

Aug 2021						
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Jul 2022						
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-  Non- Instructional Days
-  Cancellation of early dismissal
-  Non-Operational Days
-  Early dismissal

\* A detailed list of days is on the next page

## Calendar of Events 2021 - 2022

September	1 <sup>st</sup> First Day of School 6 <sup>th</sup> Labour Day – no classes 9 <sup>th</sup> Meet the Teacher Evening 30 <sup>th</sup> National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
October	11 <sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving – no classes 18 <sup>th</sup> Faith Formation Day – no classes 26 <sup>th</sup> Picture Day
November	8 <sup>th</sup> Picture Retakes 11 <sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day 12 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> Fall Break - no classes
December	9 <sup>th</sup> Demonstration of Learning Christmas Performance (TBA) 16 <sup>th</sup> Advent Celebration & Full Day 17 <sup>th</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas Christmas Morning and Early Dismissal 20 <sup>th</sup> – Jan 4 <sup>th</sup> Christmas Vacation
January	4 <sup>th</sup> Classes Resume 28 <sup>th</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas Feast Day
February	21 <sup>st</sup> Family Day – no classes
March	2 <sup>nd</sup> Ash Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Teachers Convention - no classes 17 <sup>th</sup> Demonstration of Learning 24 <sup>th</sup> Full Day 25 <sup>th</sup> Early Dismissal 28 <sup>th</sup> - 3 <sup>rd</sup> Spring Break
April	4 <sup>th</sup> Classes Resume 15 <sup>th</sup> Good Friday – no classes 18 <sup>th</sup> Easter Monday – no classes
May	9 <sup>th</sup> Gr 9 ELA PAT Part A 11 <sup>th</sup> Gr.6 LA PAT Part A 23 <sup>rd</sup> Victoria Day – no classes
June	16 <sup>th</sup> Gr. 6 & 9 Math Part A PAT 17 <sup>th</sup> Gr. 6 & 9 ELA Part B PAT 20 <sup>th</sup> Gr. 6 & 9 Social Studies PAT 22 <sup>nd</sup> Gr. 6 & 9 Science PAT 24 <sup>th</sup> Gr. 6 & 9 Math PAT 29 <sup>th</sup> Last Day of School (Half Day)

## Health, Safety, and Security

### **Absentee Check Program**

Attendance at school is monitored by the homeroom teachers. **If your child is to be absent from school or must be dismissed early for a medical appointment, please:**

- a. Enter the absence in Powerschool by logging into the parent portal and selecting Attendance Request**
- b. Contact the School Office by telephone (780-409-2604) during regular office hours 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. each weekday, to speak to someone; or leave a recorded message outside of regular school hours.**

**-OR-**

- c. Send a note to the homeroom teacher, prior to the absence.**

An unexplained absence will result in a telephone call to the parent. Please, help us to ensure the safety of your child by following this procedure and by keeping the office informed of current phone numbers.

### **Bicycles**

Students are permitted to ride bicycles to and from school. Our bicycle rack is located at the front of the school, please ensure your child has a secure bike lock that they know how to use.

Students are asked to walk their bicycles on the sidewalk and playground area for safety reasons. Students are to use their bicycles as transportation only and are not allowed to ride at recess or lunch times as a recreational activity. Every attempt is made to provide for proper security of this area. The school cannot be held responsible for theft of bicycles or bicycle accessories. Parents are advised that citywide incidents of vandalism and theft of expensive bicycles is quite high. Parents should also consider registering the serial number of the bicycle in a "Home Log Book" or online at the EPS [www.BikeIndex.org](http://www.BikeIndex.org). as this is necessary in police action. A call to your insurance company ensuring proper coverage is also advised.

### **Capital Health**

Capital Health works together with schools and community agencies to provide a range of coordinated community health and support services for school-aged children and their families. Our common goal is to build on the health and education potential of students by providing nursing, immunization, speech and language, and dental services in targeted schools.

