher, parent/administrator
- Detention
- Expulsion
- In-School Suspension (ISS)
- Loss of privileges
- Out-of-school suspension (OSS)
- Tallies/ Cards
- Time out
- Physical Restraint
- Restitution – including financial
- Warnings – includes verbal and written

Discipline Guidelines

When imposing consequences, campus administrators shall adhere to the following guidelines;

- 1) Discipline shall be administered, when necessary, to protect students, campus and district employees, school property, and to maintain essential order.
- 2) Students shall be treated fairly and equitably. Discipline shall be based on careful assessment of the current circumstances of each case.
- 3) Factors that will be considered :
 - a. Seriousness of the infraction
 - b. Frequency of the misconduct
 - c. Students intent
 - d. Students attitude
 - e. Students age
 - f. Effect of the offense on other individuals
 - g. Self-defense
 - h. Disciplinary History

Discipline of Special Education Students

Students with disabilities are disciplined in accordance with state and Federal laws. Students who are eligible for special education services are entitled to special protections related to discipline. The ARD committee decides whether or not a student is expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct. If the student is not expected to follow the Student Code of Conduct, only the consequences specified in the student's individualized behavior intervention plan may be applied to the student.

Campus and Classroom Rules

The school may impose campus and/or classroom rules in addition to those found in the Student Code of Conduct. These rules may or may not be posted. Any student who violates campus or classroom rules that are not specially listed in the Student Code of Conduct may be disciplined in accordance with district guidelines.

Disciplinary Removals

Formal Removal

A teacher may request that a student be *formally* removed from the classroom or other educational setting, if the teacher believes the student's behavior is interfering with his/her ability to teach, or the behavior is so disruptive, or unruly that the teacher cannot teach. An administrator shall impose appropriate consequences consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and send a report to the student's parent(s) stating the reason for the removal, disciplinary consequences imposed, along with teacher/administrator comments. Report must be signed by parent or guardian and returned to school administrator before student will be allowed to return to the classroom. Campus administrator(s) may request a parent conference, if deemed necessary at this time.

Emergency Removal

A teacher may request that a campus administrator remove a student from the classroom or other educational setting, if the student exhibits certain behaviors or conditions. Such behaviors or conditions may include, but are not limited to;

- Student appears to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Student is highly agitated
- Student exhibits abusive behavior
- Student exhibits any behavior or condition that threatens the students welfare or the welfare of other individuals

Any student removed from the classroom setting under the Emergency Removal format will immediately be placed in ISS or OSS by school administrators, pending a conference that shall include parent and school administrator(s) to discuss appropriate disciplinary consequences that may or may not include expulsion.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

The In-School Suspension (ISS) class is an on-campus placement designed to remove students from the classroom setting for making poor choices, disobeying district, campus or classroom policies, or persistent misbehavior. Placement in ISS may be from 1 class period, up to three (3) days, per infraction. Students assigned to ISS will not be allowed to participate in or attend any extracurricular activities.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

From time to time, it is necessary to suspend a student from the school campus due to certain negative or persistent behavior. The state allows a student to be suspended for up to three (3) days per infraction, with no limit to the number of times a student may be suspended in a semester or a school year. A parent conference will be called prior to this disciplinary consequence being imposed, unless there is a dangerous situation requiring immediate removal. Student will be assigned to ISS pending parent conference. During the OSS term, the student will not be allowed on school property for any reason. Furthermore, the student will not be allowed to participate in, or attend any extracurricular activities.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

Personal cell phones and other electronic devices may not be used during normal school hours. Cell phones and other electronic devices will be confiscated if seen or heard. Administrators will follow district guidelines pertaining to confiscating and returning such items, which is as follows:

- 1st offense** – 5 school day confiscation, \$15 dollar return fee; parent will be required to retrieve device from discipline coordinator.
 - 2nd Offense** – \$25 dollar return fee; device returned to parent at the conclusion of semester.
- Confiscated cell phones will include SIM card

- Any electronic device including personal cell phones will be confiscated by school administrators if deemed disruptive/inappropriate during any school sponsored event or activity, on or off school property.
- Cell phones and/or any type electronic devices are strictly prohibited during TAKS testing or in any school testing environment. Students found to be in possession of such devices will face appropriate disciplinary consequences.

Bullying

“Bullying” occurs when a student or group of students directs written or verbal expressions or physical conduct against another student and the behavior results in harm to the student or the student’s property, places a student in fear of harm to him/herself or his property, or is so severe, persistent, or perverse that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment.

Advantage Academy will not tolerate any form of “Bullying” against any of its students and will therefore investigate all allegations of “Bullying”.

Inappropriate Display of Affection

Advantage Academy students are prohibited from engaging in any type of “Inappropriate Display of Affection” wanted or unwanted. Any act of kissing, hugging, touching etc. between students that campus administration deems inappropriate during school hours, while on school property or while attending a school related activity will be classified as “Inappropriate Display of Affection”, and is subject to disciplinary action.

