

Tapestry Charter School
111 Great Arrow Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14216
(716) 332-0754
www.tapestryschool.org

Family Handbook



Grades K - 4

2023-24

Welcome Back!

Tapestry Charter School, K-4 2023-2024

Greetings Tapestry K-4 Families!

I would like to welcome everyone back to school, with a special greeting for all of our new students and families.

Please take the time to thoroughly read the Family Handbook and keep it as a reference throughout the school year. If you have any questions or need clarification on any of the information provided, our dedicated staff members are always available to assist you.

At Tapestry, we believe that collaboration between home and school is vital for the success of our students. By working together, we can provide the best possible educational experience for each child. We look forward to partnering with you and your family in the months ahead.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. We are excited to welcome you to another year of learning, growth, kindness, and shared accomplishments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Rivera".

Melissa Rivera, K-4 Principal

Tapestry takes pride in being a place where children and adults learn everyday!

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SECTION 1: SCHOOL LOGISTICS

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

Distributed Leadership Positions K-4 (2023-24)

<p>Executive Director Eric Klapper</p>
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Creates and drives the strategic vision for the organization. Oversees the Academic Administration and Development and evaluates the principals and directors. Serves as project manager for the school work plan.

<p>Principal Melissa Rivera</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Support on student behavior expectations <input type="checkbox"/> Student Support/Discipline, levels II, III <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior Contracts and Expulsions <input type="checkbox"/> Hall supervision/policy reinforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Family concerns <input type="checkbox"/> Counseling staff <input type="checkbox"/> K-4 Nurse <input type="checkbox"/> ILC Lead <input type="checkbox"/> Staff meetings and professional development <input type="checkbox"/> Hiring & K-4 Staffing <input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment & Recruitment <input type="checkbox"/> PAG <input type="checkbox"/> Grades 3-4 NYS Assessments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Student promotion and retention <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response/ School Safety (Support Eric) <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance at IEP meetings (When needed) <input type="checkbox"/> School Communication (Staff Weekly & Parents Monthly) News Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> APPR <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional Walk-Throughs <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Response to Intervention (RtI) <input type="checkbox"/> Accountability Report (Annual) <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Trustees Report K-4
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<p>Assistant Principal Jennifer Tarnowski</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Start of school supervision 7:15 - 7:50am <input type="checkbox"/> After school supervision 3:00 - 4:00pm <input type="checkbox"/> Duty Schedule inquiries & allocation <input type="checkbox"/> Lead on student behavior expectations and positive reinforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Student Support/Discipline levels I, II, III <input type="checkbox"/> Behavior Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Hall supervision/policy reinforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Family reentry meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Climate Meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Parent communication regarding discipline <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance & behavioral data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Response/ School Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Attendance at IEP meetings <input type="checkbox"/> School Communication <input type="checkbox"/> APPR-Teaching Partners <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional Walk-Throughs <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Partner Meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Student Concern Meetings (Behavior) <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Trustees Report K-4 <input type="checkbox"/> Community Meetings <input type="checkbox"/> Supervise Teaching Partners <input type="checkbox"/> Character & Culture Committee
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Admissions/Enrollment Policy

1. Tapestry Charter School has an “Application Period,” the period of time during which the school is accepting applications. The end date of the period is clearly noted on the application, which will not be prior to close of business on April 1st.
2. A random selection process (lottery) is required if the number of timely submitted applications of eligible students for admission to a grade exceeds the capacity of the grade level.
3. The lottery is publicly noticed and on the school’s website..
4. Once the lottery has been conducted, the Director of Enrollment will notify all parents and guardians who submitted applications by the application deadline whether their children have been granted seats at the school or if they are on the waiting list.

Note:

- Charter schools are required to demonstrate good faith efforts to attract and retain a comparable or greater enrollment of students with disabilities, ELLs, and students who qualify for the federal Free and Reduced Price Lunch program when compared to the enrollment figures for such students in the school district in which the charter school is located.
- Charter schools must give a statutory admissions preference to students residing within the geographical boundaries of the school district or CSD in which the charter school is located.
- School district residency preference is a statutory preference as are the returning student, sibling, and student of an employee preferences.

Arrival Procedures

Arrival

Tapestry Charter School doors open at 7:30 am.

- No student will be permitted in the building prior to 7:30 am.
- Early drop off begins at 7:15 am: students will wait, supervised, in the foyer until 7:30 am.
- At 7:30 am students will be allowed to enter the building. Students wanting breakfast may enter the cafeteria.
- Students will be allowed to enter classrooms at 7:50am.
- Instruction begins promptly at 8:00 am for K-4 students.
- Families will not be permitted to enter the front foyer with their child or walk with them to their classroom.

When dropping off by car:

- Enter the parking lot by using the west entrance (closest to Elmwood Ave.)
- Drive completely around the building and drop off at the front entrance in the bus loop.
- Please pull safely away from the curb and exit out the exit closest to Delaware.
- Please follow the flow of traffic - NO U Turns!
- Do not leave your car at the curb to enter the school. This will prevent other families from safely dropping off their children in a timely manner.
- Families will not be permitted to enter the front foyer with their child or walk with them to their classroom.

Dismissal Procedures

At dismissal, parents will not be allowed to enter the building and/or wait in the front foyer for their children. Parents will remain outside the building and students will be dismissed to their individual families.

For students in K-4, please abide by the following procedures:

Dismissal

- Dismissal begins at 2:30 pm
- Students who leave school prior to these times will be marked as an “Early Departure”.

- If the reason for an Early Departure is a medical appointment, 24-hour advance notice is required and a doctor's note submitted to the office.
- No students will be dismissed after 2:00 pm without 24 hours-notice to the office. Unscheduled departures at this time of day are very disruptive to our already busy dismissal process and to the child's learning.
- **If you must pick up your child, please do so for appointments only, and before 2:00 pm to avoid this disruption.**

In the event of a pre-scheduled appointment that requires you to pick your child up before the designated dismissal time, please adhere to the following process:

- Park in Visitor Parking located at the rear of the school or along Great Arrow Avenue.
- Go to the front entrance, ring the buzzer to gain entrance, and be prepared to present a form of identification.
- Sign the child out at the main office pass-through window. Students will then be released through our front foyer door. Early pick-ups without a valid reason will be marked unexcused.

****Please do not pick your child up before dismissal without a pre-scheduled appointment.****

If you pick your child up by car, please:

- Post provided placard with the PikMyKid number on the dash or window of your car..
- Enter the parking lot by using the entrance closest to Elmwood Ave.
- Pull around as far as you can go toward the front of the building.
- Stay in your car at all times and pull forward when space becomes available.
- Please continue to pull forward. Staff will escort your student to your car.
- If you arrive well before dismissal, please turn off your engine to preserve the air quality around the school.
- You will not be permitted to come into the school to wait in the foyer.

If you pick up your child on foot or by bike:

- Please give your child's name and/or student number to the Tapestry staff member stationed outside by the main entrance.
- You will not be permitted to come into the school to wait in the foyer.

SECTION 2: SCHOOL FOUNDATIONS

MISSION

To educate and inspire a diverse community of K-12 learners by engaging them in rigorous real-world learning experiences which prioritize intellectual, social and emotional growth.

VISION

Tapestry is a vibrant, sustainable school that empowers learners and leaders to make a positive impact in our communities and beyond.

HISTORY

Tapestry Charter School is a tuition-free, nationally recognized Expeditionary Learning mentor school located in the city of Buffalo, NY. Founded by passionate individuals who shared a commitment to choice, accountability, and excellence, Tapestry received approval from the State University of New York Board of Trustees to open in September 2001.

In 2001, Tapestry opened with 100 K-4 students, and a core of supportive administration, faculty and staff, all sharing a common vision. The school grew one grade per year, adding the high school program in 2006 and becoming a full K-12 school by 2009. The high school was supported initially by a grant from the Gates Foundation, allowing an expanded grade 9 to 12 enrollment of a diverse population of students who mirrored the Buffalo public schools. The high school has grown to a total of approximately 330 students, with 82 per grade level.