### **Custody Information**

If there is a parental custody arrangement, separation agreement, or a court order that deals with your child, the school requires a notarized copy to place in the student file.

### **Encouraging Independence**

Teaching student independence is one of the main jobs for parents and schools. If we do our jobs right, children will be self-reliant. We should try to let children do any task for themselves that they can. As soon as they can tie their shoes, we expect them to tie their shoes. This doesn't mean we won't help or don't want to help; it means we want them to become independent and self-reliant. For younger children, it means gradually backing away. Allow them to carry their own backpack and remove their own scarf and mitts. As they become more self-reliant, they will become much more confident when help is not immediately available. This self-reliance will transfer to subject instruction activities as well. For older children, this means teaching them the responsibility of managing their own homework assignments and study time. You need to continue to monitor and guide this practice until they are self-reliant in this area. Your child is responsible for his/her progress.

### **Emergency Evacuation**

There are a number of causes that could potentially lead to the evacuation of the school buildings; a major gas leak, a fire, total loss of utility services. If it was determined that the school was unsafe to return to, parents would be notified by phone or text to come and pick up their child. Practices of emergency procedures are scheduled during the year, so students are familiar with expectations. It is important for you to update the school with new phone numbers and e-mail addresses.

### **Medication to Students**

School Board policy requires that the doctor and at least one parent sign a form indicating the nature and dispensing of required prescription medication for those students who require medication at school. This includes both over the counter

as well as prescribed medication. For the safety of your child and others, do not send medication of any kind to school with your child without speaking to your child's teacher or informing the administration. Forms are available at the school office.

### **Medical Alerts**

Parents need to keep the school staff updated on your child's medical conditions. If they require any special considerations, either in class or in the gym resulting from an illness or a condition our staff need to be informed, please either phone the school to discuss this or send a note letting us know what needs to be done to ensure your child's medical condition is taken care of.

### **Safety and Security**

The safety of our students and all people in our building is a priority. We have put into place several procedures to help ensure everyone's safety. For example: our video surveillance system for all main areas and outside our building, our absentee check program, safety programs for children and making sure we identify people visiting our school. All outside doors are kept locked throughout the day, except during inclement weather when they will be unlocked at 7:50 a.m. Students are to use the main entrance when arriving late, to have their agenda books stamped by the secretary before proceeding to their classrooms. We ask that if there are any changes to the regular pick-up and drop-off routine of your children that we are kept informed.

### **School Patrols**

We hope to have patrols in place September 2021. More information will follow.

### **Dropping off and Picking up Your child Safely**

Students are to be dropped off and picked up safely from school. You are not allowed to drop your child off in the bus zone in front of the school. No drop offs, or pickups are to happen in the crosswalks. No drop offs or pickups are to happen in the staff parking lot. We ask that you do not jay walk, help your child understand the rules and walk with them across the street.

With your cooperation your children will be safe.

### **Visitors to the School**

For the protection, safety, and minimal disruption to learning of all children at the school, all visitors are required to sign in at the school office. If you wish to see a teacher, please arrange an appointment prior to coming to the school. These procedures are for the safety of everyone and minimize disruptions to instructional time. We thank you for your cooperation with the following section of the Province of Alberta School Act, which states:

Province of Alberta School Act, Prohibited Activities

27(1) No person shall

- (a) disturb or interrupt the proceedings of a school,
  - (b) disturb or interrupt the proceedings of a school meeting or board meeting, or
  - (c) loiter or trespass in a school building or on property owned by a board.
- (2) No person shall canvass, sell or offer to sell goods, services or merchandise to a teacher or a student in a school without the prior approval of the board.

## **Parent Connection**

### **Communication to Parents**

Our Website, and Swift Connect; e-mail and text messages to parents are our prime instruments in keeping parents informed about school events.