Cafeteria Guidelines

- ADVANTAGE ACADEMY IS A CLOSED CAMPUS (students are not allowed to leave for lunch)
- During lunch students are to remain in the lunch room at all times and are not allowed to leave campus, return to the halls, or go the student parking lot or playgrounds.
- Cutting in line or saving place in line is not acceptable.
- Students will place trash in designated containers. Students, who do not dispose of trash and clean up the area where they ate, will be subject to a consequence of “Assigned School Duties” or other forms of disciplinary action.
- Students are not allowed to order commercial food to be delivered to campus.
- Students must present their Student ID Badge and money to the cashier at the time of purchase.
- Lunches provided by parents or guardians may only be consumed by their child. Parents or guardians may not give lunches to students for whom they are not legally responsible. Many children are allergic to specific foods or food products.

Food and Drink

No type(s) of food, candy, gum, or drinks other than bottled waters are allowed anywhere on school property, during the normal school day, except in the lunchroom during the students

scheduled lunchtime. If students are caught with food, candy, gum, or drinks, other than bottled water, student will be subject to disciplinary action outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

No drinks (including water) are allowed in the schools computer labs or any other instructional setting where computers or other technical or electronic devices are being used.

Fighting/Aggressive Behavior

Fighting and/or aggressive behavior will not be tolerated. All fights and aggressive behavior will be investigated and consequences shall be administered based upon evidence. A student's use of physical force will in no way be excused if;

- The students had an opportunity to escape or otherwise avoid the confrontation or to inform school officials of others threat to use force or use of force
- The student uses force in response to verbal threats and/or provocation alone
- The student provokes, invites, or encourages the use of physical force by another
- The force is being used against any school administrator, teacher, staff, or volunteer
- The student uses for after the other party abandons or attempts to abandon a fight or confrontation
- The student uses any greater force necessary to protect him/her.

Engaging in a fight in which both parties assault each other will be considered mutual assault and will result in disciplinary consequences for both parties.

Self Defense

A claim of self defense may be entered but is limited. Self defense is only an excuse when the student reasonably believes that the use of force is immediately necessary to protect him/her, because the other individual is causing or attempting to cause him/her a medium bodily harm and there is no other means of escape from harm.

Physical Restraint

Any district employee, within the scope of the employees duties or in assistance of an emergency situation, may use or apply any measure of physical restraint to a student(s) if the employee believes the measure is necessary in order to;

- Protect a person, including the person being restrained, or the person applying the restraint from physical injury.
- Obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object.
- Remove a student refusing a lawful command of a school employee from a specific location, including a classroom or other school property or activity for the purpose of restoring order, or to impose disciplinary consequences.
- Protect school property from serious damage.

Due Process

An administrator must inform the student of the actual infraction and the consequences that will be imposed. The student has the right to state his/her version of the incident.

Appeals Process

Only OSS and Expulsion decisions may be appealed. All appeals must be made within 48 hours of the parent or guardian receiving a written notification of infraction(s) and consequence(s) being imposed.

1. The first step in the appeals process begins with the campus principal.
2. If parent/guardian is not satisfied with the principal's decision, they may appeal to the district level.
3. If parent/guardian is not satisfied with the district's decision, they may appeal to the assistant superintendent.
4. The decision of the assistant superintendent is final and cannot be appealed to a higher level.
5. During the appeals process, student will be placed in ISS, and not be allowed to return to their regular classroom setting.

Dress and Grooming Standards

The dress and grooming standards apply to all district campuses and facilities and to all locations on or off-site where students are receiving instruction or participating in or are in attendance of any school sponsored activity (e.g. official school field trips, academic competitions, athletic events, etc.)

The district believes school is a place of business and the dress and grooming of a student should reflect the serious intent of a workplace as well as promote a business-like atmosphere conducive to learning.

We believe that the business of school is student learning and that the school dress and grooming standards should support the purpose and should also promote a safe, orderly learning environment free from distraction and disruption. Dress and grooming standards are a vital step toward better preparing our students for the future.

District Authority (Dress and Grooming)

The Board of Directors delegates to the District, the authority to make final determinations as to whether clothing or grooming is or is not within the standards. Rulings regarding compliance/noncompliance have been delegated to campus administrators and therefore corresponding consequences assigned for violations are final and may not be appealed.

Parent and Student Responsibility (Dress and Grooming)

Parents and students are responsible for ensuring that the student is in compliance with all dress and grooming policies when the student is in the normal classroom setting, participates in, or attends any school sponsored activity on or off school property, before, after or during normal school hours. Students in violation of any dress or grooming policy will be required to leave the classroom or activity until the violation is corrected.

Uniform Purchasing

Advantage Academy has partnered with Absolute Uniform Company for the 2009/2010 school year. With Absolute, you can order online at www.absoluteuniform.com or pick up uniforms from their store in Duncanville. The quality of uniforms is impressive and the ordering flexibility is convenient for all.

The 2009/2010 school year dress code has been modified to be simpler and more uniform in appearance. The new and updated dress code is outlined below. Please know that during this transition year, you will be able to continue wearing some items from the previous school year until 2010/2011 when the transition will be complete.

Absolute Uniform Company

1126 South Cedar Ridge #102
Duncanville, Texas 75137
Store Phone: 972-572-9191
Fax: 972-572-9126

Store Hours
Monday – Wednesday, Friday: 9 am – 6 pm
Thursday: 9 am – 7 pm
Saturday: 10 am – 2 pm

Student Dress and Grooming Code

The following is a description of the Advantage Academy Dress and Grooming Code which applies to all students at all campuses during normal school hours and /or any school sponsored event on or off school property. Clothing must be appropriately sized. All clothing must be hemmed, with no rips, tears, frays, or cuts visible.

