The Rush-Henrietta Central School District Board of Education is committed to providing a safe and orderly school environment where students may receive — and district personnel may deliver — quality educational services without disruption or interference. Responsible behavior by students, teachers, district personnel, parents/guardians and other visitors is essential to achieving this goal.

The district has a long-standing set of expectations for conduct on school property, including the school bus and at school functions. These expectations are based on the principles of civility, mutual respect, citizenship, character, tolerance, honesty, and integrity. They are enhanced by our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework, which identifies five attributes that our students are expected to demonstrate consistently in all areas of the school setting: Be Caring, Be Ready to Learn, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Trustworthy.

Mission
Prepare every student for responsible citizenship, life-long learning, and college or career success.

Vision of Excellence
The Rush-Henrietta Advantage is characterized by:
- Safe and Supportive Learning Environments
- High Levels of Student Learning
- A Culture of Collaboration
- Continuous Improvement
- Responsible Resource Management

Stakeholders
The stakeholders of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District include: students, parents, teachers, administrators, support staff, the Board of Education, alumni, institutions of higher education, businesses, and the community at-large.

Board of Education
Mrs. Mai Abdullah
Mrs. Jennifer M. Laird
Mrs. Nichole M. LaPlaca
Mrs. Diane E. McBride
Mr. James C. O’Brien
Mrs. Annmarie Strzyzynski

Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Lawrence Bo Wright

This brochure is a summary of the Rush-Henrietta Central School District Code of Conduct.

A copy of the complete Code can be accessed via our website at www.rhnet.org/conduct or in the main office of each school.
The following conduct is prohibited in Rush-Henrietta schools:

**Disorderly/Disruptive behaviors**
Running in hallways; making unreasonable noise; using profane language or gestures; obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic; inappropriate displays of affection or sexual contact; trespassing; gambling; minor alterations; display or use of personal electronic devices, such as, but not limited to, cell phones, iPods, digital cameras, in a manner that is in violation of district policy; any willful act which disrupts the normal operation of the school community including those acts as defined in the New York State Penal law on disorderly conduct.

**Insubordination**
Failing to comply with the reasonable directions of teachers, school administrators or other school employees; lateness for, missing or leaving school without permission; skipping detention; or truancy.

**ANY form of academic misconduct**
Plagiarism; cheating; copying; altering records (e.g. forgery); or assisting another student in any of the above actions.

**Violent conduct**
Acts summarized in the New York State Department of Education School Safety Educational Climate Summary Report, including committing an act of violence (such as hitting, kicking, punching, or scratching) upon a teacher, administrator, employee, student or any other person lawfully on school property or attempting to do so; intentionally damaging or destroying school district property; possessing a weapon while on school property or at a school function; displaying what appears to be a weapon; threatening to use any weapon; intentionally damaging or destroying the personal property of a student, teacher, administrator, other district employee or any person lawfully on school property, including graffiti or arson.

**Engaging in off-campus misconduct**
Behaviors that interfere with, or can reasonably be expected to substantially disrupt the educational process in the school or at a school function; cyber bullying (i.e., inflicting willful and repeated harm through the use of electronic text); threatening or harassing students or school personnel over the phone or other electronic medium.

**Misconduct while on a school bus**
The Rush-Henrietta Central School District maintains and operates an extensive transportation system for the purpose of bringing students to and from school safely and on time. Since riding school transportation is an extension of the school day, the district code of conduct is in effect. Excessive noise, arguing, pushing, shoving and fighting will not be tolerated.

**Endangering the safety, physical or mental health, or welfare of others**
Misrepresenting one’s self; defamation by making false or unprivileged statements about others; discrimination of any kind (includes use of race, color, creed, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, sex, gender (identity and expression), sexual orientation, weight or disability to deny rights, equitable treatment or access to facilities available to others); any form of harassment, which includes a sufficiently severe action or persistent pervasive pattern of actions or statements directed at others which are intended to be, or which a reasonable person would perceive as ridiculing or demeaning; intimidation, which includes engaging in actions or statements that put an individual in fear of bodily harm; hazing; bullying, which may be a hostile activity which harms or induces fear through the threat of further aggression and/or creates terror; insults and/or gestures; encouraging others to fight; possession of a laser pointer; misuse of computer hardware/software; bomb threats; false fire alarms/tampering with safety and/or security devices; being in possession of a stolen item; being under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or any substance that impedes or impairs ability to engage in instruction; selling, using, distributing or possessing obscene material; using vulgar or abusive language, cursing or swearing; possession of or using any smoking paraphernalia or nicotine dispensing device; inappropriately using or sharing prescription or over-the-counter drugs; gambling; indecent exposure of the private parts of the body; stealing or attempting to steal property; any reckless behavior.

**Disciplinary Consequences**
Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with the problem at the time and place it occurs, and in a way that students view as fair and impartial. School personnel who interact with students are expected to use disciplinary action only when necessary and to place emphasis on the student’s ability to grow in self-discipline.

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair and consistent so as to be the most effective in changing student behavior.

If the conduct of a student is related to a disability or suspected disability, the student shall be referred to the Committee on Special Education and discipline, if warranted, shall be administered consistent with the separate requirements of this code of conduct for disciplining students with a disability or presumed to have a disability.

Students who are found to have violated the district’s code of conduct may be subject to the following consequences, either alone or in combination with:

- Oral/verbal warning
- Written warning
- Written notification to parents or guardians
- Detention
- Suspension from transportation
- Suspension from athletic participation
- Suspension from social or extra-curricular activities
- Suspension from other privileges
- In-school suspension
- Removal from classroom by teacher
- Short-term (five days or less) suspension from school
- Long-term (more than five days) suspension from school
- Permanent suspension from school
- Restitution