Safe Schools and Code of Conduct Policy Revisions

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Phase I Emergent Themes

Student Focus Groups
Emergent Themes

- Welcoming atmosphere for everyone
- Diversity is recognized and honoured
- Safe spaces for all students
- Student mental health and well being
- Culture that promotes self expression
- Culture that supports indigenous students and their families
- More school mental health support
- Bullying
- Dress Code
- Vaping on School Property

Student Senate and Council Presidents Emergent Themes

- Mental Health Supports
- Dress Code
- Vaping on School Property
- Adding more security cameras for safety
- More SROs - greater police presence
- Fighting on school property and gang related behaviour
- Safe spaces in schools for ALL students
- Addressing racial slurs and homophobia
- Sexism and sex based violence

Parent Guardian Emergent Themes

- Bullying
- The use of social media
- Dress Code
- Mental health and well being of students and staff
- Understanding policies and procedures (hard to navigate)
- More community involvement in schools
- Understanding more about progressive discipline
- Violent Incidents in Schools

Multicultural Liaison Officers Emergent Themes

- Safety in schools (wide ranging - from bullying to bus safety)
- School culture and awareness
- Use of social media
- The application and practice of progressive discipline
- Suspensions
- Building trust and effective communication with parents and community
- Racism and discrimination in schools
- Police in schools (defining their role)

School Administrators
Emergent Themes

- Mental health of staff and students and how to support
- Bullying (definition, use of the term, progressive discipline)
- Digital Citizenship (the use of the social media)
- Communication and Engagement of Parents and Community
- Dress Code
- One, district wide CoC (schools then tailor it with some local content)
- Progressive Discipline and Mitigating Factors
- Exclusions
- Ease of access for all policies and procedures

Federation partners
Emergent Themes

- Policies need to reflect ALL staff in terms of roles and responsibilities
- More PD: bullying, bias aware progressive discipline, mental health, restorative practices
- Better understanding of the role of the school based Safe Schools Team
- Better understanding of Exclusions and direction
- Responding to incidents involving dysregulation where ‘violent Incidents’ are reported
- Plans and processes such threat and risk assessments and behaviour and safety Plans

CHANGES TO REVISED POLICIES

(highlights)

Safe Schools: Changes from previous policy	Code of Conduct: Changes from previous policy
Worked with OCDSB Human Rights and Equity Advisor to create policy with a Human Rights and Equity lens / framework.	Worked with OCDSB Human Rights and Equity Advisor to create policy with a Human Rights and Equity lens / framework.
Now two separate Safe Schools Policies: Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Managing Student Behaviour.	Now one District Code of Conduct to be used in all schools, elementary and secondary.
Now limited to dealing with breaches of the Code of Conduct Policy.	All expectations of behaviour are now incorporated in this policy.
Now focuses on the promotion of positive student behaviour, disciplinary and disciplinary responses to breaches.	Now includes dress code expectations.
Withdrawal of transport privileges is now merged with this policy.	Substance abuse, smoking and vaping policies are now merged with this policy.
References a new Exclusion and Modified Days policy (under development) as one way to deal with breaches of Code of Conduct policy.	More positive language compared to previous policy.

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