- **Tops (Shirts, Blouses)**
 - An approved school top with a collar must always be worn (jackets, sweaters are not considered tops).
 - Shirts must have the Advantage Academy eagle logo only.
 - Tops must remain tucked into pants, skirts, bottoms at all times.
 - Tops must be the appropriate grade designated color. Black, Navy, Dark Green, Red, with collars.
 - Advantage Academy Spirit and Athletic type shirts may be worn on Fridays only.
 - Undershirts worn beneath the regular uniform shirt must be of a neutral solid color without stripes or designs.

- Tops must be appropriately sized to avoid revealing any mid-section or upper part of the body.
- Shirts or sweaters that show the mid-section part of the body when arms are raised is prohibited.
- Shirts may not extend below the middle of the thigh.
- **Bottoms (Pants, Shorts, Skirts, Jumpers)**
 - Bottoms must be the standard khaki color.
 - Must be worn at the natural waistline, **sagging is not permitted.**
 - Denim or jean material is not permitted.
 - Skirts must be no shorter than two (2) inches above the bend of the knee.
 - Immodest, tight fitting pants are prohibited.
 - Hip-hugger style pants are not permitted.
 - Shorts must be no shorter than four (4) inches above the bend of the knee.
 - Students may wear jeans on Fridays only for \$1.
- **Jackets**
 - Advantage Academy outerwear only.
 - Grey, Black, White, or Blue with no writing or design.
 - Only jackets purchased from *Absolute Uniform* will be allowed.
- **Shoes/Socks**
 - Heels over one (1) inch are not permitted.
 - Open toed/heeled shoes are not permitted.
 - Socks must be of a solid natural color.
 - House shoes, shoes with metal cleats, shoes with wheels or shoes with taps are not permitted.
- **Belts**
 - Must be neutral (black, tan, brown).
 - Must be standard in style and size (no decorative holes, spikes, etc).
- **General Restrictions**
 - Clothing and Accessories
 - Bandanas, sweatbands, skull caps, head scarves or similar accessories are not permitted.
 - Hats and/or caps are not permitted.
 - Students shall not wear any article of clothing that, under the districts judgment, is startling, disruptive, and indecent or brings undue attention.
 - Student shall not wear any item that is lewd, offensive, vulgar or obscene.
 - Students shall not wear any item that may be viewed as evidence of or suggest affiliation with gangs.
 - Sunglasses shall not be worn inside the school building or any time when the student is receiving academic or other learning instruction.
 - Visible objects attached to any body part are prohibited.
 - Chains attached to any article of clothing or accessories are prohibited.
 - Mouth “grills” are not permitted.

- Tattoos should be covered if possible; tattoos that are distracting or inappropriate must be covered.
- Trench coats or dusters are not permitted.
- Appropriate undergarments should be worn.
- ❖ Advertisements or symbols that can be interpreted as promoting, depicting, or insinuating the use of drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, demonism, violence or of a sexual nature are prohibited on any school property or any property where a school sponsored activity is taking place, anytime.

○ Hair

- Hair length for male students should not extend past one (1) inch from the top of the standard school uniform shirt collar.
- Bangs must be trimmed away from the eyes.
- Only natural shade hair colors are allowed.
- Any unusual streaks or patterns are not permitted.
- Tipping or highlighting hair will be permitted as long as it is of a natural hair color.
- No wigs are to be worn except for medical reasons.
- Unusual haircuts or hairstyles such as Mohawks, spikes, dreadlocks, etc. are prohibited.
- Male students may not tuck, curl or groom their hair in order to meet the hair length standards.
- Beads or decorative items in the hair are prohibited.
- Beards or goatees are prohibited; mustaches are allowed if neatly trimmed.

○ Make-Up

- Males are prohibited from wearing make-up.
- Pre-K through 5th grade students are not allowed to wear make-up. 6th through 12th grade students are only allowed to wear make-up deemed modest by the Principal.

○ Piercing

- Males are not permitted to wear earrings or have any object in the ear lobe or ear.
- Females may wear no more than three (3) earrings per ear.
- Female students may wear earrings of modest taste.
- Visible objects in any body piercing are prohibited.
- Spacers are prohibited.

❖ **Dress and Grooming Exclusions**

The dress and grooming standards do not prohibit the Principal from allowing extracurricular group apparel to be worn on designated days stipulated by the District, or during special celebrations which involve dress such as “Jean Day”, “Pajama Day”, “Crazy Hat Day”, etc.

Video Camera's/ Monitoring

For safety purposes, video equipment may be used to monitor student behavior, including on buses and in common areas on campus. Students will not be told when the equipment is being used.

District and campus officials will review the video recordings routinely and document student misconduct. Consequences will be imposed for any violations observed. If requested, recordings will be handed over to local officials for case evidence.

Advantage Academy

Technology Acceptable Use Policy

Advantage Academy believes that internet information resources and opportunities for collaboration are of great benefit, and its skillful use is necessary for success. Students of Advantage Academy may use authorized hardware and software tools in order to be information literate. However, the internet is, by nature, an unregulated medium which requires appropriate self-discipline by users. To establish appropriate limits, Advantage Academy requires that all internet use be for an educationally approved activity. To retain this right, the student needs to behave responsibly, ethically, and legally, being consistent with the mission and philosophy of the school. Users behaving irresponsibly will face disciplinary action deemed appropriate in keeping with policies of the school which may include but are not limited to denying access and making financial restitution for unauthorized expenses incurred or damages caused.

