

# JRHS CODE OF CONDUCT 2023-2024

## Introduction:

JRHS is an inclusive school. We are committed to affirming and promoting equity, dignity, diversity, and inclusion in all facets of school life.

Discrimination is any form of unequal treatment based on imposing extra burdens or denying benefits to any marginalized community. It may be intentional or unintentional. It may involve direct actions that are discriminatory, or it may involve rules, practices or procedures that appear neutral, but disadvantage certain groups of people. Discrimination will not be tolerated, and sanctions may be imposed.

Each student has the obligation to act in accordance with the John Rennie Code of Conduct and to comply with administration and staff directives at all times. In order to ensure that the rights of all (as outlined in the John Rennie High School Mission Statement and the LBPSB Safe and Caring Schools Policy), are safeguarded, we all share the responsibility to govern ourselves according to these rules.

***“All members of the school community must treat one another with dignity and respect at all time - especially when there is disagreement”***

### **Bullying and Violence**

- I understand that there are respectable and acceptable ways in which to handle my frustrations and anger. I will not use bullying, violence, fighting, threatening behavior, verbal abuse, harassment (racial, sexual or other), persistent truancy or opposition to authority in order to express my anger or frustration. I will seek the help of a guidance counselor, teacher, administrator, or health professional in the school whenever necessary.
- I understand that bullying is any repeated direct or indirect behavior, comment, act, or gesture, whether deliberate or not, including in cyberspace, which occurs in a context where there is a power imbalance between the persons concerned and which causes distress and injuries, hurts, oppresses, intimidates or ostracizes. Bullying is an unacceptable behavior and will not be tolerated at John Rennie. \*\*\* cyberspace includes but is not limited to social media, texting, posting and other online activities.

- I understand that John Rennie High School will not tolerate in our programs, activities, or on school property, any symbols of hate that are disruptive to the learning environment; contain language, symbols, or images that are discriminatory; are recognized to promote hate or violent conduct; or contain threats. These include, but are not limited to, student and adult apparel, accessories, gestures, or other symbols such as those that depict symbols of hate.
- I understand that violence is any intentional demonstration of verbal, written, physical, psychological or sexual force which causes distress and injures, hurts, or oppresses a person by attacking their psychological or physical integrity or well being, or their rights or property. No form of violence will be tolerated at John Rennie.
- I understand that I should report to an administrator, guidance counselor, teacher or health professional in the school, any incident of bullying and/or violence that I have witnessed. I understand that all information I provide will be kept confidential and that my rights will be protected.

## Technology

- I understand that any inappropriate use of social media that is deemed to constitute an act of bullying, intimidation, harassment, extortion or violence is unacceptable. Students involved in any form of Cyber Misconduct may be suspended or recommended for a transfer or expulsion depending on the gravity of the situation. Other sanctions may also be applied.
- No electronic device may be used to bully, harass, intimidate or threaten the security and wellbeing of any member of the John Rennie community.
  - The school cannot assume responsibility for the use of social media particularly outside of school hours. Parents should be sure to monitor their child's online activity and report any hate speech, threats, photos containing nudity, illegal substances or weapons directly to the police.
  - Being in possession of and/or circulating photos of a minor child depicting nudity is a criminal offense.
  - No technological devices (i.e. phones, recording devices, tablets, computers, etc.) may be used to invade the personal privacy of other students or to disrupt the safe and secure culture for learning. It is prohibited to photograph or to record a student or staff member without their explicit consent.
  - The use of personal devices (smartwatches, listening devices, tablets, cellular devices etc...) is only permitted before 8:05 for Sport Etudes students and 9:00 for all other students, during recess, during your lunch block, and after school). Devices are not permitted during class time or during passing time between classes. Devices are not permitted in classrooms and should remain at home or be left in the locker **on silent** during times that their use is prohibited.
  - If I am asked for my electronic device, I must give it to any staff member without argument.
  - Parents are asked to refrain from communicating with students during class time.
  - Cell phones will not be allowed in the planning room or office area when waiting to speak to an administrator.
  - Unless it is a teacher led activity, the playing of audio devices out loud is prohibited.

## Dress Code

- I understand that John Rennie High School has a designated school top that will come into effect as of October 10th, 2023. After this date, this top must be worn as the outer layer of clothing while on school property or during participation in a school ordained activity or outing. The top may not be altered in any way (cut, rolled, dyed, shortened, held back with a clip or tied, etc...)
- I understand that I am free to choose my bottom wear at school. My manner of dress should reflect the academic nature of our building where we come to learn, socialize and work in a diverse community. My appearance reflects my good judgment and my respect for myself and others.
  - Clothing must not display violent language or images, images/language depicting/suggesting drugs, alcohol, vaping, hate speech, profanity, and pornography or that represent the exploitation of any group or display an image, statement or symbol that is inconsistent with the mission of our educational institution.
  - Outdoor jackets and bags (backpacks, belt bags, purses etc.) are not to be worn/brought to class or to the cafeteria.
  - Hats and hoods may not be worn inside the building.
  - Sunglasses may not be worn in the building except for documented medical reasons.