We strongly recommend checking our website regularly to find out the most up to date information. Our web address is [www.stthomasquinas.ecsd.net](http://www.stthomasquinas.ecsd.net)

Another important method of communication is Power School. Ongoing assessment and feedback are an important part of quality education, and your student's teacher is using Power School to relay this information. You can and should sign onto Power School regularly to find out your child's grade standing as well as assignments that are due, and incomplete. A formal report card will not be sent home as all information will be available using Power School.

Parent-student and teacher conferences will be scheduled throughout the year, but we encourage you not to wait for them if you feel a need to meet with your child's teacher or the administration. Our teachers will be contacting you early in the school year to discuss concerns they may have. Together we will help all students achieve their personal academic best.

If a concern, problem, or complaint arises, it is an Edmonton Catholic Schools Policy that you first discuss it with the specific staff member as soon as possible. If the issue doesn't get resolved it may be brought to the administration. This procedure is to be followed when dealing with any staff member.

### **Parent Volunteers**

We welcome parent volunteers in our school to assist in a wide variety of areas such as library, hot lunches, bulletin board displays, teacher helpers, reading partners, and field trips. Please phone or write your child's homeroom teacher or the office to express your interest.

After you have arranged your volunteer time with the homeroom teacher, and for the safety and security of everyone in our school, you will be asked to sign in at the office, wear a volunteer tag, and sign out at the end of your volunteer activity. We also thank our parent volunteers for continuing to have their own children follow the school expectations even when they are volunteering in the school.

### **Parish Link**

St. Thomas Aquinas School works in close conjunction with St. Thomas More Church located at 210 Haddow Close. The priests from St. Thomas More visit our students on a regular basis. We assist the parish in the Sacramental preparation of our students by sending home the most recent information on the programs that are offered.

The school cooperates in helping to prepare the children, through the religious education curriculum. It is the parents' responsibility to complete a book of readings and activities with their child for each sacramental preparation.

### **Property Taxes**

The Edmonton Catholic School District appeals to all Catholic property owners and Non-Catholics who have children attending a Catholic School to make certain that they are correctly assessed as separate school supporters. When you receive your Tax Assessment notice, please confirm your school support box to read - Support - Separate - 100%.

### **School Council**

At St. Thomas Aquinas, we value the School Council and the role this group plays in contributing to the school program. The council works closely with the school, staff, and administration to advise us, liaise with, and to inform both the school and parent community. This includes discussion on things as new policies, fundraising, and new programs. Parents are encouraged to become active members of the School Council; meeting dates and times will be posted on our school website.

## **School Activities/Programs**

### **Homework Policy**

In the primary grades, it is expected that most work will be completed in the allotted time in class. Students in the upper grades should expect increasing workloads. Work, which is not completed during class time, will become homework. Each student is expected to complete the assigned homework and to be prepared for class the next day. An agenda will be part of the supplies for grade K to 8. To promote lifelong learning, it is expected that students will develop the 'homework habit' by reading and practicing spelling words at home on an ongoing basis whether or not they have additional homework assignments to complete. Reading nightly is strongly encouraged for **all** grades. The guideline for the amount of time spent on homework each evening is the 10 minutes per grade rule;

Grade 1	10 – 15 minutes
Grade 2	20 minutes
Grade 3	30 minutes

Grade 4	40 minutes
Grade 5	50 minutes
Grade 6	60 minutes
Grade 7	70 minutes
Grade 8	80 minutes
Grade 9	90 minutes

### **Lunch Program Elementary**

Students eat at their desk in their classroom and need to bring their own utensils from home. Students will assume a monitoring role in each of the classrooms with the assistance of staff supervisors.

Students who bring lunch to school are required to remain at the school during the noon hour unless a permission note from parents indicating otherwise is brought to the office.

Eating lunch at school is a privilege, rather than a right. Our expectations are fairly liberal and well communicated. Repeated inappropriate behavior by a student may result in the eventual loss of this privilege.

Since lunch at school is necessary for many students, we strive to promote:

- \* A relaxing, enjoyable lunch break for students and staff;
- \* Respect for the environment.