Responsibilities Include:

- Following the Student Code of Conduct set forth in the Student Handbook
- Forfeiting the use of equipment to students with specific course assignments
- Properly using the authorized hardware and software with staff designated supervision
- Downloading, sending, storing, printing or displaying materials appropriate to an educational setting
- Using e-mail, chat modes, list serves or new groups only in authorized educational setting
- Following acceptable use, state and federal copyright laws
- Keeping all food and drink away from hardware and software

Misuse, Including but Not Limited to:

- Loading software directly on computers or downloading files, including internet games, without network administrator approval
- Modifying or damaging hardware, software or network
- Moving hardware or software from its designated location without administrator approval
- Using another's password with or without permission
- Trespassing in other files or folders
- Plagiarizing other's work or ideas
- Wasting consumable resources
- Using obscene language
- Disrupting, harassing, insulting, attacking or discriminating against others
- Infiltrating unauthorized computer systems
- Using computers, software or on-line services for financial or commercial gain
- Revealing personal information about yourself or another person without staff permission

Safe Use Includes:

- Never give out personal information such as full name, phone number, address or age
- Never arrange an in-person meeting without adult approval or supervision
- Never share a password, even with friends
- Never give out a credit card number on-line without a parent/guardian present
- Read before you click (only open sites or e-mail that you recognize)
- End an uncomfortable online experience by pressing the back key and tell the lab monitor or a trusted adult
- Be aware that people online are not always who they say they are
- Understand that online information is not always accurate

School Bus Conduct

The bus and bus stop area are considered school property, therefore any violation of school bus conduct while on a bus or at a bus stop will result in disciplinary action being taken. In order to provide safe and effective transportation to and from school, including field trips and athletic events, Advantage Academy needs the help and cooperation of all students and parents.

School Bus Conduct Guidelines

The guidelines for school bus conduct are as follows:

Students Shall:

- Recognize that the bus driver has the authority on the bus and at the bus stop
- Listen and obey the bus driver at all times
- Refrain from any activity that places students and/or the bus driver in danger
- Be subject to all Code of Conduct rules, regulations, policies, and procedures until departure from the bus(afternoon)
- Stay seated at all times while the bus is moving (**Girls on one side, boys on the other**)

Students Shall Not:

- Harass or distract the bus driver
- Touch, handle, or re-position any knobs, levers, or safety equipment
- De-face, disfigure, or destroy any part of the bus or bus stop
- Extend any body part, or object out of the bus window
- Throw any article out of the bus window
- Fight on the bus or while at the bus stop
- Yell or scream on the bus
- Eat, drink, or litter on the bus

School Bus Disciplinary Actions

Degree of Offense	K-5	6-12
1 st Offense	Warning	Warning
2 nd Offense	2 nd Warning	5 Day Suspension from riding on the bus
3 rd Offense	3 Day Suspension from riding on the bus	10-30 Day Suspension from riding on the bus
4 th Offense	5-15 Day Suspension from riding on the bus	Suspended for the remainder of the school year from riding on the bus
5 th Offense	Suspended for the remainder of the school year from riding on the bus.	

Action steps may be skipped to a more appropriate level if a violation warrants such. Suspension from receiving transportation is at the discretion of the Site Principal. If a student’s conduct seriously jeopardizes the safety of other students and/or the bus driver, or if a student engages in any illegal activity, then the suspension for the remainder the school year will be immediate.

If there are any property damages, riding privileges will not be reinstated until payment is made and disciplinary action is served. This includes any school bus and any bus stop.

Student Behavior at Extracurricular Activities

Students who attend extracurricular activities are under the guidelines of the Student Code of Conduct. Students are not in attendance to be involved in or pursue any type of negative behavior. Students who choose to behave negatively may be removed from any activity area or event and will not be allowed entry into any extracurricular activities for the time indicated according to the offense.

Offense	Period of Exclusion
1 st Offense	Nine (9) Weeks
2 nd Offense	One Calendar Year

The following will be strictly enforced:

- No profanity
- No taunting of game or event officials
- No damaging of property
- No fighting
- No taunting players or other spectators
- No use, possession, or delivery of alcohol, drugs or tobacco
- No action(s) deemed disruptive by school administrators

Substance - Abuse

In an effort to make Advantage Academy campuses safe & drug and alcohol free, the school board of trustees has adopted the following substance abuse policy:

Students who use alcohol or illegal drugs pose a threat to themselves as well as other individuals. Substance abuse has been classified as a safety/health threat to all Advantage Academy campuses, students, and staff. In an effort to show our concern for students who may need help in understanding the dangers of using/abusing alcohol or illegal substances or who need help in removing themselves from a potentially serious problem; when a student is identified as an abuser, parent /guardian and student’s desire to remain at Advantage Academy for a second and

final chance, will be contingent on the parent's and student's willingness to seek professional help.

No student shall at any time, during any school term, and while on or off school designated property; at a school sponsored activity; function or event; shall sell, give, deliver, use, possess, or be under the influence of marijuana, any controlled substance, any dangerous drug, or alcohol.