## Use of Illegal Substances

- I understand that I may not bring or use weapons, alcohol, illegal drugs of any kind or drug paraphernalia on school property as outlined in the school board's *Safe and Caring Schools Policy*.
  - I will not smoke or vape on school property.
  - Possession, use or distribution of illegal or restricted substances is prohibited.

## Behavior Towards Others

- I understand that I must be respectful of all staff members and comply with their directives while in the school and during participation in school organized activities or outings.
  - Disruptive, insubordinate or violent behavior that impedes the learning or teaching environment is not permitted.
  - School property as well as the property of others should be respected.
  - The use of appropriate and respectful language is expected while at school.

## School /Classroom Behaviour

- I understand that the habits expected of me in school are designed to better prepare me for any role I play in society in the future.
  - School property, textbooks, library books, furniture should be respected and kept free from damage and graffiti to avoid incurring a cost for damages or community service.
  - The use of any processing tool driven by AI technology such as ChatGPT is strictly forbidden. Any plagiarized paper, test, assignment can result in a grade of zero. School assignments should reflect the student's own work or be properly cited.
  - Students should arrive to class on time and bring all required materials. Assignments should be submitted on the due date to avoid loss of marks.
  - If students are absent for an in-class evaluation without a valid reason they could be assigned a zero or asked to redo the evaluation outside of regular school hours.
  - The John Rennie Code of Conduct, as well as the specific rules and regulations, apply when using the labs, theater, library, school or city bus, work areas, and when on field trips or representing the school at an event or in any other capacity.
  - A lock will be provided by the school for all students. This lock must remain on the locker assigned to the student at all times. If the lock is broken or lost, the student will be charged for a new lock. Locks that are not issued by the school

will be removed. Students should keep their school lock for the coming years.

- Lockers are school property. These are assigned to specific students who must occupy their assigned locker only. Administration reserves the right to search lockers at any time. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen personal items.
- Laser pens, lighters, water guns, balloons, or any other objects that may be disruptive or dangerous are not permitted on school grounds. These items will be confiscated.
- Skateboards, rollerblades, and scooters cannot be used inside the school.
- Food and beverages should only be consumed in the Cafeteria and the Great Hall during lunch hour. All areas should be left clean after use. Eating in the hallways is not permitted except at recess.
- Students are not permitted to order food or have it delivered to the school. Senior students who wish to order food should meet delivery people off school property. Deliveries to the school will be turned away.
- Students are only allowed in the service area of the cafeteria if they intend to make a purchase.
- Cycle 1 (Secondary 1&2) must remain on the school premises during school hours. Leaving school property will be considered "skipping".
- Students who demonstrate inappropriate behavior may lose the privilege of attending field trips and outings. The final decision will remain at the discretion of the school administration.

## Attendance/Lates

- I understand that punctuality and regular attendance will be expected of me in my future endeavors. I also understand that attending school regularly is a legal requirement for students until June 30<sup>th</sup> of the school year in which they turn 16 years of age.
- Parents are expected to call the school before 8:50 am to advise of an absence or late.
  - Classes begin at 9:00 am (8:05 am for Sport Études). Students arriving late must enter through the main office doors and report to the receptionist. Students without a note or phone call justifying their lateness will be assigned a detention.
  - Students are not permitted to leave school without prior permission. The school must be advised in writing or with a phone call before a student can leave. Students need to sign out at the main office prior to departing.
  - Students who arrive late after lunch must report to the receptionist for a late pass and will be assigned a detention.
  - Parents can download the Mozaik app to receive live notifications of their child's absences. This is considered the official means of monitoring student attendance. Any discrepancies can be reported to the receptionist.
  - Students arriving before 8:00 am may have parents drop them off at the back doors. After 8:00 am, all parents are advised to use the drop off zone on Douglas Shand.  
**The front parking lot is not available for drop-off and is reserved for staff and adapted transportation.**
  - Students are not permitted to park their vehicles on school property.

## Consequences

Consequences may include, but are not limited to:

- Detentions
- Confiscation of technological devices
- Supervised lunch periods, etc.
- Mandatory counseling, anger management or social skills programs, etc.
- Loss of privileges (extra-curricular, co-curricular, trips, etc.)
- Restorative service (community service)
- In-school suspension
- Planning Room at JRHS or at another school or at the LBPSB Central Planning Room
- Suspension from school
- Homebound Tutoring
- Transfer of schools
- Expulsion
- Referral to an outside agency
- Police intervention

In all instances, these measures are applied at the discretion of the principal or his/her delegate, taking into account the circumstances, severity and frequency of offenses.