### **Lunch Program Junior High**

The Grade 7, 8, & 9 students will eat in the gym. Students will be expected to bring their lunch and spend the eating portion of the lunchtime in the lunch area. They will not be allowed to return to their locker until the bell rings for the second portion of the lunch block. Students can then go to their locker to prepare to go outside or can make use of the Learning Commons to work on assignments that need to be completed.

St. Thomas Aquinas School has a closed campus policy, all students must stay on the property of the school for lunch unless they have permission from their parents to go home for lunch. This should be the exception not the rule.

### **Inclusive Education:**

Using an inclusive model, our school will seek to meet students' needs in regular classroom settings. We maximize our inclusive education time by subdividing our classes, wherever possible, into smaller groups for additional support and study. These groups are flexible, rather than static, and different students may be accommodated as needs are met or as they arise. If you feel your child requires more support, please discuss this with your child's teacher; if the teacher has put supports in place to assist your child they will be informing you of this.

### **Practicum Student Program:**

We are committed to providing future teachers and teacher assistants the opportunity to refine and use their skills within our school and we will periodically have student teachers and student teacher assistants at St. Thomas Aquinas School.

### **School Activities**

From time to time school activities may be planned, the objectives of school activities are to:

- Reinforce skills taught during the regular programs
- Promote good sportsmanship, citizenship, and school spirit in students
- Assist in providing a varied program which enhances and promotes positive student attitudes, morale, and Christianity.

These activities will take place during the school day and may involve both the elementary and junior high students.

## **Student Progress Reports**

Conferences, report cards, and student portfolios are used to promote good communication between parents and teachers in the reporting of student progress. The teachers of St. Thomas Aquinas School use assessment for and of learning strategies to monitor and report student progress. By assessing classroom participation, students' oral and written work, test results, quality of assignments produced, homework completion, and notebook organization teachers report student's progress. Evidence of learning, class grades and attendance information are available to parents on PowerSchool. It is important that you have an account set up on PowerSchool so that you are able to access this information. We will be sending out information on how to access your account. We will have two Demonstration of Learning evenings one in December and one in March to showcase student achievement. As we are providing ongoing assessment, the most current information will be available through Power School as such a formal printed report card will not be sent home. At the Demonstration of Learning evenings, time will be provided for you to participate in activities that demonstrate your child's learning, as well time will be set aside for you to meet with your child's teacher to discuss successes, or concerns. Meetings between parents and teachers may be required apart from the scheduled conferences. Either parents or teachers should initiate such a meeting whenever concerns arise with regard to learning.

## **Field Trips**

Throughout the school year, individual teachers plan trips. These trips are educational and planned to enhance and enrich the curriculum by extending it to real-life situations and experiences beyond the classroom. Letters regarding the type of field trip, duration, and cost will be sent home for each excursion. A stringent field trip policy and regulations were implemented by the Edmonton Catholic School District in Sept. 2001. Parent permission forms are detailed and require specific information to be completed by the parent. Your attention and co-operation in completing these forms will ensure that your child can attend. **Children cannot participate without the proper completion and return of the parent permission form.** Field trip payments must be made online only – please note cash or cheques will not be accepted.

## **Library**

Our library is fully automated. We have an open library policy where classes are allowed to visit at any time. Students are expected to handle all books, materials, and equipment with care. In the event of loss or damage of any materials, students will be expected to reimburse the school.

## **Lost and Found**

All personal items brought to school must have the student's name written on them. Students are encouraged to look for lost articles of clothing and to check at the office for lost personal property. **Please know that the school is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

## **Sports and Playground Equipment**

The school provides to each classroom a suitable number and type of play equipment. Therefore, it is not necessary for students to bring these items to school. **We strongly discourage students from bringing skateboards, roller blades, scooters, or similar "personal" play items as they pose two problems - safety and possibility of theft.** The school will take the necessary course of action to deal with safety concerns, but we cannot assume responsibility in the event of theft. Items may not be stored in the office. Our expectation for the students on the playground is that they **PLAY SAFELY and FAIRLY.**

## **Supervision**

**Elementary Students:** The students have been asked to enter the school through their assigned grade doors in the morning. Students arriving after school has begun (later than 8:11 AM) should use the front doors. Parents can assist us by helping their children remember these guidelines. Supervision in the morning begins at 7:50 a.m. Students will be expected to be outside with the supervising teacher, unless the temperature is -20 degrees Celsius or below and during inclement weather students will be allowed in and will remain in their boot rooms until bell time. Your cooperation will help to keep our students' safe.

