

Major/Minor Behavior Definitions

Minor Behavior	Definition	Examples	Non-Examples
Inappropriate Verbal Language	Any spoken, written, or non-verbal communication that insults, mocks, belittles, or slanders another person will be considered inappropriate.	Put-downs, taunts, or slurs of a non-offensive nature, mild oaths not directed at an individual (Offensive communications targeting race, gender, faith, etc...of others.) "Big Dummy"; "All your family is dumb"; "Banana Nose."	Cursing, slandering another person, hostile threats either written, spoken, or non-verbal
Physical Contact/Physical Altercation	Any incidence in which a student engages in inappropriate physical contact with another student.	Silly horseplay, playful grabbing, pinching, non-aggressive punching or slapping, chasing, shoving. "Not keeping hands/feet to self."	Shoving match, slapping, or other such low impact incident not severe enough to constitute a fight under Grainger County policy.
Defiance/Disrespect/Non-compliance	Brief or low-intensity failure to respond to adult request	Talking back, not following directions, sleeping, refusal to complete assignments, ignoring request of adult	Refusal to comply will established rules, leaving class without permission, verbal defiance/ argumentative; inappropriate public display of affection (Kissing, touching other than holding hands), possessing radios, cd players, other electronic devices, and other items as directed by principal.
Disruption	Low-intensity, but inappropriate disruption	Intentional distractions: noises, pranks, annoying statement/questions; breaking line, making messes, throwing paper wads, etc.	Loud talk, yelling, screaming; noise with materials; horse-play/rough-housing; any behavior more than nagging
Property Misuse	Low-intensity misuse of property	Breaking pencils/crayons, kicking furniture, mishandling text books/library books, tearing up paper/assignments/handouts	Broken windows/damaged property as result of horseplay/aggressive behaviors, etc., tampering with equipment/ impairing its usefulness, tampering with a computer's settings or putting a virus on a computer; writing on desk
Other	Any other minor problem behavior that does not fall into the above categories.		

Major Behavior	Definition	Examples	Non-Examples
Abusive Language/Inappropriate Language/	Verbal messages that include swearing, name calling, or use of words in an inappropriate way	Cursing, slandering another person, hostile threats either written, spoken, or non-verbal	Put-downs, taunts, or slurs of a non-offensive nature, mild oaths not directed at an individual Offensive communications targeting race, gender, faith, etc...of others.) "Big Dummy"; "All your family is dumb"; "Banana Nose."
Fighting/Physical Aggression	Actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur	Hitting, punching, kicking, hair pulling, scratching, choking	Silly horseplay, playful grabbing, pinching, non-aggressive punching or slapping, chasing, shoving. "Not keeping hands/feet to self." Shoving match, slapping, or other such low impact incident not severe enough to constitute a fight under Grainger County policy.
Defiance/Disrespect/Insubordination/Non-Compliance	Refusal to follow directions, talking back, and/or socially rude interactions communicated in writing, by words or tone of voice	Refusal to comply will established rules, leaving class without permission, verbal defiance/argumentative; inappropriate public display of affection (Kissing, touching other than holding hands), possessing radios, cd players, other electronic devices, and other items as directed by principal.	Talking back, not following directions, sleeping, refusal to complete assignments, ignoring request of adult
Lying/Cheating	Student delivers message that is untrue and/or deliberately violates rules	Telling untruths/wrongful accusations, copying, obtaining questions/answers to school assignments/tests	Forged notes from parents, doctors, teacher, etc., plagiarism, stealing, hiding/purchasing stolen property, aiding someone in stealing, pretending to be another student's parent over the phone
Harassment/Tease/Taunt	Student delivers repeated disrespectful messages (verbal or gesture), to another person that includes threats and intimidation, obscene gestures, pictures, written notes.	Bullying, repeated verbal harassment or abuse, inappropriate touching, gesturing, notes and pictures. [Refer to Section 6.304 in Board Policy for	Physical assault/battery, threats involving weapons and minor offenses such as name calling, put-downs, taunts, or

