

## **Carderock Springs Discipline Policy for the 2009-2010 School Year**

At Carderock Springs Elementary School students have basic rights and responsibilities.

### **RIGHTS**

- To be safe
- To be respected
- To learn

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

- To respect the rights of others
- To respect the feelings of others
- To know and follow established rules

Our policy assures these basic rights and responsibilities for our students. It maintains a balance between the needs of the individual and the group. The core of this discipline policy is that:

- Most children behave appropriately
- The relationships between student, teacher, and parent are keys to student success
- Action must be taken when students deprive others of their basic rights.
- The word “discipline” is derived from the word “to teach.” Our goal is to teach Carderock students to respect themselves and others and to follow classroom and school rules.

### **School Rules**

1. Respect yourself.
2. Respect others.
3. Respect our school.

We have taken time to communicate school and classroom rules to students. It is expected that students will know, understand and follow these rules at all times. The principal, staff members and parent volunteers strive to ensure that the rules are applied fairly and consistently. Students, staff and parents know that there are consequences when rules are not followed. These consequences are fitting with the nature, seriousness, and frequency of the infraction. Consequences listed are in keeping with the Montgomery County Public School system and Maryland State Law.

Consequences are based on the severity of the infraction. Possible consequences include:

- Staff conference with student
- Removal from situation
- Separation from classmate
- Loss of privilege
- Parent notification
- Parent conference

- Monetary restitution for stolen/damaged property
- Notification to the principal (Discipline referral)
- Student conference with the principal
- Guidance follow up
- In school suspension, parent conference
- Suspension from school, parent conference
- Expulsion from school, parent conference
- Referral to police

All incidents are appropriately investigated and given careful consideration to assure that the school's response is appropriate.

MCPS policy states that students may be suspended for (among other) the following offenses:

- computer abuse
- destroying school and/or another student's property
- fighting/physical attack on a student
- bullying/verbal abuse/threat towards another student

**Please note:** Suspension as a consequence is limited to behavior that is disruptive **AND** detrimental to the operations of the school.

Who makes the decision to suspend or not to suspend? This decision is made by the principal with appropriate consultation.

- Students or their parents may appeal a disciplinary action by stating concerns in writing and submitting them to the principal. The principal or designee will meet with the student and other relevant people within 24 hours to resolve the matter.