**Junior High Students:** Students are asked to enter the building through their assigned door. At 8:06 they will be expected to go to their classrooms. All students should be in their places by 8:11 to be prepared to listen to prayer and announcements.

### **Transportation**

ETS and Yellow bus passes are available at the office the **first week of each month**. All students riding the Yellow Bus to St. Thomas Aquinas School are required to carry a yellow bus pass. **Bus students will always be sent home on the bus unless you provide the school with a note or call to indicate that other arrangements have been made.**

We request that parents who drive their children to school drop them off in a safe area and the students proceed to the assigned grade entrances.

Please do not stop in the designated bus zones or crosswalks to drop off or pick up your children. Please note that the police can fine you \$150 for stopping or parking in this zone. Parents should not drop their children off in the staff parking lot.

### **St. Thomas Aquinas - STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY**

St. Thomas Aquinas is committed to providing students with a school environment that is both safe and conducive to learning. We believe that parents are the most important educators of their children, and that we need to work in partnership with them to teach students to be responsible for their own actions. We believe that we are unique and worthy persons and God calls each of us to work together in love, hope and courage in our school community. Spirituality is the cornerstone of Catholic Education. We encourage personal integrity, which results in sincerity, honesty and compassion. We demonstrate responsibility in the choices we make. We believe that by striving for understanding, we provide for an environment that stimulates growth and accepts differences. We maintain, forgiveness as a basic belief of our Catholic faith that must be lived in our school, community and home. We believe that showing respect for ourselves, each other and for our environment, provides for harmony and personal growth. In accordance with the Alberta Human Rights Act, we believe that all students have a right to resources; services and facilities that are required for their learning and comfort. We celebrate our accomplishments and cherish that each person brings gifts, talents and interests to our community to develop and share. We are dedicated to teaching students' appropriate behavior towards themselves and others. We expect students to behave in an appropriate manner, which does not interfere with the learning or behavior of others. We believe that people perform better when they know what is expected of them. We affirm that the rights set out in the Alberta Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms are afforded to all students and staff members within St. Thomas Aquinas School.

### **Expectations for Appropriate Behaviour**

Students and parents are to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful and contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. School-wide expectations are communicated to our students by teachers in classroom discussions, by school administration in assemblies, during morning announcements and through the Agenda Book. We have set behavioral guidelines for the school as a whole and have asked each teacher to apply programs and procedures designed to maximize student learning and responsibility. Since each teacher has a different style, specific expectations and procedures will vary from class to class. Expectations of students and school rules are outlined at the beginning of the year and are regularly reviewed with students. Students are expected to conduct themselves according to the requirements set out in the Education Act and are outlined as follows:

### **School Act Part 1, Section 12—Student Responsibilities**

A student shall conduct himself or herself so as to reasonably comply with the following code of conduct:

1. be diligent in pursuing the student's studies;
2. attend school regularly and punctually;
3. co-operate fully with everyone authorized by the board to provide education programs and other services;
4. comply with the rules of the school;
5. account to the student's teachers for the student's conduct;
6. respect the rights of others;
7. ensure that the student's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging
8. refrain from, report and not tolerate bullying or bullying behaviour directed toward others in the school, whether or not it occurs within the school building, during the school day or by electronic means;



9. positively contribute to the student's school and community.

