



Builder of Excellence  
in Science Education

# Central Virginia Governor's School for Science and Technology

## Expectations for Student Conduct

Each Central Virginia Governor's School (CVGS) student is responsible for her or his own actions while on school property or under the supervision of Governor's School staff during school activities. Students are expected to be punctual to class and to respect fellow class members, CVGS staff, and school property. CVGS staff will not allow a student to jeopardize his or her own safety or the safety of others. In addition, CVGS faculty and staff will not allow a student to disrupt the learning process.

Students who choose not to comply with the school policies or with the local, state, and federal laws are subject to disciplinary action and any applicable consequences of the legal system.

### **I. One Minute of Silence**

*"In accordance with the Code of Virginia 22.1-203, this policy establishes the observance of one minute of silence during the second class period of each school day. Students will remain seated and silent and make no distracting display to the end so that each student may, in the exercise of his or her individual choice, meditate, pray, or engage in any other silent activity which does not interfere with, distract, or impede other students."*

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

State regulations require that students stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance while facing the flag either with their right hands over their hearts or in an appropriate salute if in uniform. However, no student can be compelled to recite the Pledge if the student, parent of the student, or legal guardian of the student objects on religious, philosophical, or other grounds. Students who are thus exempt from reciting the Pledge must remain quietly standing or sitting at their desks while others recite the Pledge. Exempt students must not make any display that disrupts or distracts others who are reciting the Pledge.

### **III. Drug, Alcohol, Weapon, Explosives, or Assault Related Offenses**

Governor's School students are not permitted to possess, sell, or consume drugs, look-alike drugs or alcohol, or possess weapons, look-alike weapons, or explosives on campus, in school vehicles, at school functions, or on any school sponsored trips. The following information from the Heritage High School Handbook applies to Governor's School students since CVGS is located on Lynchburg School Board Property:

*Use and/or Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, Anabolic Steroids, and Other Drugs:*

*A student shall not possess, use, or distribute any of the restricted substances listed below on school property, on school buses or during school activities, on or off school property.*

*A student shall not attempt to possess, use, consume, procure and/or purchase, any of the restricted substances listed below or what is represented by or to the student to be any of the*

*restricted substances listed below or what the student believes is any of the restricted substances listed below. A student shall not be under the influence of any of the restricted substances listed below, regardless of whether the student's condition amounts to legal intoxication.*

*Restricted substances include but are not limited to alcohol, tobacco and inhalant products, and other controlled substances defined in the Drug Control Act, Chapter 15.1 of Title 54 of the Code of Virginia, such as anabolic steroids, stimulants, depressants, hallucinogens, marijuana, imitation and look-alike drugs, drug paraphernalia and any prescription or non-prescription drug possessed in violation of School Board policy.*

*The School Board may require a student who has been found in possession of, or under the influence of, drugs or alcohol in violation of School Board policy to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse, or both, and, if recommended by the evaluator and with the consent of the student's parent, to participate in a treatment program.*

Further, according to Lynchburg City Schools' policy, carrying, bringing, using or possessing any firearm, dangerous device, or dangerous or deadly weapon in any school building, on school grounds, in any school vehicle or at any school-sponsored activity without the authorization of the school or the school division is prohibited, and grounds for disciplinary action.

According to Lynchburg City School Policy JFCD, such weapons include, but are not limited to:

*any pistol, shotgun, stun weapon, revolver, or other firearm listed in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07, designed or intended to propel a projectile of any kind, including a rifle; unloaded firearms in closed containers; any air rifle or BB gun; toy guns and look-alike guns; any dirk, bowie knife, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, machete, knife or razor; slingshots; spring sticks; brass or metal knuckles, blackjacks; any flailing instrument consisting of two or more rigid parts connected in such a manner as to allow them to swing freely, which may be known as a nun chahka, nun chuck, nunchaku, shuriken, or fighting chain; any disc, of whatever configuration, having at least two points or pointed blades, and which is designed to be thrown or propelled and which may be known as a throwing star or oriental dart; explosives, and destructive devices as defined in Va. Code § 22.1-277.07, or other dangerous articles.*

Finally, according to the Heritage High School Handbook:

*A student shall not assault or commit battery upon another person on school property, on school buses or during school activities on or off school property. An assault is a threat of bodily injury. A battery is any bodily hurt, however slight, done to another in an angry, rude or vengeful manner.*

Should an incident falling into one of the afore-mentioned categories occur, each student suspected of involvement will have a conference with the Director and/or the instructor to discuss the incident in detail. Since CVGS is on Lynchburg School Board property, the Lynchburg City School Board policies regarding drug/alcohol/weapons/explosives and

assaults will apply. A copy of the LCS policies is available for review in the CVGS main office.

#### **IV. Non Drug, Alcohol, Weapon, Explosive, or Assault Related Offenses**

These offenses include, but are not limited to, honor code violations, bullying, theft, vandalism, disrespect, disruptive behavior and failure to comply with a reasonable request of a staff member.

Should an incident falling into one of the afore-mentioned categories occur, each student suspected of involvement will have a conference with the Director and/or the instructor to identify the problem and the policy in question. A conference with the Director, instructor, students and parent may also occur, depending on the offense.

Should a second incident occur involving the same student, a conference with the Director, instructor, student and parent will occur. Depending on the seriousness of the offense, the Director may notify the home high school principal concerning the disciplinary action taken.

According to Governor's School Board policy, students who are suspended or expelled from their home schools will be automatically suspended or expelled from the Governor's School for the duration of the penalty. In this type of suspension, CVGS will follow the home school's policy regarding making up academic work missed during the suspension.

#### **V. Appeals Process**

In order to provide due process for CVGS students, faculty decisions may be appealed by a student's parent or guardian to the Director. The Director's decisions may be appealed to the Superintendent-in-Charge. Interested parents or guardians should contact the Director for more specific information on the appeals process.