In 2011, the K-8 community relocated and joined the high school on the Tapestry campus at 65 Great Arrow Avenue in Buffalo. By the 2013-14 school year, Tapestry doubled the size of its lower school, serving 52 students per grade with over 450 students across grades K-8. In 2018, the K-4 opened a brand new building at 111 Great Arrow Drive.

Tapestry Charter School has become a name synonymous with student engagement, faculty and administrative innovation, and parent involvement. Tapestry provides a challenging and rigorous educational environment emphasizing the traits of perseverance, integrity, responsibility, and respect. Tapestry Charter School is a vibrant community of learners and leaders, where students and staff alike enjoy the freedom to pursue excellence through meaningful, active learning.

Historically, a traditional “tapestry” is a pictorial cloth; carefully woven for both form and function, its individual threads combined to create a unique work of art that was most often displayed to add warmth to the surroundings. Tapestry Charter School speaks to that tradition. Varied, unique “threads” of the Tapestry experience- from arts integration and crews, to fieldwork and service learning- are carefully woven together with attention to wonder, vision, passion, and voice. Therein, the story of our school unfolds.

SECTION 3: SCHOOL OPERATIONS

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

Below are descriptions of the various procedures employed within our buildings:

Fire Drills

Evacuate the building as rehearsed. Escort students outside. Teacher brings a folder with attendance information. Close the class door. Teachers are to study the fire drill maps in their classrooms and review it with their students. Pay particular attention to the escape route designated.

Lockout

Something outside the building is happening. Outside doors are locked. Teachers carry on with a normal day of instruction. P.A. and email will be used for more information.

Shelter in Place

Classroom is the safest place. Continue instruction. Clear hallways. No passes. No class changes. Listen for announcements regarding staying where you are, moving to a new location or class changes.

Lockdown

Clear hallways. Lock the door. Keep students away from doors and windows. Lights on, shades up. Take attendance. DO NOT respond to P.A., phone, email or fire alarms. Only open the door when unlocked by school personnel or emergency respondents.

Long Term Building Evacuation

The entire building must be evacuated and all staff and students must be relocated to an off-site long-term evacuation site. Announcements will be made regarding first, entering into Shelter in Place, then moving to a new location and whether or not there is time to gather together coats and outerwear. Bring your red emergency folder.

High School Long-Term Evacuation Site:
The Nichols School, 1250 Amherst Street, Buffalo, NY 14216

Lower School Long-Term Evacuation Site:
Elmwood Franklin School 104 New Amsterdam Ave. Buffalo, NY 14216

DAILY STUDENT PROCEDURES

Student Dress Guidelines

For students in grades K-4, the expectation is that students wear clothing appropriate for school on a daily basis. Students who are found to be wearing inappropriate or offensive materials may be referred to the office. Students should also dress appropriately for inclement weather, field work, or class trips that may require alternative clothing options.

Guiding Principle of Tapestry's Dress Guidelines: Be safe, appropriate, and ready to learn!

A detailed breakdown of acceptable attire is located on page 41 of this document.

**dress guidelines subject to change*

Student cell phones and personal electronics

For students in grades K-4 there are no electronic devices, besides school issued iPads or Chromebooks, allowed in school. If a student must bring a cell phone for emergency purposes, it must remain in his/her locker and powered off for the entire day. If a parent needs to contact a student for any purpose, they may do so through our Main Office.

If a student is found to have, or in use of, an electronic device the following will occur:

- **First offense:** confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian at day's end
- **Second offense:** confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian after 24 hours
- **Third offense:** parent conference; may result in short term suspension and/or contract
- **More than three offenses:** short term suspension and contract

SECTION 4: ACADEMIC PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONAL POLICIES

TCS K-4 Grading Scale

Tapestry Charter School was founded in 2001 as an arts-integrated, tuition-free, public school located in the city of Buffalo, NY. Expeditionary Learning (EL) harnesses students' natural passions to allow them to develop the curiosity, skills, knowledge, and courage needed to imagine and work toward creating a better world. Learning is accomplished through academic, cross-disciplinary learning expeditions, other active forms of teaching and learning, and a challenging and supportive school culture.

Grade reporting at Tapestry is done using a non-traditional, standards-based format, relying on a 4-point scale to recognize our unique, rigorous, instructional model. This model is quite different from a more common numeric grading system. Tapestry's criteria to identify where a student places on the 4-point scale has historically used the language identified in the chart below. Creating expectations that exceed traditional benchmarks has been a cultural decision, making it more challenging for students to obtain a 4. This has been indoctrinated into the culture of the program.

2016-present*

4= Mastery	3= Proficient	2= Developing	1= Needs Improvement
Work shows in-depth understanding of content knowledge and excellent demonstration of Learning Targets beyond typical expectations.	Work shows proficiency and demonstrates essential skills and knowledge of Learning Targets.	Work shows an attempt towards proficiency, but more time and practice is necessary to master Learning Targets.	Inadequate quality of work at this time, including failure to demonstrate knowledge and skills of the Learning Targets.

Student Retention/Promotion Policy

Promotion decisions in grades K-4 are made by the school principal and the child's family after a recommendation by the classroom teacher. This recommendation is based on multiple measures of student readiness for the next grade level in academic and social emotional learning areas. Families are a valued partner and play a vital role in this decision.

Teachers review students' assessment data and work from the school year to identify students who may not be ready for the work of the next grade in English language arts and/or math, even with support. If a student's work shows they may not be ready for the next grade level, the principal makes the promotion decision based on a conversation with the student's teacher and family.

Special Education/Section 504

Policies and procedures for implementing Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 to serve students with disabilities not covered by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

Students who are deemed eligible and classified with a disability affecting their educational progress by the Committee on Special Education, or through Section 504 by the building based level team, will be provided support as indicated on their Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan. The laws and regulations governing the provision of educational services will be followed. As required by law, school representatives and parents will assist in the development of the IEPs or Accommodation Plans, and all will work actively to design programs emphasizing student participation in the least restrictive environment. Certified Teachers will oversee IEP implementation for special education students, and accommodate the individual learning needs of all students. General education teachers work as active team members in the service of each student's needs in the classroom. With appropriate program modifications/accommodations and/or services, students will be expected to achieve their goals and earn a diploma in accordance with NYS Education Department regulations.

If you suspect a disability or an impairment could be affecting your child's academic/social/emotional progress at school, please contact the Director of Student Services.

Homework Policy

Tapestry Charter School recognizes the need for homework to develop independent study habits and reinforce basic learning skills. Homework is also a valuable extension of student learning time.

It is the responsibility of the teacher to inform students and parents, verbally and in writing, of homework expectations. It is also a teacher's responsibility to assign homework that is in keeping with the ability level of the student and related to current instruction, to assign work in a consistent pattern that encourages student planning, to check homework in a timely fashion that will promote student learning and to inform students of the effect homework will have on grades assigned. Homework expectations will be explained to students and parents.

When iPads/Chromebooks are brought home, it is imperative that they are charged and brought back to school.

Homework policy for Absent Students

Each teacher should develop a system so that students who are absent for the day can access the homework assignment that they missed. This system should be communicated to students during the first week of school. A parent/guardian may request homework for the student's classes. The homework needs to be ready for pick-up within 24 hours in the main office. Providing assignments for extended absences (ex. vacations) is at the discretion of the teacher. If a child is absent for an extended period due to a medical illness, they may be eligible for alternate instruction.

Alternative Instruction Expectations

Alternative instruction is provided as a service to pupils who are confined to their homes because of physical disability or suspension. It is expected that teachers provide daily work for students on home instruction by placing work in the folder that is labeled with their name. This folder can be found in the main office.