### **School Act Part 1, Section 16.2—Parent Responsibilities**

A parent of a student has the responsibility

1. to take an active role in the student's educational success, including assisting the student in complying with section 12,
2. to ensure that the parent's conduct contributes to a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment,
3. to co-operate and collaborate with school staff to support the delivery of supports and services to the student,
4. to encourage, foster and advance collaborative, positive and respectful relationships with teachers, principals, other school staff and professionals providing supports and services in the school, and
5. to engage in the student's school community.

### **Expectations of Student Behaviour:**

Students are expected to follow the expectations set out in the School Act; our school discipline policy; and the expectations set out by their teachers. These details are described below; and are given to students by their teachers at the beginning of each year, student expectations are not exclusive to these detailed.

### **Electronic Device Policy**

Students are allowed to bring their own electronic devices to class, for the purpose of having access to technology that will assist them with their studies. Students will be allowed to carry devices that will give them easy access to the technology they might need to help them with research or note taking. Students who are carrying phones with these capabilities will be expected to; use only with teacher direction, not to use these devices for texting, picture taking or making phone calls during the school day. Both parents and students must understand that communicating via texts or phone calls during the school day is prohibited. We expect that if parents need to get in touch with their child during the day, they will do so by contacting the main office. In reverse if students need to get in touch with their parents we would expect that, this would be done via the office. Students are not allowed to take or make calls during the day. If a student needs to leave school for any reason this needs to be communicated through the office. Students and parents are expected to read and sign our ECSD Responsible Use Agreement; as well as read and understand the digital citizenship information. As we move forward to meet the learning needs of our digital generation we need to teach them to use technology responsibly so that they continue to ensure their privacy and the privacy of others is maintained.

### **Appropriate Dress**

Rapidly changing styles and fashions make it impossible to suggest a definite standard of dress; however, students should dress in a manner consistent with Christian values, educational goals, school activities, and the weather. During warm weather, shorts may be worn if they are a proper length and fit, necklines must be appropriate. Logos on clothing should have appropriate language and design. Students dressed inappropriately will be asked to go home to change or have clothes brought to school for them.

Outdoor footwear cannot be worn in the school. Students require indoor footwear that is to be left at school (no black soled runners please). Hats are not to be worn indoors and once in the classroom, no outdoor clothes should be worn.

### **Closed Campus**

St. Thomas Aquinas School has a closed campus policy, all students must stay on the property of the school during school hours including lunch; unless they have permission from their parents to go home and these arrangement must be made with the administrative staff.

## **Unacceptable Behaviour**

### **Bullying**

Bullying is defined in law as “the repeated intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted or emotional abuse.” Students who experience bullying are encouraged to report such incidents to their teachers, parents, and the administration depending on the severity and frequency of the action. Students will be taught how to recognize and deal with bullying. Bullying of students could result in an immediate suspension from school. As well, the police may be involved in the investigation of bullying incidents. Any person who repeatedly bullies a minor (under the age of 18) in a public place could be subject to a \$250 fine.

### **Discrimination**

We affirm that pursuant to the Alberta Human Rights Act and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, students and staff members are protected from discrimination. More specifically, discrimination refers to any conduct that serves to deny or discriminate against any person or class of persons regarding any goods, services, accommodation or facilities that are customarily available to the public, and the denial or discrimination is based on race, religious beliefs, colour, gender, physical disability, mental disability, ancestry, place of origin, marital status, source of income, family status or sexual orientation. Students who experience discrimination are encouraged to report such incidents to their teachers, parents and the administration depending on the severity and frequency of the actions. Students will be taught how to recognize and deal with discrimination.

### **Defiance and Repeated Violation of General Expectations**

Repeated violation of general expectations or a continual disregard of classroom rules may result in an out-of-school suspension any act of defiance, that is, refusing to comply with a reasonable request from a staff member, may result in an immediate suspension.

