



Lawrence Public Schools • 255 Essex Street • P.O. Box 1498 • Lawrence, MA 01842

## DISCIPLINE CODE

August 2014

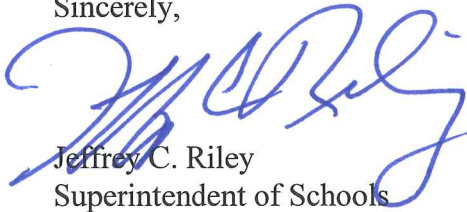
Dear Parents and Students:

According to the General Laws of Massachusetts and the Department of Education regulations, each school and school committee is required to adopt a set of rules that ensure a safe and orderly school climate for effective learning. This Discipline Code meets this requirement and also highlights our primary goal of providing all students with a safe and caring learning community, where they are able to focus in on developing their full potential, both academically and socially. Since we believe that all children have the potential to be successful given a safe and caring learning community where expectations are clear, we will utilize every available resource to support students in this endeavor. We also recognize that the responsibility for creating a safe and caring learning community lies with all stakeholders: students, parents, and Lawrence Public Schools staff.

In order for learning to occur, we know that students must be in school and feel safe; therefore, behavior which jeopardizes the safety of students or staff cannot be tolerated. Since our goal is to educate students, we will make every attempt to provide students with support in order to learn techniques for handling issues which interfere with learning process and led to inappropriate behaviors; however, in the event that these supports are unsuccessful in remedying the problem behavior, we will take the necessary actions to ensure a safe school setting for all students.

The sole objective of this Discipline Code is to ensure fair, equitable, consistent, and developmentally appropriate handling of disciplinary problems in our schools. Please take the time to read the entire Discipline Code and discuss it with your child. Together we can ensure that all of our students have a safe and caring learning community which will foster academic and social development.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey C. Riley  
Superintendent of Schools