Parent/Guardian Communication

Communication between our building and families is paramount to ensuring the success of each child. Our expectation is that teachers will communicate with families on a regular basis. This includes returning phone calls or e-mails to parents or guardians regularly, utilizing additional communication platforms, such as Class Dojo and Google Classroom, and providing weekly updates through our classroom newsletters. If you at all are having difficulty staying in communication with your child's classroom, please contact administration to assist.

National Elementary Honor Society

The Tapestry Charter School Chapter of the National Elementary Honor Society serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, responsibility, service, and, leadership

Students who excel academically and model exceptional responsibility can become members through the selection process that concludes with induction into the Tapestry's National Elementary Honor Society chapter. To be considered students:

- Must be in 4th grade
- Must be enrolled in the school for the equivalent of one semester
- Per national guidelines, at a minimum, must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a scale of 4.0
- Must have no more than 5 absences and/or 10 tardies per trimester unless waived due to circumstances

Members will attend monthly meetings and complete four projects over the course of the year. One of the projects will be a service project for the school or community.

EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING STRUCTURES AND SUPPORTS

Student Led Conferences

Two times during the school year, Tapestry invites students and their families to attend formal conferences. Student-Led Conferences replace the traditional parent/teacher conference and are attended by the student, parent/guardian, crew leader/classroom teacher, and other adults the student would like to present. The crew leader facilitates the meeting, but the student is responsible for presenting what he/she has learned so far this year.

During the conference, students explain their progress toward and mastery of both academic (content/skill) and character (habits of scholarship) learning targets. Students justify their progress by leading their families through a portfolio of assignments culled from academic classes. Students reference specific assignments, projects, and/or tests/quizzes that show their mastery of learning targets. Students also complete reflections about their performance in each class and share them with their families. Students are held accountable for their progress when they explain areas of strength and areas in need of improvement. The tone of the conference is positive and solution focused on what can be done to ensure success as opposed to what has been done poorly.

Community Meetings

Community Meetings are a time when the entire K-4 community comes together to reinforce the school-wide code of character and to celebrate the growth and achievement of members of the school community.

FIELDWORK

At Tapestry, we believe that it is important to make the learning in the classroom connected to our community. One way we do this is by going outside of the classroom and into the community to visit natural environments, historic sites and/or to learn from experts in the community.

Permission Slips for Fieldwork

At the beginning of the year, every parent signed a form giving permission for students to go on fieldwork using any form of transportation, including busing, walking, etc. However, teachers are encouraged to send home a permission slip before taking students out of the building to inform parents of the purpose of work, the specifics (clothing, plans for lunch, etc.) for the fieldwork and to be sure they have an emergency phone number. Teachers must bring the emergency contact information with them on fieldwork. Families may be asked to support fieldwork expenses with the payment of additional fee(s). Fees are established by Tapestry Charter School and may vary from year to year. Information regarding any fee(s) will be submitted to families at the beginning of the school year.

Exclusion from Fieldwork/Class Trips

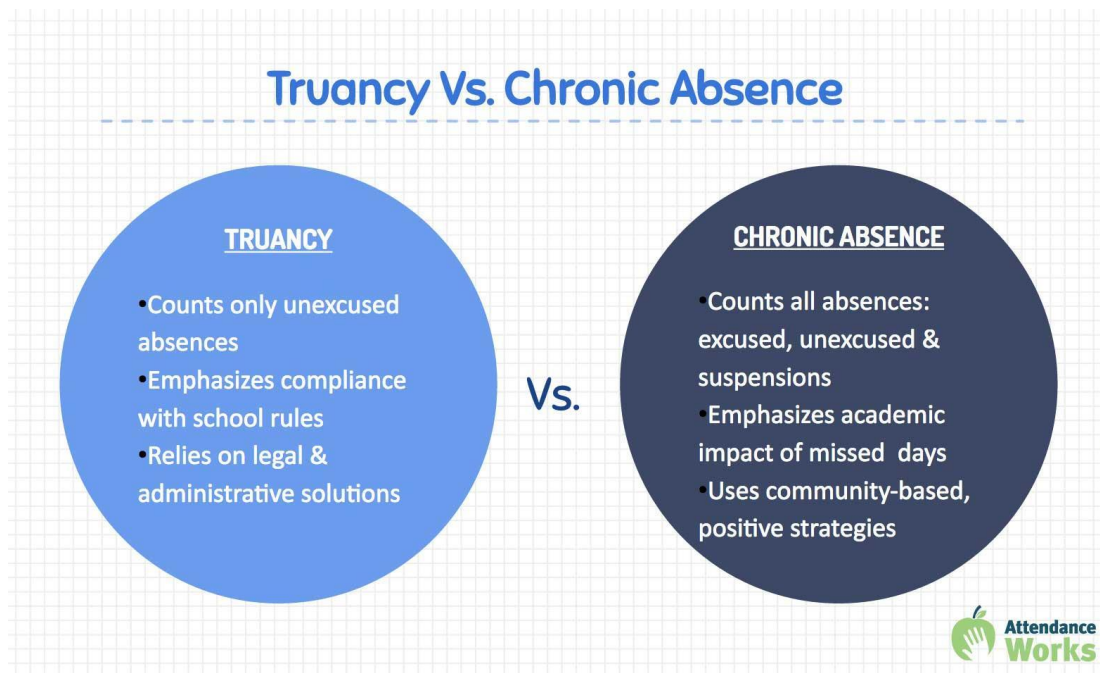
Although students typically would not be excluded from participating in Field Work or Class Trips, if there are academic or behavior concerns, students may be disqualified or require parental supervision while attending off campus events. In the event of an emergency, students may be transported back to campus via a staff member.

SECTION 5: ATTENDANCE POLICY

Tapestry Charter School Aligned Attendance Policy

Attendance has been a growing concern in schools across the country since students have returned to in person learning this past school year. Chronic absence - missing 10 percent or more school days due to absence for any reason (excused, unexcused or suspensions), can translate into students having difficulty learning to read by the 3rd grade, having good relationships in middle school, and graduating from high school. [Studies show](#) that children of color are more likely to be impacted by chronic absenteeism, which then leads to academic, behavioral and social-emotional problems both in and out of the classroom.

This is NOT simply a matter of skipping school either. Many absences in chronic absenteeism can be excused absences due to physical or mental health issues, or other barriers such as transportation or neighborhood safety concerns. Chronic absenteeism can often go unnoticed because of schools focus on unexcused absences.



As a part of this work, Tapestry assumes the best intentions of every parent, and maintains the best interest of every student. We will actively avoid and reject the assumption of lack of parent involvement or care, as we know this is not the case. While there are many valid reasons for a singular absence, we will work as a community to avoid allowing chronic absenteeism to become a reason for academic failure. By working together, all of us - Schools, parents & families, students, public officials, community organizations & crew leaders - we can ensure that ALL Tapestry students can get to school every single day so that they have an opportunity to learn, flourish and grow into the citizens they were meant to be.

The good news is that chronic absences are a solvable problem! What works is a data-driven, comprehensive approach that begins with high engagement with students, family and parent partnerships, and preventing absences from adding up before absences begin to impact academics. We want to give our students at Tapestry every single opportunity possible to succeed, and that begins with showing up. [Everything is possible, when we “Just Show Up!”](#)

Regular attendance and punctuality are important basic requirements for success in school and in life. Tapestry Charter School’s policy is based on a few essential agreements between families, students, and our school to ensure that students create and maintain good attendance habits.

- (1) **No learning can take place without first being present.** Every meaningful element of learning occurs when students are in school. In order to be successful, students **MUST SHOW UP**.
- (2) **High expectations must be set to be met.** It is Tapestry's expectation that all students be in attendance for a minimum of 95% of the year. This means students are allowed nine (9) absences throughout the year.
- (3) **Schooling is a partnership, and both caregivers and school administration are part of every student's crew.** Tapestry will maintain an open and communicative relationship by communicating all absences to caregivers each day that their student is absent. Tapestry will work with families to provide skill building and assistance that help to build good attendance habits.