### **Physical / Verbal Abuse or Harassment**

Physical abuse of any type to anyone could result in an immediate suspension. Verbal intimidation or harassment could also result in an immediate suspension. At St. Thomas Aquinas, there is no such thing as “play fighting” – and therefore this will not be considered an acceptable excuse for physical contact with another student. Police may be involved if this is deemed to be appropriate by school administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Students who choose to watch or encourage other students in a physical fight might also be suspended from school. The fact that they have an audience encourages those students who are fighting to continue the conflict, as they do not want to “lose face” in front of their peers. Thus, the spectators are viewed by school administration as being a major contributing factor to the continuation of the fighting, and they will be treated accordingly.

### **Improper or Profane Language**

The use or display of improper or profane language could result in a suspension from school. Students who use profane language in addressing a teacher will be suspended from school.

### **Vandalism**

Vandalism to school property will result in an immediate suspension and/or community service\* depending on the circumstances. Students will be expected to pay fully for any damages caused deliberately or through carelessness.

\*Community service occurs when a student is assigned to do work to assist any of the adults in the school (i.e.: teachers, custodians, support staff). This is for a specific number of hours in a specified period of time.

### **Theft**

Theft of property, either from the school or from another person is strictly prohibited. Restoration of the stolen property is mandatory. In some instances, cases of theft would be referred to the police.

### **Illegal Drugs or Substances**

Possession or use of illegal drugs or substances on school property or in sight of school property will result in an immediate suspension and may lead to expulsion from the school. In cases of drug use, the police will be involved in the investigation and charges could be laid.

## **Behavior Dangerous to Self or Others**

Students who engage in reckless or dangerous behavior could be suspended from school. If appropriate, the police will also be involved in the investigation.

## **Weapons**

Possession of a weapon or presentation of any object meant to threaten or intimidate will result in an immediate suspension. Any item that could be used as a weapon and is brought to school will be confiscated and turned over to the police. Police may be involved if this is deemed to be appropriate by school administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This rule also applies to toy knives and guns. Simulated weapons will be treated in the same fashion as real weapons. They have no place in a school environment.

## **CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR**

We concentrate on positive behavior and attitudes, however, there are times when a student has difficulty recognizing their responsibility as a student. In such cases, we have outlined a number of possible consequences for behavior. When a student behaves inappropriately, they can expect that the staff member present (teacher, administrator, teacher assistant, support & caretaking staff) will apply the most appropriate action. Based on individual needs, the policy contains a continuum of support to correct the unacceptable behaviors as well as support student who are impacted by inappropriate behavior. These are some of the consequences and supports that may be put in place:

- Verbal reprimand
- Restriction of privileges and activities
- Detention of student
- Parental involvement
- Parent-student conference with school staff
- Verbal or written apology by student
- Problem solving, monitoring or reviewing behavior expectations
- Replacement or repair of damaged property
- Temporary exclusion of student from class
- Bus suspension for students riding the bus
- In-school suspension
- Out-of school suspension – severe breach of conduct will be suspended in accordance with section 31 of the Education Act.
- Behavior contract
- Involvement of outside agencies
- Supports for both the instigator and the victim will be made available as needed, they may include: Access to an Emotional Behavioral Specialist; Family School Liaison Worker; a referral to the appropriate Mental Health Supports.
- Involvement of Police
- Recommendation for expulsion

As might be expected, the more serious the behavior, the more severe the consequence. The nature and circumstances of the incident, as well as frequency of inappropriate behavior and the age; maturity and individual circumstances of student, are also considered.

Preventative and supportive procedures for minor breaches of conduct will be provided as well as fair, corrective interventions to address major breaches of conduct.

This Student Code of Conduct Policy was developed by the school community and was:

- Based on input from student, parents and school staff;
- Is reflective of the expectations of students as addressed in legislation and district policies;
- Will be communicated in writing to all member so the school community on an annual basis;
- Will be reviewed and adapted as necessary on an annual basis by members of the school community.

My child and I have read and discussed this conduct policy; we understand that my child must be in good standing to participate in extra-curricular activities.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature