

**WOODFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
AGENDA ITEM**

ITEM #: **DATE:** February 20, 2026

TOPIC/TITLE: Code of Conduct

PRESENTER: Garet Wells *GW*

ORIGIN:

- TOPIC PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY (No board action required.)
- ACTION REQUESTED AT THIS MEETING
- ITEM IS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL
- ACTION REQUESTED AT FUTURE MEETING: (DATE)
- BOARD REVIEW REQUIRED BY

- STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION
- BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY
- OTHER:

PREVIOUS REVIEW, DISCUSSION OR ACTION:

- NO PREVIOUS BOARD REVIEW, DISCUSSION OR ACTION
- PREVIOUS REVIEW OR ACTION

- DATE:
- ACTION:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Board policy 09.438 states in part "In accordance with KRS 158.148 and 704 KAR 007:050, the Board shall develop a student discipline code which shall bereferenced in all school handbooks"

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ELEMENTS:

Attached are the suggested revisions to the code of conduct for the 26-27 school year.

IMPACT ON RESOURCES:

TIMETABLE FOR FURTHER REVIEW OR ACTION:

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: Recommended Not Recommended

Yeni Jones

Code of Conduct
Suggested Revisions
2026-2027

1. Edit dates to reflect the 2026-2027 school year.
2. Insert Toileting Policy adopted at the September 22, 2025 meeting of the Board.
3. Edit the “**Nondiscrimination Policy Statement**” as follows on page 9:
Woodford County Public Schools offers Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs in the areas of Agriculture, Business, Education, Engineering, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Science, Fire Science and Media Arts to students in grades 9-12. The Pathways and Industry Certifications are as follows:

Agriculture:

Agricultural Power, Structural, Technical Systems:

iCEV Equipment and Engine Training Council Principles of Small Engine Technology

Animal Science Systems:

Beef Quality Assurance

iCEV Elanco Fundamentals of Animal Science

iCEV Elanco Veterinary Medical Applications

Plant Science Systems:

iCEV BASF Plant Science Certification

Environmental Science/Natural Resources Systems:

iCEV Ducks Unlimited Ecology Conservation and Management Certifications

Forestry Works of Kentucky -Forest Worker Certification Program

Education:

Teaching & Learning:

No industry certification; dual credit courses

Engineering:

Automation Design & Engineering Design:

Fusion 360/Pre-Engineering

Family & Consumer Sciences:

Consumer & Family Services and Culinary & Food Services:

ServSafe Manager's Certification

Fire Science:

FEMA certification series through NIMS

State-Approved Basic Life Support (BLS) Certificate

Stop the Bleed

OSHA-10

Kentucky Fire Commission Apprentice 1

Health Sciences:

Allied Health: NOCTI

Pre-Nursing: SRNA

Pharmacy Tech: NHA ExPT

Emergency Medical Technician: NREMT

Dental Assisting: NOCTI

Media Arts:

Cinematography & Graphic Design:(2 exams required)

Adobe Certified Professional: After Effects

Premiere Pro

Graphic Design (2 exams required):

Adobe Certified Professional: InDesign

Adobe Certified Professional: Photoshop

Police Studies:

No industry certification

Any person having inquiries concerning Woodford County Schools' Career and Technical Education Programs or needs this information in a language other than English or Spanish should contact Tracy Probst, CTE Department Chair at 145 School House Rd. Versailles, Kentucky 40383 or at (859) 879-4630.

4. Replace language in the "**Home/Hospital**" section on page 15 with the following: Woodford County Schools provides a Home/Hospital Program (Homebound) for students who are unable to attend school for medical reasons for more than five (5)

consecutive days. Enrollment forms may be obtained from the main office, counseling office, Central Office, or through the District website.

The required forms include sections to be completed by both the parent/guardian and a licensed medical professional. Once all sections are completed and signed, the forms should be submitted as soon as possible to either the Central Office (180 Frankfort Street) or the school counselor for consideration. All applications must be reviewed and approved by the District Home/Hospital Committee. For students with disabilities, eligibility for home or hospital instruction shall be determined by the Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) in accordance with KRS 158.033(4), and services shall be provided pursuant to the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Early submission is encouraged to avoid delays in accessing services if all eligibility criteria are met.

If the medical issue is known in advance, families are encouraged to submit forms prior to the absence so instructional support can be arranged promptly. Instruction may be delivered in person, electronically, or telephonically.

5. Add new section after **“Assault and Threats of Violence -Notice of Penalties and Provision”** notice as follows on page 19:

Threat Assessment

Any student making an actual or perceived threat may be required to participate in the District's internal threat assessment process. Pending the outcome of any assessment, an outside threat assessment may be recommended.

6. Add to **“Possession of Personal Telecommunication Device”** policy on page 35 as follows:

The restrictions associated with this policy do not apply to public events such as concerts, performances, sporting events, etc. that are open to the public to attend.

7. Add a new section under **“Attendance Requirements”** on page 45 as follows:

Withdrawal to Out of Country

Any parent withdrawing their child out of the country with the intent to return to Woodford County must meet with the District Social Worker prior to withdrawal to discuss potential negative implications depending on each individual circumstance. It is expected that the time out of the country does not exceed 7 school days except for extenuating circumstances to be evaluated by the District Social Worker. Any questions about the out of country withdrawal process should be directed to jill.hargis@woodford.kyschools.us.

8. Edit **“Educational Enhancement Opportunity (EHO/EEO)”** on page 47 as follows: “To request an absence to attend or participate in an educational activity, please complete an application form and return it to your school principal at least five (5) days prior to the absence.”

9. Add a new statement under **“Truancy”** on page 48 as follows:

Kentucky House Bill 611 (HB 611) is a truancy law enacted in 2024 by the Kentucky legislature that imposes stricter attendance requirements for students and enhances accountability for families and schools. The bill amended existing statutes to require a Director of Pupil Personnel (DPP) to report a student to the county attorney if they accumulate 15 or more unexcused absences during an academic year. While 15 unexcused absences are the threshold by which school districts must file truancy with the county attorney, once a student has become habitually truant per KRS 159.150, having 6 or more unexcused absences, a school district may still pursue truancy charges with the county attorney.

10. Edit the “**School Resource Officer**” section on page 50 as follows:

~~The School Resource Officer (SRO) program exists by a mutual partnership of the Woodford County Public Schools Police Department and Versailles Police Department.~~ The mission of the SRO program is to provide a safe environment for students and staff through the following objectives and to maintain a positive relationship with students, parents and staff of Woodford County Public Schools. SROs will:

(1) Work with programs such as CICO, HIVE, small group intervention, ISF and/or other youth mentoring programs for students as needed. The SRO shall coordinate his or her activities with their administrator/supervisor and staff members as to allow for an orderly educational process. (2) Become familiar with and assist in making referrals to community agencies/programs which offer assistance to students and their families. (3) Assist the school and district administration in developing plans and strategies to prevent and/or minimize dangerous situations; including assisting in developing, coordinating, and making recommendations for emergency plans, drills, procedures and compliance with all applicable safety laws, i.e. Kentucky Senate Bill 1 “School Safety and Resiliency Act”. (4) Take appropriate law enforcement action as necessary or required by law including conducting formal police interviews with students while adhering to WCPS Board Policy, ~~City of Versailles Police Department Policy~~, Kentucky Revised Statutes, and other legal requirements with regard to any law enforcement action. (5) Be requested to participate in and/or attend school functions as needed. (6) Become familiar with the WCPS Student Code of Conduct and relevant school handbooks as well as share information with school personnel which may aid in the determination of a Code of Conduct violation; while SRO’s may assist in determining if such disciplinary violation occurred, they shall not take administrative action which is the responsibility of school administrative staff. (7) Shall be advised by school administrative staff of incidents possibly giving rise to criminal or juvenile violations. The SRO with assistance from the principal or their designee shall determine whether law enforcement or school administrative action is needed.

11. Replace the language in “**APPENDIX D Part C through E**” on pages 69 and 70 as follows:

C. Guidelines for Expulsion, Exclusion, or Alternative Placement

In the event the principal is faced with a situation warranting expulsion, exclusion, or alternative placement of a student, he/she:

1. May suspend the student summarily for a period of up to ten (10) school days or less pending a hearing, unless the right to a hearing is waived, using the suspension procedures outlined above.
2. Must notify the superintendent or superintendent's designee of his/her request to exclude or expel the student or place the student in an alternative placement.
3. Must notify in writing the parent or guardian within twenty-four (24) hours relating to the specific acts by the student that constitute cause for expulsion or alternative placement and citing these acts as the reason for the suspension, which the principal is imposing.

D. Guidelines for Superintendent and Conduct of Hearing

1. The Superintendent, after reviewing the charges and requests submitted by the principal, will set a hearing before the school board no later than (10) days after the student's suspension, unless the student waives the hearing.
2. No later than five (7) days prior to the hearing, the superintendent must provide written notice to the student and the student's parents/guardians informing them of:
 - i) The purpose of the hearing
 - ii) The date, time, and place of the hearing.
 - iii) The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated.
 - iv) Acts of the student.
 - v) The specific procedures to be used at the hearing.
 - vi) The deadline for submitting witnesses and evidence the student and/or parents wish to present at the hearing.
 - vii) Who may attend.
 - viii) The procedure for changing the hearing date.
 - ix) The procedure for waiving the hearing.

E. The Hearing

3. The hearing shall be in closed session, unless the student and/or parents request the hearing be public.
4. Testimony of any witnesses will be under oath.
5. When more than one student is involved, one hearing may be held for all students, so long as (1) all students consent to a mutual hearing (2) a joint hearing will not result in confusion; and (3) a joint hearing will not substantially prejudice any one student. Any student who requests a separate hearing is entitled to one.
6. The specific hearing procedures beyond these general guidelines will be set forth in the notice to the student.