Definitions

Excused Absence – any absence that occurs due to:

- A personal illness or injury
- An appointment with a health professional
- Observance of a religious holiday
- Bereavement due to death in the family
- A family emergency
- Impassable roads due to inclement weather
- Required court appearances
- Approved field trip or expedition
- Planned absence for a personal or educational purpose
- College visits
- Approved cooperative work programs
- Military obligations
- Other such reasons approved by building administrator

An Excused Absence requires a signed note from a parent/guardian. If three (3) or more consecutive days are missed due to illness, a doctor's note is required. Any excessive Excused Absences (10 days) deemed by school leadership to be harmful to a student's educational experience will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Unexcused Absence – any absence that occurs due to reasons not excused, and without a note from a parent, guardian or doctor.

Tardy – any arrival that occurs after the start of school.

Early Departure – any parent-initiated departure that occurs before 2:30 pm on a scheduled school day. Any excessive Early Departures (10 Early Departures) deemed by school leadership to be harmful to a student's educational experience will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Attendance Procedures

When a student is going to be absent for a full day from school, it is the responsibility of the caregiver (and in high school, the shared responsibility of the student) to account for the absence by following both of these steps:

- The caregiver notifies the school, with valid reason, before 9:00 am on the morning of the absence by calling the main office at
 - High School - (716) 204-5883
 - Middle School - (716) 332-0755
 - Lower School - (716) 332-0754
- Upon returning to school after an absence, a student is required to provide a note signed by a caregiver with the date(s) and explains the reason for the absence. A doctor's note is required when the reason for absence includes an appointment. Without a note, the absence is marked as Unexcused.
- **Notes must be submitted within 10 business days of return to school.** If there is no note provided within those 10 days, the absence will be considered Unexcused.
- Excuse notes can also be provided electronically, using our electronic [K-4 Excused Absence Form](#).

At Tapestry, we want to provide every possible opportunity for a successful school year. This means that we will be engaging in numerous interventions at the very first absence in order to ensure that no student falls through the gaps. Below is a list of interventions that you may see happen as absences progress. **Our goal is to prevent each student from reaching the 10% overall absence mark, or greater than 9 days of school.** Therefore, our interventions will become progressively more involved, and our support methods will deepen engagement through problem solving and face to face meetings.

Number of Absences	Interventions
Single Absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robocall home ● Email with the link to K-4 Excused Absence Form
Three (3) unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robocall home ● Text message with the link to excused absence form ● Contact from Crew Leader/Lead Classroom Teacher
Five (5) unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robocall home ● Text message with the link to excused absence form ● Contact from Social Worker to create an attendance success plan
Ten (10) unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robocall home ● Text message with the link to excused absence form ● Contact from Social Worker with home visit ● Contact from school principal to set up conference ● (MS/HS) Work with Social Worker and SST to complete the ● Potential attendance contract/attendance hearing
Fifteen (15) unexcused absences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Robocall home ● Text message with the link to excused absence form ● Written letter home with a copy of attendance policy ● Contact from Social Worker/Family Support Specialist with home visit ● External referrals as necessary and appropriate (PINS, CPS, etc.) ● Credit may be denied for grade (summer school required)

Please note, that in order to excuse an absence, a parent or guardian should complete the excused absence form. These MUST be submitted within 10 days of the absence.

Student Athlete Academic and Attendance Policy

Minimum Attendance Requirement

Participation in athletics is a privilege granted after a student's academic responsibilities are met. Since attendance is a contributing factor to academic success, students will be ineligible to play in games if in a week they have:

- More than 2 tardies as indicated in Jumprope or Powerschool
- More than 1 class cut (present to school but missing from class)
- More than 1 unexcused absence from school
- Any combination of the above attendance issues

The following definitions are meant to provide clarity of terms:

Unexcused absence – This includes absences from school and from class

- Unexcused absence from school: Any student athlete who is absent from school the whole day without a valid note from a parent. This determination is made at the principal's discretion.
- Unexcused absence from class: Any student athlete who is marked as present to school but is not present in a class.

A student athlete's eligibility for participation in games is dependent upon his or her attendance in school the previous week. Attendance eligibility will be examined every weekend and the high school principal and athletic coaches will be notified of a player's eligibility by Sunday night. Students who are deemed ineligible may participate in team practices but may not participate in games.

Minimum Academic Requirement

Student athletes are expected to maintain a minimum 2.5 academic grade in all of their classes

A student who fails to meet the required grade point average in one or more subjects during any grading period will be automatically placed on a five-week academic probation. Students who improve their grades so they have a minimum 2.5 academic grade in all of their classes at the end of the five-week period will be removed from academic probation. Students who are unable to remove themselves from academic probation within the five-week period will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities for as long as he or she is failing one or more subjects.

SECTION 6: CODE OF CONDUCT

K-4 Student Pledge:

- I can listen carefully and follow all directions.
- I can respect myself and others.
- I can work hard and never give up.
- I am kind.
- I am intelligent.
- I am proud.

Introduction

The Tapestry Charter School (TCS) community fosters a positive and safe learning environment to ensure success in and outside of school. This responsibility is shared by students, parents, staff, and administration. The Tapestry community is committed to upholding our school-wide norms and our values- **Perseverance, Integrity, Responsibility, Respect, and Kindness (PIRR-K)**. These traits are the foundation for which success can be obtained in school and in life. Most situations that are faced in life, academically and personally, can be mastered with the acquisition and demonstration of these character traits. In conjunction, our student pledge ensures that our students never lose sight of the fact that the world needs kind, empathetic, intelligent people who are willing to work hard and have a positive impact on our community.

As each year begins, all students and staff will carefully examine the TCS Code of Conduct. These qualities will form the basis for relationships among the members of the TCS community and with the community around us. Students and staff are expected to demonstrate these values both in and outside of school. Many TCS routines and structures are designed to encourage students to develop these valued traits, along with an ethic of self-discipline and understanding of community principles. Consequences for violation of the Code of Conduct will be applied with fairness and consistency. Our goal is to treat instances as a means to educate our students and restore relationships in a positive fashion.

Discipline Philosophies

Restorative Practices

Restorative Practice is a powerful approach to discipline that focuses on repairing harm through inclusive processes that engage all stakeholders. Implemented well, this shifts the focus of discipline from punishment to learning and from the individual to the community. At Tapestry Charter School, we use these practices by:

- Intentionally creating a school community that is anchored in our shared PIRR values.
- Making participation in the community a requirement, not an option through practices such as community meetings, grade level meetings, and Crew.
- Modeling and teaching our community values through crew lessons.
- Following protocols for reflection, repair, and restoration to the school community.

Solution Focused Trauma Informed Care

All schools and educators work with children who have experienced trauma. Schools have an important role to play in providing stability and a safe space for children and connecting them to caring adults. In addition to serving as a link to supportive services, schools can adapt curricula and behavioral interventions to better meet the educational needs of students who have experienced trauma. The diagram below shows how the solution focused trauma informed care principles are practiced at Tapestry Charter School:

6 GUIDING PRINCIPLES TO A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH

The CDC's Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response (OPHPR), in collaboration with SAMHSA's National Center for Trauma-Informed Care (NCTIC), developed and led a new training for OPHPR employees about the role of trauma-informed care during public health emergencies. The training aimed to increase responder awareness of the impact that trauma can have in the communities where they work. Participants learned SAMHSA's six principles that guide a trauma-informed approach, including:



Adopting a trauma-informed approach is not accomplished through any single particular technique or checklist. It requires constant attention, caring awareness, sensitivity, and possibly a cultural change at an organizational level. On-going internal organizational assessment and quality improvement, as well as engagement with community stakeholders, will help to imbed this approach which can be augmented with organizational development and practice improvement. The training provided by OPHPR and NCTIC was the first step for CDC to view emergency preparedness and response through a trauma-informed lens.