In addition to the alcohol/drug prohibitions, no student shall at any time possess any glue, aerosol paint, or any substance containing a volatile chemical with intent to inhale, ingest, apply, or use any of these in any illegal manner. Advantage Academy also prohibits the possession, use, or transmittal of paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance and the possession, transmittal, sale, or attempted sale of what is represented to be any prohibited substance.

The use of steroids is prohibited by state law. Any violation of state law concerning anabolic steroids or human growth hormones is a criminal offense and has been classified as a dangerous drug and a controlled substance by the Advantage Academy board of trustees.

The following consequences will be strictly enforced:

1st Violation

- Parent/guardian will be notified and encouraged to pursue professional treatment and/or counseling for identified student;
- Student placed in OSS for three (3) days; and
- Student is required to perform ten (10) hours of assigned school duties

If a parent/guardian refuses to seek help for identified student by words or actions, parent/guardian will be asked to withdraw student from Advantage Academy. If parent refuses to withdraw student, student will be referred to Superintendent for expulsion.

2nd Violation

- Parent/guardian will be asked to withdraw student from Advantage Academy. If parent/guardian refuses to withdraw student, student will be referred to Superintendent for expulsion.

Students will be identified as abusers by:

- Appearing or showing signs of being under the influence;
- Possessing;
- Consuming;
- Distributing;
- Selling;, and/or
- Purchasing any dangerous or controlled substance, including alcohol.

Tobacco

Students are prohibited from using, or possessing any type of tobacco products at school, within 300ft. of school property, and/or at any school related activity on or off school premises.

Medicine

Parents are encouraged to give medication to their child at home. Students should not have any medications whether prescription or over the counter in their possession at any time while on school property or at any school sponsored activity or event.

If this is not possible, because of health or other medical reasons, prescription and non-prescription medication can be administered at school by the school nurse. The medication must be in the original container and be properly labeled. Written permission signed by the parents must accompany all medications, along with explicit written instructions.

- The first dose of any medication must be given at home.
- Students may carry inhalers if there is an asthma release form signed by the parent/guardian on file in the nurse's office.

Prohibited Items

In an effort to ensure safety in the schools, the following items **are prohibited**:

- Knives of any size, including pocketknives
- Fireworks of any kind
- Razors
- Chains
- Laser pointers
- BB guns or pellet guns of any size or shape
- Any object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person
- Any toy resembling a weapon; such as a toy gun, sword, etc.
- Any object used as a weapon

The school is not responsible for personal items lost or stolen. Students who violate the prohibited items policy will be responsible for damages including any monetary damages.

Parking/ Vehicles on Campus

Vehicles parked on school property are under the jurisdiction of the school. The school reserves the right to search any vehicle if reasonable cause exists to do so, with or without the presence of the student. Students have full responsibility for the security of their vehicles and will make certain they are locked and the keys are not given to others. Students will be held responsible for any prohibited objects or substances, such as alcohol, drugs, and weapons that are found in their cars and will be subject to disciplinary action. All students must park on the student parking lot. Students must provide a valid Texas Operator's license and proof of insurance to the School

Office in order to obtain an Advantage Academy parking permit and permission to park on school property. Parking on adjacent public or private property is strictly prohibited. Loitering on the student parking lot or any other school properties at any time is unlawful.

Students should observe the following vehicle guidelines:

- Students choosing to park their vehicles on school property assume responsibility for all loss and damage.
- Students are not permitted to park in the faculty parking lot or other areas not designated for students.
- Students that park illegally, drive recklessly, or otherwise cause a danger to themselves or to others, are subject to disciplinary action including revocation of their parking privileges, towing of the vehicle, and/or other disciplinary action as deemed necessary by the principal.

Searches and Interrogations

School officials may search a student's outer clothing, pockets, or personal property by establishing a reasonable cause or securing the students voluntary consent. Areas such as school lockers, locker rooms, and athletic lockers may be searched at any time without consent or cause. Personal searches will be conducted out of view of other students. A person of the same gender will conduct the search, with a witness present in the room at all times. Administrators reserve the right to question students regarding their conduct or the conduct of others.

The district has the right to search any vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.

Use of Trained Dogs

In order to respond to the alcohol, drug, and contraband situations in today's schools, and to maintain a school environment that is safe and conducive to education, the district shall use specially trained dogs to sniff out such items on school property. Visits by the dogs to the school sites will be random and unannounced. If the dogs alert to the air around a particular locker or article, it shall be searched.

Vandalism and Damage to School Property

Students shall not vandalize or otherwise damage or deface any school property, including furniture, and other equipment belonging to Advantage Academy. Parents or guardians of students guilty of damaging school property shall be liable for damages in accordance with the law and the Student Code of Conduct. Students may also be subject to additional disciplinary consequences. Students shall not damage or vandalize property owned by other students, school employees, visitors, or anyone else associated with the school. If the student or student's parent/guardian refuses to pay for the damages, the student may be asked to withdraw from Advantage Academy.

Student will be held until all financial responsibilities are met.

Infractions and Consequences

Advantage Academy's discipline system is an *accumulative system*. Consequences are handed out in accordance to where the student is on the discipline scale, not per infraction.

The following will apply to all students that are found guilty of violating stated, non-stated, implied, posted, or non-posted district, campus, and classroom policies, procedures, or rules.

Less serious infractions are accumulated using a day-to-day classroom tally system. After all efforts to curb behavioral problems are exhausted including warning, parent contact, and parent/teacher conference, student will be referred to the Discipline Coordinator to begin the discipline process.

