

CAVALLINI MIDDLE SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

The purpose of education is to help each student acquire knowledge, develop intellectual skills and enlarge his/her capacity for rational thinking. This will prepare the student to become an effective citizen and find his or her place in society. Being fully aware of and then accepting the responsibilities and obligations of good citizenship is critical for an optimum learning environment and prepares students to constructively participate in the world of tomorrow.

This Code of Conduct defines the essentials of honorable behavior for all students. The Code of Conduct applies to all school-sanctioned activities.

Any questions regarding the Code of Conduct should be directed to the assistant principal.

School Goals

We believe that each child is an individual within the school community.

We believe in high expectations, clearly defined boundaries, and the right of every student to learn in a safe and comfortable environment.

We believe that school is a place where confidence and self-motivation are fostered.

We believe that home, community, and school should work together to produce compassionate and responsible students who are accountable for their actions.

We believe in having an environment of respect for self, respect for others and respect for authority.

General Rules

- * Students are to report to all classes, including academic support on time.
- * Students may not use the office phones or visit the nurse's office without a pass from a teacher.
- * Student are not permitted to chew gum at any time.
- * Students are not permitted to have radios, iPods, skateboards, roller blades, laser pointers, cigarettes, lighters, matches, magazines containing

questionable material, shoes containing wheels, shock pens, cameras, aerosol sprays of any kind, or any item deemed inappropriate or disruptive by school administrators in school, on school property, or on any school bus including field trips and sporting events.

- * Students who ride their bikes to school must walk their bikes while on school property.
- * Students who are absent, serving detention or suspended from school are not permitted to participate in any after school activity or attend evening performances. Students that are late to school must arrive by 10:15 am to participate in any after school activities and evening performances.
- * Students are prohibited from fighting, gambling, using obscene language and gestures, possessing dangerous or inappropriate objects, and substances including tobacco, drugs, alcohol, weapons and explosives.
- * Students are not permitted to bring guests to visit Cavallini without prior written permission from the principal or assistant principal. These guests may visit only from 8:03 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- * Students are prohibited from selling items for outside clubs or organizations.
- * Students are not permitted to take unauthorized pictures of other students. Only school issued cameras may be used for newspaper/yearbook purposes. This should occur only under the direction of the respective advisor(s).
- * When attending field trips, students are required to dress appropriately and travel to and from the event on school transportation only.
- * ALL parents/visitors are required to report to the Greeter Station upon entering the school to sign the visitors' registand to obtain visitor's pass. Visitors must use the buzzer security system located outside each office. The pass should be worn during the entire visit and the visitor must sign out at the Greeter Stat. CMS believes in a strong partnership with parents and the community; however, to facilitate the smooth operation of the school and for the safety of students and staff, it is requested that parents and other visitors make appointments, in advance, to visit teachers, counselors, the school nurse and administrators.

Examples of unacceptable behavior:

- * Smoking or possessing cigarettes, tobacco products or smoking materials (e.g., matches, lighters, rolling paper), possession of alcohol or drugs
- * Engaging in criminal actions such as assault, extortion, theft, robbery, arson. Initiating a false fire alarm or bomb scare. Tampering with or damaging school property or personal property belonging to staff or students. *(Note: Parents or guardians are financially liable for the cost of repairs or replacement of damaged property.)*
- * Any form of academic dishonesty including those pertaining to vocabulary lists, or misuse of computer technology and the internet.
Plagiarism may result in the loss of credit for that assignment. Multiple incidents of academic dishonesty will be accompanied by progressively severe consequences.
- * Possession and/or use of a knife, firearm, facsimile weapon, or any item which can be construed as a weapon is a violation of the law and at a minimum will be cause for suspension. In addition, a police complaint will be filed.
- * Failure to return school books, materials, uniforms, etc.
- * Demonstrating any behavior or possessing any item which does or could endanger the health, safety, or welfare of any member of the school community.
- * As a member of the school community, it is each individual's responsibility to immediately report the knowledge of any of these items to an adult at school.

Harassment

The Upper Saddle River School district maintains a policy against harassment of any kind - sexual, racial, ethnic, religious, etc. The harassment or coercion of any person is not permitted. All complaints should be reported to one of the following individuals:

a teacher
a guidance counselor
the assistant principal
the principal

Complaints will be handled according to the procedure outlined in the Board of Education Policy.

Tardiness to School

Students should be in their first period class and be prepared for the day by 8:03 am. If a student arrives late, he/she must sign in at the Student Services Office. **Lateness will be unexcused unless accompanied by a note from a doctor's or dentist's office.** Lateness to school is a serious concern. It is detrimental to the child and disruptive to the teacher and fellow students. Therefore the following consequences for chronic tardiness have been put into place:

- 1st tardy of the month, a warning will be issued to the student.
- 2nd and each subsequent tardy in the same calendar month will result in a lunch/recess detention.

Rules for Dress

All students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate for school and the weather conditions. Clothing that distracts students, disrupts the education process, or poses a health or safety threat to anyone is not acceptable in our school.

Parents and students are encouraged to review and adhere to the following standards:

- * All hats, coats, gloves and wristbands are to be stored in the student's locker or cubby during the school day. Hoods on sweatshirts are not to be worn during school hours.
- * Bare midriffs, low cut tops, halter or tube tops or clothing that reveals under-garments (boys or girls) are not permitted.
- * The "fingertip rule" – skirts, shorts should be longer than one's fingertips when arms are held straight down. (mid-thigh length)
- * The "three finger rule" - straps should be wider than three fingers.
- * Any clothing containing chains, spikes or studs are not permitted.
- * Flip flops and/or any footwear that does not have a back pose a safety hazard and are not appropriate for school.
- * Face painting, body art or decals are not permitted.

