

**MicroSociety Academy Charter School**  
**STUDENT CONDUCT, DISCIPLINE AND DUE PROCESS**

**Safe School Zone**

Approved 8/14/19

Students will conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school property, while on school chartered vehicles, or while attending or engaged in school activities, and in the use of online resources.

The MicroSociety Academy Charter School (MACS) Board of Trustees endorses the following principles of student conduct:

1. Respect for law and those given authority to administer it shall be expected of all students. This includes conformity to school rules, policies and procedures, as well as to general provisions of the law regarding minors.
2. Respect for the rights of others, consideration of their privileges, and cooperative citizenship shall be expected of all members of the school community.
3. Respect for the real and personal property of the school and members of the school community, pride in one's work, and exemplary personal standards of courtesy, decency, honesty, and wholesome attitudes shall be maintained.
4. Respect for individual worth is the obligation of the school. Diligence and a desire to benefit from the opportunities provided is the obligation of the student.
5. Consequences for student misconduct will be fair and developmentally appropriate in light of the circumstances.
6. Disruptive conduct is prohibited. Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be disciplined for disruptive conduct. Disruptive conduct includes, but is not limited to, conduct that:
  - Disrupts or interferes, or creates a risk of disturbing or interfering, with the education program;
  - Disrupts, or creates a risk of disrupting, the orderly and efficient operation of school;
  - Disrupts, or creates a risk of disrupting, the rights of other students to participate in or obtain their education;
  - Is violent or destructive; and/or
  - Interrupts, or creates a risk of interrupting, the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere.

The Board expects student conduct to contribute to a productive learning climate. Individual rights are to be honored and protected in all instances; however, the rights of one individual shall not take precedence over those of another individual or of the group itself, and all students shall have equal rights and equal responsibilities in the classroom or at any school-sponsored activity.

The Board further authorizes the school to establish disciplinary procedures. These procedures shall be reviewed and approved by the Director or his/her designee and shall be consistent with RSA 193:13 (suspension and expulsion of pupils) and RSA 193-D (safe school zones).

Students who fail to abide by school policies and procedures may be disciplined. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation, and expulsion.

Students facing discipline will be afforded all due process rights given by law. The Director or his/her written designee is authorized to suspend any student for five school days or less for gross misconduct or for neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules and policies of the school. Should the Director desire to extend a suspension for more than five school days, such student will be afforded a hearing before the Board of Trustees.

Any student may be expelled from school by the Board of Trustees for gross misconduct, or for neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules and policies of the school, or for an act of theft, destruction, or violence as defined in RSA 193-D:1, or for possession of any firearm, knife, or a pellet or BB gun, rifle, or paint ball gun. Furthermore, students who are suspended from school for a total of 6 or more school days in a school year will be automatically be scheduled to appear at hearing before the Board of Trustees to consider expulsion, and, if expelled, will lose their seat at MACS.

Disciplinary hearings before the Board of Trustees (either to extend a suspension beyond five school days or to consider expulsion for any of the reasons listed above) will occur at either a special meeting or regular meeting of the Board and will be scheduled in a timely manner prior to the conclusion of the student's suspension. The Director may extend the student's suspension for up to 5 additional school days to allow a hearing to be scheduled with the Board of Trustees.

Due process shall be afforded to any student involved in a proceeding that may result in suspension or expulsion. A student who has been expelled may be reconsidered for admission to MACS through the lottery after one calendar year from the date of expulsion. Students are subject to all admissions requirements to be considered for the admissions lottery.

The Director may modify expulsion requirements as provided in RSA 193:13, IV for students with educational disabilities. When a child with an educational disability has been suspended for a total of five days in a school year, a special education team will hold a manifestation meeting.

Legal References:

*RSA 189:15, Regulations*

*NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(a)(3), Policy Development, Discipline*

*NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 306.04(f), Student Discipline*

*NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed 317.04(b), Disciplinary Procedures*

\*Please refer to the Student Handbook for more discussion of students' rights to due process under the bullying procedures and discipline sections.