Serious Code of Conduct infractions will bring the student into the discipline process at the time of infraction, regardless of accumulated classroom tallies; therefore, bypassing the day-to-day tally system.

Level I Infractions

- Bullying – 1st Offense
- Cafeteria Misconduct
- Classroom Insubordination (teacher/ aid/ visitor)
- Damaging Textbooks <\$100.00
- De-facing School Property <\$250.00
- Defamation of Character (student)
- Dress Code Violations
- Fireworks (possession)
- Formal Classroom Removal (disruptive behavior)
- Gambling
- Illegal Access of School Technology (on or off campus) – 1st Offense
- Inappropriate Behavior
- Inappropriate Display of Affection
- Leaving School Grounds (unauthorized)
- Persistent Campus Misbehavior (coordinator referral)
- Persistent Classroom Misbehavior (teacher referral)
- Prohibited Articles (possession)
- Profanity
- Reckless Conduct
- Technology Abuse/ Misuse/ Threats/ Defamation – 1st Offense
- Theft of <\$50.00
- Tobacco (possession/ use) – 1st Offense
- Vandalism of Another Person's Property <\$50.00
- Walk -Out/ Protest

Level I Consequence

- Assigned School Duties (up to 3 hours per Infraction)
- Confiscation of Articles
- Detention, Before/ After School (1-3 days)
- ISS (up to 3 days)
- Loss of Privileges (athletic/club/etc.)
- Lunch Detention (1-3 days)
- Restitution (including financial)
- Saturday School (1-3 days)
- Time-Out (is not counted as persistent)
- Warning (is not counted as persistent)

- **Consequences May be Imposed in Combination**

Level II Infractions

- Abusive language
- Alerting/Destroying School Records
- Assault – Simple
- Bullying – 2nd Offense
- Campus Disruption
- Campus Insubordination (administrator/ official)
- Criminal Mischief <\$1,500.00
- Defacing School Property >\$250.00 but
- Drug Paraphernalia (possession/ distribution)
- Fire Alarm (pulled/ no evacuation)
- Fireworks (ignition)
- Fighting
- Formal Classroom Removal (unruly behavior)
- Harassment of School Personnel
- Hazing
- Illegal Access of School Technology (on or off campus) - 2nd Offense
- Improper Photographs, Pictures, or Videos
- Inappropriate/Obscene Language
- Inappropriate Touching
- Knife Possession (any bladed object below illegal length)
- Look-a-like Drugs (possession/ distribution)
- Look-a-like Weapons (possession/ distribution)
- Obscene Material (possession/ distribution)
- Profanity (to school personnel) 1st Offense
- Retaliation
- Skipping Class – 2nd Offense
- Tampering With an AED
- Technology Abuse/ Misuse/ Threat/ Defamation - 2nd Offense
- Technology Destruction <\$1,000.00
- Theft >\$50.00
- Threat to Another Student
- Tobacco (possession/ use) – 2nd Offense
- Unauthorized medication (possession/ use/ distribution) – 1st Offense
- Vandalism of Another Person’s Property >\$50.00

Level II Consequences

- Assigned School Duties (up to 5 hours per Infraction)
- Detention, Before/ After School (3-5 days)
- Lunch Detention (3-5 days)
- ISS (up to 3 days per infraction)
- OSS (up to 3 days per infraction)
- Saturday School (3-5 days)
- **Consequences May be Imposed in Combination, Including level II and/or level I**

Level III Infractions

- Academic Dishonesty/Cheating/Plagiarism
- Aggravated Assault
- Aggravated Robbery (on or off school property)
- Arson
- Assault (on school administrator, staff member, volunteer, or aid)
- Bomb Threat/Hoax
- Criminal Mischief > \$1500
- Deadly Conduct
- Defacing School Property > \$1000
- Defamation of Character (school administrator)
- Emergency Classroom Removal
- Extortion/ Coercion/Blackmail
- Felony (on or within 300 ft. of school property)
- Fire Alarm Pulled (Building Evacuated)
- Gang/Cult Activity
- Hit List
- Inappropriate or Obscene Display of Body Parts
- Knife Possession (Illegal length or type)
- Lying To a School Administrator
- Major Campus Disruption
- Obscene or Lewd Gestures
- Persistent, Serious Campus Disruption
- Persistent Technology Abuse/ Misuse/ Threat
- Profanity (to school personnel) 2nd Offense
- Prohibited Weapon (possession/ distribution)
- Racial Slurs
- Retaliation (against school administrator, staff member, volunteer or aid) On or Off School Property
- School Integrity Infraction 1st Offense
- Sexual Harassment
- Substance Abuse Infraction 1st Offense
- Technology Destruction > \$1000
- Terrorist Threat/ Hoax
- Threat (to school administrator, staff member, volunteer, or aid) On or Off School Property
- Unauthorized Medication (possession/ use/ distribution) – 2nd Offense
- Weapon Possession (any item used as a weapon)

Level III Consequences

- Assigned School Duties (up to 10 hours per infraction)
- Detention, Before/ After School (5-10 days)
- Expulsion (must be approved by Superintendent)
- ISS (up to 3 days per infraction)
- OSS (up to 3 days per infraction)
- Saturday School (5-10 days)
- * **Consequences May be Imposed in Combination, Including level III, level II, and/or level I**

Persistent Level III Infractions (Recommendation for Expulsion)

An administrative conference will be called at which time the parent/guardian will be notified of the campus recommendation for expulsion. Parent/guardian may at this time withdraw student from Advantage Academy, or file an appeal to the district.

Terms and Definitions

Term	Definition
Abusive Language	Any language used to attack the social, religious, racial or ethnic well-being of a person
Arson	The willful burning or attempt to maliciously burn a structure
Aggravated Assault	Causing serious bodily injury to another or using or exhibiting a deadly weapon during the commission of an assault
Assault of an administrator/staff member/volunteer/aid - <u>Bodily Injury</u>	Intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing bodily injury to another (TPC 22.01(a)(1))
Assault of an administrator/staff member/volunteer/aid - <u>Verbal</u>	Intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury (TPC 22.01(a)(2))
Assault of an administrator/staff member/volunteer/aid - <u>Contact</u>	Intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another when the person knows or should reasonably believe that the other will regard the contact as offensive or provocative (TPC 22.01(a)(3))
Assigned School Duties	Any service to the campus that is deemed helpful, as directed by campus administration
Blackmail	Obtaining money or other objects of value from an unwilling person or forcing the person to act through the use of force or threat of force
Bladed Object	Any sharp object used to cut, stab, or injure that includes, but is not limited to; Razor blades, box cutters, throwing stars, knives, etc.
Bodily Injury	Physical pain, illness or any impairment of physical condition
Bomb Threat/Hoax	An expression of intention to use an explosive device to hurt, destroy, intimidate, or act in retaliation
Bullying	Written or oral expression or physical conduct that a campus administrator determines: (1) to have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property; or placing a student in reasonable fear or harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or (2) to be sufficiently severe, persistent, or persuasive to create an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student
Campus Disruption	Any negative activity that disrupts the educational process for a large number of the student population
Class Disruption	Any activity which violates the rules of a particular classroom and interferes with the teacher's opportunity to present material or other student's opportunity to concentrate on the material or their assignment. Any action that disrupts the educational process
Club	Any instrument that is specifically designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with the instrument See penal code 46.01(1)
Coercion	Forcing another person to act or think in a given way by pressure, threats, or intimidation

Contraband	Property whose possession is prohibited by law, district policy, or campus policy
Criminal Mischief	Without the obsessive consent of the owner, intentionally or knowingly damaging or destroying the taxable property of the owner, or intentionally or knowingly making markings, including inscriptions, slogans, drawings, or painting on the tangible property of the owner. Any losses excess of a \$1500.00 is considered a felony
Dagger	Any sort, pointed, fixed play weapon with sharp edges.
Days/Calendar Days	Unless otherwise noted: "days", "calendar days" shall mean school days
Defacing School Property	Destroying or damaging school property, including school buses, either during school hours, after school hours, or during vacation times
Defamation of Character	Any intentional false communication, either written or spoken, that harms a person's reputation; decreases the respect, regard, or confidence in which a person is held; or induces disparaging, hostile, or disagreeable opinions or feelings against a person.
Detention	The time of day a student is detained during the school day or after school by a teacher or administrator
Emergency Removal	The removal of a student from regular classes or from other educational settings for serious disciplinary reasons, including abusive or threatening behavior
Expulsion	The deprivation of educational services from the district
Extortion	The act or instance of obtaining money or other object(s) of value by coercive means, such as threats or intimidation
False Fire Alarm	Knowingly making or aiding in the making of sounding a fire alarm when the alarm is not needed or there is no fire
Fighting	Mutual combat that results and physical contact and or bodily injury; mutual aggression
Firearm	Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a specific projectile through a barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance or any device readily converted convertible to that use
Formal Removal	The removal of a student from regular classes or from other educational settings for disciplinary reasons, including disruptive, unruly or persistent misbehavior
Forgery	Imitating an original piece of writing with the intent to deceive
Gambling	Betting money or any other item of value on the outcome of an event, game or contest
Gang	Two or more persons who have a common identifying sign, symbol or identifiable leadership and/or are involved in any activity or behaviors that are illegal or in violation of the Student Code of Conduct

Gang/Cult Activity	(1) Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, are selling any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, graffiti or other items that are evidence of membership or affiliation in a gang, (2) Committing any act or using any speech, either verbal or nonverbal, such as gestures, handshakes, and the like, that indicate membership or affiliation in a gang; (3) Promoting interest in any gang or gang activity including but not limited to: (a) soliciting others for membership, (b) requesting any person to pay protection, or otherwise intimidating or threatening any other person; (c) committing any other illegal act of violation of district policies
Graffiti	Making marks with an indelible marker or aerosol paint or other marking implement on tangible property of the owner without the effective consent of the owner
Harassment	Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another student, is sexually intimidating, causes physical damage to the property of another student, subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint, or maliciously and substantially harms another student' physical or emotional health or safety
Hazing	Willful actions by a student(s) to other student(s) for the purpose of subjecting the student(s) to indignity, humiliation, intimidation, physical abuse or threats of abuse, social or other ostracism, shame, or disgrace
Hit list	A list of people targeted to be harmed
Illegal Knife	A knife with a blade of over 5 1/2in.; a hand instrument designed to cut or stab another by being thrown; a dagger, including but not limited to a dirk, stiletto, or poniard; Bowie knife; sword or spear
Immoral Conduct	Lewd, lascivious, or indecent acts including indecent sexual propositions, indecent exposure, or obscene gestures
Inappropriate Behavior	Any act(s) which, in the judgment of the campus administration, disrupts the class or campus. Anything that disrupts the educational process
Inappropriate Display of Affection	Any act of kissing, hugging, etc. between students that campus administration deems inappropriate during school hours, while on school property or while attending a school related activity
Inappropriate Display of Body Parts	Any act that would make certain body parts (buttocks, breast, etc.) visible
Insubordination	Persisting in acts of disobedience; defying the authority of school personnel; unprovoked display of disrespect towards school personnel
In-school suspension (ISS)	An on-campus placement designed to remove students from the classroom setting for making poor choices, disobeying district, campus, or classroom policies
Loitering	Lingering around the school premises or district property, in general, in an aimless fashion, after official hours