Social Emotional Learning

Over the years, Tapestry has made a concerted effort to shift our program to focus more on Social Emotional Learning (SEL). Acknowledging the world in which we live in and understanding our students' needs, it became clear that this evolution was necessary. In response, we immersed our staff in professional development and training that better equipped our classrooms to address our students on multiple levels. Educating, and providing for, the whole child is a phraseology that is often overused, but in reality, this is precisely what SEL is intended to do. Our families are the reason we do what we do each day. Together we can have a tremendous impact, providing a supportive and restorative environment in both home and school, while equipping our students with the social and emotional intelligence needed to thrive in today's world.

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is an integral part of education and human development. SEL is the process through which people acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and attitudes to develop healthy identities, manage emotions and achieve personal and collective goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain supportive relationships, and make responsible and caring decisions.

The wheel represents the notion that SEL lives not only within our school program, but also with our families and community as a whole. It is through this combined effort and collaboration that we can ensure the social and emotional well being of our students, staff, families and community at large.



Student Responsibilities, Rights, and Privileges

Student Rights	Student Responsibilities
A free public education.	Attend school on a regular basis and in class on time.
A safe school.	Follow and exemplify our Character Traits of Perseverance, Integrity, Responsibility, and Respect (PIRR).
A school free of discrimination.	Complete all required academic work.
A classroom atmosphere conducive to learning.	Bring appropriate materials to class daily.
Physical safety and protection of privacy.	Respect school property, including school issued technology.
Fair and just treatment by school staff.	Participate and encourage others.
A clean, well-maintained educational facility.	Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
A healthy breakfast and lunch.	Use appropriate language.
Open and honest feedback/communication.	Obey school and classroom rules/policies.

Student Privileges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Recess activities ● Classroom celebrations ● Class/grade level trips
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Students may be excluded from various classroom or school celebrations, recess activities, or class/grade level trips based upon behaviors that are deemed overly disruptive to the class setting. Students have various privileges that need to be earned throughout the course of a school day.

K-4 Code of Conduct Tiered Discipline & Intervention Matrix

Tapestry's Code of Conduct, Behavior Expectations, Interventions and Consequences are in compliance with New York State Discipline Laws and Regulations including Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) Law and Dignity for All Students Act (DASA).

Tapestry is committed to teaching, modeling, and enforcing high standards of conduct in order to ensure that Tapestry is a safe, healthy learning environment for all students and staff. The following matrix indicates the types of disciplinary action and interventions that may apply to each type of infraction. In each instance, an opportunity to repair harm and teach appropriate behavior through the use of intervention, restorative practices and corrective action is stated. Each situation or violation involving student conduct should be individualized and the least punitive action should be taken when possible. The administrator shall, however, determine whether a specific infraction warrants one or more of the corrective actions described on the chart.

Level I infractions will be managed on the spot by classroom teachers or other site staff. Teachers will be supported by instructional coaches and administrative staff to create a classroom space that is conducive to student learning. Corrective action, taken by the administrator shall take place after progressive discipline interventions by the school fail to bring about proper conduct.

Level II and **Level III** infractions may also be managed by classroom teachers but consequences will be issued by site administration. **Level I** infractions should be addressed by classroom teachers, unless the behavior is chronic and detrimental to the learning environment. For **Level II** behaviors that happen in the teacher's classroom, the teacher, or administration, will call home to inform the parent of the incident and the impact it had on the student's learning and how the behavior was resolved. For **Level III** behaviors that happen in the teacher's classroom, administration will call home to inform the parent of the incident.

Teachers are responsible for teaching and establishing respectful, trusting relationships with all students and set clear procedures and expectations that are in alignment to our Compass Traits of Perseverance, Integrity, Responsibility, and Respect. In doing so it is expected that students behave in accordance with set expectations. Interventions are done with the intent of correcting the behavior and allowing students to reflect on how they impacted the school community. The following pages provide examples of **Level I**, **Level II** and **Level III** infractions.

The Tapestry Code of Conduct applies to ALL Tapestry students. This includes, but is not limited to, in person, virtual Community Meetings, teacher office hours, organized meetings groups, and any day to day interaction with staff or students. In the unfortunate event that a suspension is deemed an appropriate consequence, the student may be restricted from attending school functions including live lessons. Alternative instruction would be offered for the suspended student and the specifics of that instruction would be discussed in the suspension letter.

Behaviors Related to Health and Safety of Others

The health and safety of our staff and students is of the highest priority at Tapestry Charter School. It is our goal to create an environment that is welcoming, comfortable, and safe for all community members.

When a student's behavior does not align with the safety protocols that have been put into place, Tapestry staff will follow the Code of Conduct as it is outlined in the matrix provided. This may include removal from the classroom, parent contact, or short/long term suspension. If an in person student is continuously demonstrating an inability to abide by the determined safety protocols and procedures, they may be subject to removal from in person learning and placed in the virtual program for an extended period.

A student returning for violating safety protocols will be required to participate in a restorative readmission meeting. A behavior contract may be put into place outlining specific behavior, school supports and consequences.

CODE OF CONDUCT, K-12

Level One Infractions

Refers to minor infractions that disrupt orderly classroom procedures and/or school operations. These infractions are handled by classroom teachers. Level One behaviors may include, but are not limited to, examples in the chart below.

Example of Student Behaviors	Recommended Intervention/Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Classroom interruptions or disruption Defiance Talking back/disrespectful Unkind words/actions Inappropriate language/gestures Leaving seat/area without permission Refusal to complete work/sleeping/head down Failure to follow Common Area expectations Unprepared for class Inappropriate use of classroom materials/objects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infraction entered in PS Reteach expected behavior Coaching Conversation Reflection Mediation Community Circle/conference Community Service Parent Contact

Level Two Infractions

Refers to infractions with seriousness or frequency that tends to disrupt the learning climate of the school and/or consequences that endanger the health or safety of others. Administrative intervention may be necessary. Level Two behaviors may include, but are not limited to, examples in the chart below.

Example of Student Behaviors	Recommended Intervention/Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic level 1 infractions Possession and/or use of any prohibited or offensive materials/objects/devices Moderate classroom interruptions or disruption Moderate Insubordination Moderate harmful language Leaving, attempting to leave, or entering a classroom without permission/elopeing Inappropriate use of school technology Vandalism/destruction of school property Inappropriate physical contact/physical aggression Plagiarism/cheating 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infraction entered in PS Reteach expected behavior Coaching Conversation Reflection Mediation Community Circle/conference Community Service Removal from class Lunch Detention Privileges Revoked Short Term Suspension <p>*All Level Two infractions should be logged, parents notified, and may result in office intervention.</p>

Level Three Infractions

Refers to acts whose frequency or seriousness disrupt the learning climate of the school and/or acts directed against persons and/or property that pose a threat to the health, safety and/or welfare of others. Administration is notified immediately and action may result in removal of the student from school. Level Three behaviors may include, but are not limited to, the chart below.

Example of Student Behaviors	Recommended Intervention/Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chronic Level 2 infractions Severe Insubordination Severe verbal harassment/bullying of others, Severe classroom interruptions or disruption Physical abuse, bullying, threatening behavior Severe use of inappropriate language/gestures Possession, use, furnishing, or selling of any drugs/alcohol/tobacco or weapons Physical Altercation/fighting Vandalism/graffiti Stealing/attempt to steal personal or school property Severe inappropriate physical contact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infraction entered in PS Immediate administration contact Removal from class Parent contact (from admin) Coaching Conversation Reflection Mediation Community Circle/conference Community Service Privileges Revoked Short Term Suspension Behavior Contract Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

**Regardless of infraction level, it is staff responsibility to enter comments into PowerSchool and add appropriate staff and administration to the comment.

Staff/Administration Response Chart

Level One Infractions: *handled in class, logged in PowerSchool, administration and parent notification.*

Process for Level One Infraction:

When a student has a Level One infraction, the teacher/staff member should address the situation during class or during an opportune time within or after the lesson. If the situation takes place outside of the classroom, the student should be addressed at that moment. Office/administrative support is not required for Level One infractions.