Clothing or accessories that depict violence, profanity or are offensive, sexually explicit, suggestive or too revealing, advocate illegal or unhealthy behavior, distracting or cause a safety hazard are not permitted. Examples include: halter tops, one shoulder shirts/blouses and /or see through clothing.

Bus Rules

Students should:

- * Obey and respect the bus driver.
- * Enter and exit the bus in an orderly manner.
- * Keep hands and objects inside windows and keep aisles clear.
- * Not have physical contact with another student.
- * Not throw any objects on or out of the bus.
- * Speak at a conversational level.
- * Stay in his/her seat and use seat belts when available.
- * Respect other passengers, their property and the bus.
- * Not use obscene language/gestures.
- * Ride only the bus to which he/she is assigned.
No guests are permitted to ride on a school bus.
- * Not bring iPods, video games, etc. on the bus.

Assembly Rules

Students should:

- * Enter and exit in a quiet, orderly manner from the rear of the auditorium.
- * Be courteous and considerate during the entire performance.
- * Not talk or have physical contact with another student during the performance.
- * Remain in his/her seat for the duration of the assembly. Only leave the auditorium during emergency situations.
- * Use appropriate applause.
- * Not participate or perform in day or night performance if absent from school that day.
- * All evening performances are for the families of the participants. Students and children under the age of 16 may only attend with THEIR OWN PARENTS.

Computer Rules

Students should:

- * Follow directions of the teacher in use of computer/printer.
- * Not invade another student's right to privacy by opening files in his/her folder or changing/manipulating files in his/her folder.
- * Use Internet as outlined by the Acceptable Use Policy and only under the supervision of a teacher.
- * Not purposely change system configurations.

Cell Phone Rules

Students are permitted to have cell phones in school although they must be turned off.

Students should:

- * Not use their cell phones between the time period of 7:30 am to 2:30 pm.
- * In 6th grade keep their phones in their backpacks and 7th and 8th graders should keep their phones in their lockers.

At no time is a student permitted to take a picture with their phone while in the building.

Consequences will be given to any student in violation of the Cavallini Cell Phone Policy.

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Fire Drill Procedures

Students should:

- * Leave the building according to the fire drill directions posted in each room.
- * Pass from the building in an orderly and silent manner. Misconduct of any kind while leaving or returning to the building is unacceptable.
- * Return to the building when the recall signal is sounded.

Consequences

Those students who choose not to follow the code of conduct will be subjected to the following consequences:

Detention

Students may be assigned detention for various rule infractions that may take place both in the classroom and outside the classroom.

Detention may be given by any staff member at any time for infractions they feel are worthy of a detention. Detention may take the following forms:

- * Recess detention (classroom or office)
- * Lunch and recess detention (classroom or office)
- * After school detention (classroom or office)
- * In school detention (full day)

Suspension

Students may be suspended from school for any of the following reasons:

- * Academic dishonesty
- * Fighting or threatening to cause physical injury
- * Damage to school and/or personal property
- * Stealing/extortion
- * Defiance of authority
- * Possession of weapons, explosives, or other dangerous or inappropriate objects
- * Tobacco, tobacco products, lighters, matches, alcohol, or drugs on campus
- * Using foul language or gestures
- * Harassment of any kind
- * Gambling
- * Leaving school, skipping class
- * Behavior that is deemed unacceptable
- * False Alarms
- * Any behavior deemed disruptive or unsafe by building administrators

Parents are notified of all suspensions.

Honor Roll and High Honor Roll Calculation

There are five grades (English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Language) entered into the GPA calculation for Honor Roll and High Honor Roll.

Using the values indicated below, an average of the five GPA values is calculated. The student's GPA must be 2.0 or higher to attain Honor Roll and 3.5

or higher to attain High Honor Roll. GPA's do not get rounded.

How Cavallini GPA is calculated:

A = 4.0

A- = 3.5

B+ = 3.0

B = 2.0

B- = 1.5

*Grades lower than a B- (in any course) disqualify a student's eligibility for honor roll.

Interscholastic Sports Policy

Philosophy - Realizing that interscholastic sports make a rich contribution to the total education, Cavallini Middle School provides a diverse interscholastic and intramurals sports program. It is the philosophy of Cavallini Middle School that participation in interscholastic and intramurals sports is a privilege, not a right.

Eligibility – In order to be eligible to try out for any of Cavallini School's sports teams, all forms must be submitted and approved by the school physician before participating. Information about the forms can be found on our school website under: School info –Athletics –Sports forms.

Guidelines- Cavallini athletes are subject to the Upper Saddle River Board of Education policies and the Cavallini Code of Conduct. Coaches select team members and determine eligibility for participation. Furthermore, the following interscholastic sports guidelines have been established to define team procedures and expectations. If a student is not in school, he/she may not participate in or attend a game or practice.

Athletes are expected to make academics their priority. The lack of academic responsibility and/or appropriate behavior may impact participation. In addition:

1. Cavallini Middle School insists that good sportmanship is paramount for coaches, participants, and spectators.

2. Students must receive credit for a full day in order to attend/participate in a game or practice. This means they must arrive before 10:15 am or leave school after 12:15 pm on a practice/game day.

3. Commitment to the team is expected. Therefore, attendance at all practices and games is required, except for scheduled religious instruction or medical reasons. To remain on the team, an injured player should attend practices and games if possible. Athletes should notify coaches prior to practice or games of a conflict.

*** Always see the Cavallini Website for the most updated Code of Conduct.**

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