Misbehavior	Behavior which is contrary to the expectations stated in the Student Code of Conduct or behavior which prevents the teacher from completing the educational process
Obscene Material	Material which is offensive to the acceptable standards of the majority of the community
Offensive Language/Profanity	Using language which is outside the standards of acceptable language of the majority of the persons in the community
Out-Of-School Suspension (OSS)	Removal of a student from the school for a period not to exceed three (3) days per infraction of the Student Code of Conduct
Paraphernalia	Any device(s) that can be used to inhale, inject, ingest, or otherwise introduce a controlled substance into the body
Persistent Misbehavior	Misbehavior that, on at least three (3) occasions, violates specific, standards of student conduct; may be the same or different types of misconduct
Possession	To have on the student's person or in the student's personal property including, but not limited to; the students clothing, purse or backpack; in any private vehicle used by the student for transportation to and from school or school-related activities, or any other school property used by the student including, but not limited to, a locker or desk. Possession can be at any time during the school day or while on school property
Profanity Directed at an Employee	Any profanity, obscene gesture, or vulgar language directed toward, about or used within an incident involving a student and an employee. This also includes any profanity or vulgar language written about an employee
Prohibited Items	Any object that can be used to disrupt the educational process. This list would include, but is not limited to; any type of music device, novelty items, phones, beepers, weapons, tobacco, etc.
Prohibited Weapons	Includes but is not limited to; a club, explosive weapon, firearm, illegal knife, handgun, switchblade knife, hoax bomb, chemical dispensing device
Racial Slurs	Any statement that degrades or demeans any person's racial, ethnic, cultural or natural origins
Reckless Conduct	Behavior which, in the judgment of the school administrator, places the student and/or other students and/or district employees at risk of injury
Restitution	Making good or restoring objects that have been lost or damaged, including financial responsibility, returning to the former condition
Retaliation	Intentionally or knowingly harming or threatening to harm another by an act based upon revenge
School Property	Any Property owned by the school district or over which the school district or its personnel exert lawful authority, including property visited by students in connection with a school sponsored activity, such as a field trip or extracurricular activity

Self-Defense	Action(s) taken by a person to prevent another person(s) from causing or attempting to cause immediate bodily harm, and there is no other means of escape from harm
Sexual Harassment	Includes unwanted and unwelcome verbal or physical contact of a sexual nature, whether by word, gesture, or any other sexual conduct, including requests for sexual favors
Stealing	Taking and carrying away the personal property of another without the consent of the owner
Tally/Card	Campus system used as a means to track Code of Conduct infractions
Terrorist Threat	A threat of violence to any person or property with intent to: (1) Cause a reaction of any type by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies; (2) Place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; (3) Prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building, room, place of assembly, or place to which the public has access, including place of employment or occupation, aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance, or other public place; (4) Cause impairment or interruption of public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service; (5) Place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or (6) Influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state (including the district)
Theft	The unauthorized possession and/or sale of the property of another without the consent of the owner
Time-Out	A period of time that a student's school activities are modified and/or limited. It can take place in the classroom, playground or specified place in the building
Trespassing	Entering the school property without permission or right
Truancy	Staying away from school without permission of a parent or guardian or in violation of the state's attendance law
Under the Influence	Lacking the normal use of mental or physical faculties. Impairment of person's physical or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior or the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use. A student "under the influence" need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action
Use	The student has voluntarily introduced into his body by any means a prohibited substance recently enough that it is detectable by the student's physical appearance, actions, speech, or breath
Unexcused Absence	Any excuse for an absence that is not acceptable according to district policy and/or state law
Vandalism	Willful action which results in destruction, damage or defacement of property belonging to or rented by the district
Weapons	Instruments used to cause bodily harm

This publication is updated annually, while policy adoptions and revisions are ongoing throughout the year. Changes in the policy that affect provisions in this publication will be communicated to students and parents when the Board of Directors adopts new policies. The contents of this publication are not contractual, and do not give rise to a claim of breach of contract against the school district.

ADVANTAGE ACADEMY

Parent & Student Signature Agreement

Student Code of Conduct and Advantage Academy Technology Acceptable Use Policy

I _____, along with my child, _____, are aware of the infractions and consequences for misbehavior outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. I, along with my child have received, read, and agree to abide by all stated and non-stated student rights, responsibilities, and rules outlined in this booklet, including the Technology Acceptable Use Policy.

_____	_____	_____
Student Name	Student Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Name	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
_____	_____	
Grade Level	Site	

Please sign and return this form to the main office of your child's school.