The infraction should be logged in PowerSchool under Level One. A detailed description should be provided as well as how the issue was resolved. Administration should be notified. If the problem persists, it has now escalated to a Level Two under “continuous” or “chronic” infractions.

Examples of Inappropriate Student Behavior	Behavior/Redirection Strategies	Suggested Corrective Action/Consequence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Classroom interruptions/disruption ● Not following directions ● Talking back/disrespect ● Using inappropriate language/gestures ● Leaving seat/area without permission ● Refusal to complete work, sleeping/head down ● Physical contact/shoving ● Failure to follow common area expectations ● Harmful language ● Unprepared for class ● Inappropriate use of classroom materials/objects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Greet students at the door ● Do Now or opening routine ● Intentional seating chart ● Clear expectations ● Activities designed for student engagement ● Whole class reminder of expectations ● Positive language to narrate the appropriate behaviors ● Private conversation ● Redirection of behavior ● Replacement behavior ● Encouragement/praise ● Space for student to self-correct ● Take a Break area ● Buddy Room ● Warn student of possible consequences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent contact ● Reteach expected behavior ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Revoked Privileges ● Administrative support ● Level II ● Document in JumpRope <p><i>*If level one behaviors become chronic or behavior is continuously disruptive to classroom instruction it becomes a level 2 behavior. Please see level 2 for the protocol.</i></p>

Level Two Infractions: *handled in class with administrative support when necessary and placed in PowerSchool. The student may need to be removed from class which could result in a suspension on a Short Term basis (less than 10 days).*

Process for Level Two Infraction:

When a student has a Level Two infraction, depending on circumstance, the teacher/staff member should address the situation immediately. This may be with redirection or may result in the need for office intervention. Students may not be sent to the office. Instead, please contact the office, an administrator, or support staff if necessary, and provide a description of the infraction. If no one is available in the main office, and the student needs to be removed, direct contact to an administrator or staff member is suggested. Parents will be notified of the incident by staff that same day.

The infraction should be logged into PowerSchool under Level Two. Teacher should provide a narrative of the incident, and administration or support staff will complete the follow up and determine the resolution/intervention. Parents will be notified by phone or email by staff and/or administration that same day. If a child is suspended, a letter will be sent home and a re-admission conference will be scheduled. Staff involved in the incident are invited but not required to attend the re-admission conference. Below is a response matrix for Level 2 behaviors that may include but are not limited to the following:

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
<p>Chronic Level 1 Infractions</p> <p>If a student needs to be removed from class, please follow the protocol for referring students to the office.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent contact ● Redirect/reminder of expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent contact ● Reteach expected behavior ● Meeting to address concerns ● Possible short-term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent contact ● Reteach expected behavior ● Meeting to address concerns ● Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Coaching ● Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Removal from class ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Alternative lunch location

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
Possession and/or use of any prohibited device or offensive materials. <i>Depending on the nature of the materials, may result in a level three consequence.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Office holds item until the end of the day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Office holds item until the end of the day • Meeting to address concerns • Possible Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
Leaving, attempting to leave, or entering a classroom without permission. <i>Eloping (when a student leaves a classroom without permission)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
Moderate Verbal harassment/bullying. Moderate harmful language	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
Moderate Insubordination and/or classroom disruptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
<p>Inappropriate use of school technology</p> <p><i>Depending on the nature of the incident, may result in a level three consequence.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Loss of technology privileges • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Loss of technology privileges • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
<p>Vandalism/destruction of school property</p> <p>Dismantling Space</p> <p><i>Depending on the severity of the incident, may result in a level three consequence.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
Inappropriate hands/touching / rough housing -shoving	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

Level Two Offenses	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Interventions
<p>Failure to comply with health and safety protocols/procedures.</p> <p><i>**Depending on severity, could escalate to Level III or stronger Level II consequence</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • Reteach expected behavior • Meeting to address concerns • Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Removal from class • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension

End of Level Two Infractions

Level Three Infractions: *immediate administrative assistance required, student removed from class, may warrant short term suspension, long term suspension, or expulsion.*

Process for Level Three Infraction:

When a student has a Level Three infraction, the office should be contacted immediately. Administration will handle the issue and provide parent contact. Depending on the nature of the violation, students may receive a short term suspension, long term suspension, or expulsion.

The infraction will be logged by administration into PowerSchool under Level Three. Parents will be notified by administration that same day. If a child is suspended, a letter will be sent home and a re-admission conference will be scheduled. Staff involved in the incident are invited but not required to attend the re-admission conference. Below is a response matrix for Level 3 behaviors that may include but are not limited to the following:

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequences	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequences	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequences	Suggested Intervention
Severe insubordination or classroom disruptions. This includes chronic Level 2 infractions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Reteach expected behavior ● Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Short term suspension (1-2 days) ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Short term suspension (2-3 days) ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
<p>Caused, Attempted, Or Threatened to Cause Physical Injury To another student or staff member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 2-4 day Suspension • Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 3-5-day Suspension • Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-day suspension • Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Immediate administration contact • Removal from class • Parent contact (from admin) • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension • Behavior Contract • Long Term suspension/Expulsion
<p>Engaged in a physical altercation/fighting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 2-4 day suspension • Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 3-5 day Suspension • Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 10-day suspension • Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Immediate administration contact • Removal from class • Parent contact (from admin) • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension • Behavior Contract • Long Term suspension/Expulsion

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
Students Identified Inciting Conflicts or Fights:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 1-day suspension • Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 2-4 day Suspension • Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 10-day suspension • Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reteach expected behavior • Immediate administration contact • Removal from class • Parent contact (from admin) • Coaching Conversation • Reflection • Mediation • Community Circle/conference • Community Service • Privileges Revoked • Short Term Suspension • Behavior Contract • Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
Willfully Used Force Or Violence Upon The Person of Another Requiring Medical Attention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Contact • 10-day suspension • Recommendation for Expulsion 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
Possessed, Sold Or Furnished Any Firearm, Explosive, Knife Or Dangerous Object	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Recommendation for Expulsion 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
Possessed, Used, Furnished, Or Been Under The Influence Of Any Controlled Substance, Tobacco or alcohol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-5 day suspension ● Counseling Referral ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 5-day suspension ● Expulsion Recommended 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
Sold, Offered, Arranged or Negotiated to Sell Any Controlled Substance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Recommendation for Expulsion ● Police notification 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
<p>Caused Or Attempted To Cause Damage To School Property Or Private Property</p> <p>*This includes technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Restitution ● 1-3 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Restitution ● 2-4 day suspension ● Counseling Referral ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Expulsion <p>Recommended</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
<p>Stolen Or Attempted To Steal School Property Or Private Property</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-4 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Expulsion Recommended ● Possible Police Notification 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
Committed an Obscene Act or Verbal Assault Toward Anyone in our School Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 1-3 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-4 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
Engaged In Habitual Profanity or Vulgarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 1-3 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-4 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 5 day suspension ● Re-entry/restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/ consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/ consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/ consequence	Suggested Intervention
<p>Engaged In, or Attempted To Engage In, Hazing Or Engaged In An Act Of Bullying Including Cyber Bullying)</p> <p>Hate Motivated Behavior: <i>DASA</i></p> <p><i>Depending on severity, may result in a 10 day suspension with</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 1-3 day suspension ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-4 day suspension ● Counseling Referral ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
<p>Committed Sexual Harassment</p> <p><i>Depending on severity, may result in 10 day suspension with expulsion recommended.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 1-3 day suspension ● Counseling Referral ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-4 day suspension ● Counseling Referral ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
Committed Or Attempted to Commit a Sexual Assault	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Possible Police Notification ● 10 day suspension & recommendation for expulsion 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
Created An Intimidating /Hostile Environment By Engaging In Harassment, Threats, Or Intimidation . Including False Accusation, False Alarms, and/or Fire Alarms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 1-3 day suspension ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 2-4 day suspension ● Counseling Referral ● Re-entry/ restorative meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● 10-day suspension ● Expulsion Recommended 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Immediate administration contact ● Removal from class ● Parent contact (from admin) ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension ● Behavior Contract ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing
Violent Threats, Including Bomb Threats, Against School Personnel or Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Police Notification ● 10 day suspension & recommendation for expulsion 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long Term suspension/Expulsion hearing

Level Three Infractions	First Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Second Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Third Offense Suggested corrective action/consequence	Suggested Intervention
Severe/Chronic failure to comply with health and safety protocols & procedures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Reteach expected behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Reteach expected behavior ● Meeting to address concerns ● Possible short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent Contact ● Reteach expected behavior ● Meeting to address concerns ● Short term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reteach expected behavior ● Coaching Conversation ● Reflection ● Mediation ● Community Circle/conference ● Community Service ● Removal from class ● Privileges Revoked ● Short Term Suspension

End of Level III Infractions

Student Expectations for Common Areas

Recess Expectations	Lunch Expectations
<p>During recess students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep hands to yourself. ● No rough play (play fights, wrestling, pushing, kicking, etc.). ● Leave personal belongings such as toys, electronics, etc. at home. Tapestry is not responsible for lost or stolen items. ● Treat others with kindness. ● Take turns with equipment/activities. ● Immediately stop play and lineup when recess is ending. Clean all areas of play (Leave No Trace). ● Enter the building silently. 	<p>During lunch students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remain seated ● Use appropriate voice levels. ● Use appropriate meal-time manners. ● Take care of garbage (Leave No Trace).
Super Subject Expectations	Hallway Expectations
<p>During Super Subjects students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Line up in the hallway before entering. ● Follow all classroom procedures. ● Treat each other with kindness. ● Follow the 5 Star System. ● Participate in all activities. 	<p>While in hallway students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stay on designated side of the hallway. ● Straight, Silent, and Together line (SST). ● Follow all teacher and staff directions. ● Remain silent while lined up in hal. ● Remain socially distanced.
Bathroom Expectations	Community Meeting Expectations (virtual)
<p>On trips to the bathroom students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Remain silent in the hall and bathroom. ● Make sure they were given permission. ● Respect the privacy of others. ● Use proper hygiene habits. ● Keep the bathroom clean and safe. ● Wait silently in the hall if bathroom is full. ● Remain socially distant. ● Follow bathroom protocols. 	<p>During Community Meetings students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Be kind. ● Have fun! ● Meetings will be virtual. ● Follow classroom procedures. ● Respect all performers and guests.

Student Dress Guidelines

At Tapestry Charter School, all persons are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate for various school functions and does not contain any vulgar or inappropriate language/images. Students should wear footwear that has a back or strap for safety reasons.

Guiding Principle of Tapestry’s Dress Guidelines: Be safe, appropriate, and ready to learn!

Dress Code Do’s	Dress Code Don’ts
<p>Pants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Khakis, Denim, Leggings (if opaque) ● Sweatpants/trackpants ● Pants that fully cover buttocks and begin at hips or waist 	<p>Pants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pajamas ● See-through or transparent leggings ● Pants that begin below the hips/waist or that expose skin above the length of fingers when arms are down at the side
<p>Shorts, Skirts, Dresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Skirts/dresses/shorts that are longer than longest fingers when arms are down at the side 	<p>Shorts, Skirts, Dresses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Skirts/dresses/shorts that are shorter than fingertips when arms are down at the side
<p>Tops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hoodies (see “Headgear”) ● Shirts that extend beyond the belt level(front and back) ● Shirt fronts/back need to be at armpit level on the chest, this includes v-necks and scoop necks 	<p>Tops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tube tops ● Net tops (with nothing underneath) ● Halter top tube tops ● Spaghetti straps ● Tops that stop above the belt level ● Shirts that go lower than armpit level in the front/back
<p>Headgear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Headgear for an approved medical reason ● Headgear for a religious reason 	<p>Headgear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hats ● Hoods up ● Headphones
<p>Footwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sneakers ● Sandals with a back ● Heels less than 3 inches ● Flats 	<p>Footwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Backless shoes/sandals/slides ● House shoes/slippers ● Heels above 3 inches
<p>Outerwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scarves 	<p>Outerwear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coats, jackets not allowed on inside building ● Hats, gloves not allowed on inside building ● Sunglasses not allowed on inside building
<p>Jewelry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Earrings ● Bracelets ● Necklaces ● Rings 	<p>Jewelry</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jewelry that may be deemed a weapon(includes but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A single ring or piece of jewelry covering multiple fingers ● Spiked necklaces or belts ● Belts with large removable buckles ● Chain-like neckwear ● Ninja-type stars, etc.

Graphics on clothing:

- Brand names
- Tapestry gear

Graphics on Clothing:

- Promote and/or endorse the use of alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs and/or encourage other illegal or violent activities
- Are lewd, vulgar, obscene, and libelous or denigrate others, or cause a disruption to the school that impedes the educational program

*Dress guidelines for fieldwork will be provided before the date of the fieldwork.

Student cell phones and personal electronics

Personal electronic devices, for students in grades K-4, are not allowed in school. In the event a student may need to bring a cell phone to school (i.e. emergency communication) it must be stored safely and turned off for the entire school day. If a child is found to have an electronic device, it will be confiscated by staff. Tapestry is not responsible for any lost or stolen electronic devices and it is strongly recommended that these devices remain at home.

If a student is found to have, or in use of, an electronic device the following will occur:

- **First offense:** confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian at day's end
- **Second offense:** confiscated and returned to a parent/guardian after 24 hours
- **Third offense:** parent conference; may result in short term suspension and/or contract
- **More than three offenses:** short term suspension and contract

Response to Classroom Discipline

PowerSchool

PowerSchool is the comment pod system used to track level 1, 2 and 3 infractions and Positive Behavior based on PIRR-K traits. While it is not feasible to track all behavior infractions as they happen, it is expected that teachers will enter any comments into PowerSchool by the end of the school day. This will help ensure that site consequences are delivered in a timely manner.

Chronic Problems

If disruptive behavior continues, a teacher and/or administrator will contact parent/guardian after initial interventions have taken place. A short term suspension may be required if a student's attitude and conduct result in the need to temporarily remove the student from the classroom community. In the case of students with significant behavioral concerns, administration, classroom teachers, support staff, and counselors will meet to determine appropriate strategies to assist the student. This may include a behavior plan or contract developed with parents/guardians.

In-School Suspension

Students may be temporarily removed from the classroom where the student will receive instruction in an alternative location. Administration will assign in-school suspension.

Short Term Suspension

A student who is determined to have committed a Level 3 infraction, and in some instances for a Level 2 infraction, shall be subject to a short term suspension. Administration may determine an exception should be made based on individual circumstances of the incident and the student's disciplinary record. Depending on the severity of the infraction, a long-term suspension may also be imposed and referrals to law enforcement authorities may be made.

A short-term suspension is an out of school suspension for ten school days or less. The parent/guardian will be notified in writing that the student has been suspended from school and reason(s) why.

All students are expected to attend a re-admittance conference with a parent/guardian, assistant principal, and/or principal and/or guidance counselors if deemed necessary, before returning to the classroom.

Disciplinary Infractions That May Result in Short Term Suspension (includes but not limited to):

- Continued refusal to wear face coverings/PPE materials.
- Attempt to assault any student or staff member.
- Acts of physical aggression.
- Vandalize school or personal property resulting in minor damage.
- Endanger the physical safety of another by use of force or threats of force.
- Engage in conduct that disrupts school or classroom activity or endangers or threatens to endanger the health, safety, welfare, or morals of others.
- Engage in insubordination.
- Fails to complete assignments, carry out directions, or comply with disciplinary sanctions.
- Cheating on exams or quizzes, or committing plagiarism.
- Use of forged notes or excuses.
- Stealing, attempt to steal, or possession of property known by the student to be stolen.
- Trespassing on school property.
- Abuse of school property or equipment.
- Use of obscene or abusive language or gestures.
- Continued violation of the health and safety procedures/protocols.