		sexual harassment]	slurs of a non-offensive nature, mild oaths not directed at an individual
Disruption	Behavior causing an interruption in a class or school activity	Loud talk, yelling, screaming; noise with materials; horse-play/rough-housing; any behavior more than nagging	Intentional distractions: noises, pranks, annoying statement/questions; breaking line, making messes, throwing paper wads, etc.
Tardy	Student is late to class	Students enters school/classroom after the bell rings without excuse or an admit slip	Laying out of class; over two minutes late to class; leaving school without permission
Skip Class/Truancy	Student leaves class school without permission or stays out of class/school without permission	Laying out of class; over two minutes late to class; leaving school without permission	Students enters school/classroom after the bell rings without excuse or an admit slip
Property Damage	Student participates in an activity that results in substantial destruction or disfigurement of property: any damage done to school property that impairs its usefulness	Broken windows/damaged property as result of horseplay/aggressive behaviors, etc., tampering with equipment/ impairing its usefulness, tampering with a computer's settings or putting a virus on a computer; writing on desk	Breaking pencils/crayons, kicking furniture, mishandling text books/library books, tearing up paper/assignments/handouts
Forgery/Theft	Student is in possession of, having passed on, or being responsible for removing someone else's property or has signed a person's name without the person's permission	Forged notes from parents, doctors, teacher, etc., plagiarism, stealing, hiding/purchasing stolen property, aiding someone in stealing, pretending to be another student's parent over the phone	Telling untruths/wrongful accusations, copying, obtaining questions/answers to school assignments/tests
Dress Code Violation	Student wears clothing that does not fit within the dress code guidelines established by the GCBOE [6.310] and principal at each school	[a] Pants must be worn at the waist. No sagging. [b] Shirts and blouses must completely cover the abdomen, back, and shoulders. No tank tops may be worn. Shirts or tops must cover the waistband of pants or skirts that are worn at the waistline, as long as pockets remain visible and no midriff is showing. [c] Head apparel must not be worn inside the building. [d] Footwear is required and must be safe and appropriate for indoor and outdoor activities. [e] Clothing and accessories such as backpacks, patches, jewelry, and notebooks must	

		not display (i) racial or ethnic slurs (ii) gang affiliations (iii) vulgar, subversive, or sexually suggestive language or images nor promote products which students may not legally buy, such as alcohol or illegal drugs. [f] Skirts, dresses, shorts, and skorts must reach mid-thigh. [g] Prohibited items include (i) large, long, and heavy chains (ii) studded or chained accessories (iii) sunglasses (iv) sleepwear (v) skintight outer materials such as spandex (vi) full-length coats [h] all facial jewelry shall be limited to the ears.	
Use/Possession of Tobacco	Student is in possession of or is using tobacco	Cigarettes, cigars, or smokeless tobacco product: smoking, chewing, dipping	Candy cigarette, rolled up paper, clothing smelling of cigarette smoke
Use /Possession of Alcohol	Student is in possession of or is using alcohol	Possessing, consuming, or being under the influence of alcohol	
Use/Possession of Drugs	Student is under the influence of or is in possession of illegal drugs.	Using, possessing, selling, or distributing drugs in school buildings or on school grounds at any time, in school vehicles or buses, or at any school sponsored activity, function, event whether on or off school grounds	
Use/Possession of Combustible Items	Possessing hazardous, combustible materials/items or devices which may be used to start a fire.	Matches, lighter, firecrackers, gasoline, lighter fluids or other combustible items	Setting fires to/on school property
Vandalism	Vandalism is the malicious, intentional defacing or damaging of public or private property.	Writing/ painting graffiti on school wall, keying a car, tampering with a school sign, damaging a locker, carving name on a desk.	Breaking pencils/crayons, kicking furniture, mishandling text books/library books, tearing up paper/ assignments/handouts
Bomb Threats/False Alarms	Student delivers a message of possible explosive materials being on-campus, near campus, and/or pending explosion	Written or verbal bomb threat; deliberately pulling fire alarm when not warranted; planting an explosive device on school grounds/property; making or attempting to construct a bomb at school	

Arson	Student plans and/or participates in malicious burning of property	Setting fires to/on school property	Possession of matches, lighter, firecrackers, gasoline, lighter fluids or other combustible items
Use/possession of Weapons	Student is in possession of any weapon readily capable of causing bodily harm	Possessing, handling, transmitting using or attempting to use a weapon* in school buildings on school grounds at any time, or in school vehicles and /or buses or off the school grounds at a school sponsored activity, function or event. *TCA 39-17-1309	Threats to bring a weapon to school, threatening language
Physical Aggression *codes as 'unknown behavior' on SWIS	Any physical contact occurring with the intent to cause discomfort or an incidence of slight physical contact will constitute an altercation between students.	Shoving match, slapping, or other such low impact incident not severe enough to constitute a fight under Grainger County policy.	Silly horseplay, playful grabbing, pinching, non-aggressive punching or slapping, chasing, shoving. "Not keeping hands/feet to self."
Other	Any other major problem behavior that does not fall into the above categories.		