

# Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES

## PLAIN LANGUAGE CODE OF CONDUCT SUMMARY FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Adopted: 01/07/15 Rev: 08/03/16; 01/11/18; 07/11/18; 04/03/19; 07/03/19; 09/04/19

A complete copy of the TST BOCES Code of Conduct is given to parents/guardians every year. It can also be found on the TST BOCES website ([www.tstboces.org](http://www.tstboces.org)). **What follows is a summary of that Code.**

### ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE RIGHT TO:

#### Be Safe

- Learn and play without fear of their body or feelings being hurt.

#### Know the Rules

- Know what the rules are and where to find them.
- Hear and be heard.
- Expect adults to talk to them, to find out about and help them with their needs at school.

#### Be Respected

- Be themselves.
- Be included, have fun, make new friends and try out new skills.



### DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT:

The Dignity for All Students Act focuses on making sure TST BOCES is a safe place and that students know that they are protected from certain types of behaviors.

All students have the right to enjoy school without worrying about unkind words or actions from others. No student should be discriminated [BOCES non-discrimination](#) (as per Policy 3110) against because of their race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender or sex on school property or at a school function. If something happens off school grounds, it can be considered against school rules if it makes a student feel unsafe at school or a student is unable to do school work or participate in school activities.

If anyone is making a student feel unsafe, bullied, threatened or harassed, the student or parents should tell

### ALL STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

#### Being Safe

- Keeping themselves and others safe.
- Respecting other people's bodies, feelings and property.
- Learning how to control their emotions.
- Asking for help to solve problems peacefully.

#### Following the Rules

- Attending school every day unless they are sick or have an appointment.
- Being in their classroom on time.
- Being prepared and ready to learn.
- Dressing appropriately for school.
- Following directions given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
- Asking questions when they don't understand.
- Accepting responsibility for their actions.

#### Showing Respect

- Trying their best every day.
- Trying to understand and respect all people's differences, feelings, opinions and beliefs.
- Using language and actions that show consideration for other people's feelings and differences.
- Behaving appropriately during all school events and activities.

#### Dignity Act Coordinators

**Dr. Jeffrey Matteson**, District Dignity Act Coordinator  
**Cheryl Button**, Exceptional Education  
**Belinda Adams**, Exceptional Education  
**Helen Staller**, Exceptional Education  
**Michelle Nolan**, Regional Alternative School  
**Kevin Casler**, Career & Technical Education  
**Jeff Podolak**, Career & Technical Education  
**Keith Williams**, PTECH Program  
**Jennifer Astles**, Regional Dignity Act Coordinator