Long Term Suspension

A student who is determined to have committed any Level 3 infraction may be subject to a long-term suspension, unless the principal determines that an exception should be made based on the individual circumstances of the incident and the student's disciplinary record. A long-term suspension is an out-of-school suspension for more than ten school days.

When the principal determines that a suspension for more than ten days is warranted, he/she shall give reasonable notice to the student and student's parent/guardian of their right to a fair hearing. At the hearing the student shall have the right to be represented by counsel, the right to question witnesses against him/her and the right to present witnesses and other evidence on his or her behalf.

The executive director or principal shall designate a hearing officer to conduct the hearing. The hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths and to issue subpoenas in conjunction with the proceeding before him/her. A record of the hearing shall be maintained, but no stenographic transcript shall be required. A tape recording shall be deemed a satisfactory record. The hearing officer shall make findings of fact and, when warranted, recommendations as to the appropriate measure of discipline to the principal or executive director. The report of the hearing officer shall be advisory only, and the executive director or principal may accept all or any part thereof.

Upon receipt of the hearing report, the executive director or principal may impose a long-term suspension and shall issue a written decision. This decision will also inform the parent of the outcome and their right to appeal first to the Board of Trustees, and next to the New York State Commissioner of Education.

Disciplinary Infractions That May Result in Long Term Suspension (includes but not limited to):

- Possession, use, attempt to use, or transfer of any firearm, knife, razor blade, explosive, mace, tear gas, slingshot, or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student at school.
- Commits or attempts to commit arson on school property.

- Possession, sale, purchase, distribution, or use of any alcoholic beverage, controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, on school property or at any school-sponsored event.
- Assault of any other student or staff member.
- Intentionally causing physical injury to another person.
- Vandalize school or personal property resulting in major damage.
- Threats of violence or acts of intimidation (in school or electronically).
- Bullying.
- Improper conduct that significantly disrupts or threatens to disrupt the education of other students.
- Continued violation of the health and safety procedures/protocols.

Behavior Contracts

School staff may design written agreements with students subject to sanctions under this code to identify target behaviors, define expectations, and describe consequences, provided that the affected student and his/her parent/guardian are informed that the decision to enter into such a contract is voluntary.

Alternative Instruction

Alternative instruction shall be provided when a student is subject to a suspension. Alternate instruction should be initiated no later than the day after the suspension begins. As outlined in a suspension letter, contact the main office to schedule up to one hour of instruction for K-6, and two hours of instruction for grades 7-12. Time and location will be determined by the school.

Expulsion

Violation of a behavior contract, or any Level 3 infraction, may result in the need for a hearing. Upon receipt of the hearing report, the executive director or principal may impose a long-term suspension and shall issue a written decision. This decision will also inform the parent/guardian of the outcome and their right to appeal, first to the Board of Trustees, and next to the New York State Commissioner of Education.

Bullying and Harassment

Harassment/bullying means the creation of a hostile environment by conduct or by threats, intimidation or abuse, including cyberbullying and is a violation of New York State Education Law. Examples are, but are not limited to, the following:

- Has or would have the effect of unreasonably and substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, opportunities or benefits, or mental, emotional or physical well-being; or
- Reasonably cause or would reasonably be expected to cause a student to fear for his/her physical safety; or
- Reasonably causes or would reasonably be expected to cause physical injury or emotional harm to a student; or
- Occurs off school property and creates or would foreseeably create a risk of substantial disruption within the school environment, where it is foreseeable that the conduct, threats, intimidation or abuse might reach school property.

Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) NYS's Anti-Bullying Law

All children have the right to attend school in a safe, welcoming, and caring environment. DASA specifically ensures this for New York State public school students.

The Dignity for All Students Act was signed into law on September 13, 2010. The legislation involves Section 801-a regarding instruction in civility, citizenship, character education, tolerance, respect for others, and dignity. It combats bias-based bullying, harassment, and discrimination in public schools, and includes awareness and sensitivity in the

relations of people including individuals, actual or perceived, of different races, weights, national origins, ethnicity, religions or religious practices, mental or physical abilities, sexes, sexual orientations, gender identities or expressions.

Highlights of this law include:

- All public elementary and secondary school students are protected.
- DASA prohibits the harassment and discrimination of students by other students and school personnel.
- Districts must appoint at least one staff member in each school to handle all bullying incidents on school property (including athletic fields, playgrounds, and parking lots), in school buildings, on a school bus/vehicle, as well as at school sponsored events or activities.

Cyber Bullying

Cyberbullying is bullying behaviors using digital technologies, including hardware such as computers and smartphones, and software such as social media, instant messaging, texts, websites, and other. Cyberbullying can happen at any time. Cyberbullying off-campus may also form the basis for discipline in school. It can be public or in private, and sometimes only known to the target and the person bullying. Cyberbullying includes but is not limited to:

- Abusive or hurtful texts, emails, posts, images, or videos
- Deliberately excluding others online.
- Nasty gossip or rumors.
- Imitating others online or using their login.
- Embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.

Physical Bullying

Physical bullying is using one's body and physical bodily acts to exert power over peers. This includes hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching, pushing or other physical attacks.

Verbal Bullying

Verbal bullying includes name-calling, insults, teasing, intimidation, or verbal abuse.

Covert or Hidden Bullying

This sort of bullying is often harder to recognize and can be carried out behind the bullied person's back. It is designed to harm someone's social reputation and/or cause humiliation.

Covert bullying includes:

- Lying and spreading rumors.
- Negative facial or physical gestures, menacing or contemptuous looks.
- Playing nasty jokes to embarrass and humiliate.
- Mimicking unkindly.
- Encouraging others to socially exclude someone.
- Damaging someone's social reputation or social acceptance.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Students for whom the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) includes specific disciplinary guidelines will be disciplined in accordance with those guidelines. If the disciplinary guidelines appear not to be effective, or if there is concern for the health and safety of the student or others if those guidelines are followed with respect to a specific infraction, the matter will be immediately referred to the Committee on Special Education (CSE) for review.

When a suspended student is either classified, or in consideration of classification, by the Committee on Special Education, the requirements of federal regulation as stated in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) afford such a student additional due process protection beyond the general education population if the student is

suspended for more than 10 school days in the year. If this occurs, Tapestry Charter School will notify the home district of the need for CSE review to consider the impact of the disability upon the behavior and the possibility of a need for a change in program services. After ten days of suspension, the student will receive those special education services that will allow him/her to continue making progress toward the goals in the IEP.

Technology

Tapestry Charter School is proud to offer each student an opportunity to use our Internet networked computers. Students will be expected to abide by the Acceptable Use Policy in order to maintain privilege. **Tapestry is not responsible for lost or stolen items.**

Acceptable Use Policy

Tapestry employs Internet filtering software to restrict students' exposure to any inappropriate images and/or materials. Students are only allowed to use the Internet under the direction and supervision of a Tapestry staff member or other school official, and only for valid and approved educational purposes. Students who violate this policy will have their Internet privileges suspended for a specific period of time.

Students will:

- Transport technology back and forth from school and home, when required
- Ensure devices are properly charged daily
- Only used when assigned by a classroom teacher
- Only use provided usernames and passwords.
- Get permission to print.
- Get permission to view any website.
- Get permission before sending or receiving any digital information.
- Get permission before saving a file, picture, URL, etc.

*Any student who does not follow the Acceptable Use Policy will lose his/her computer/technology privilege.

SECTION 7: STUDENT HEALTH AND COVID RELATED POLICY

The health and safety of our staff and students is of the highest priority at Tapestry Charter School. It is our goal to create an environment that is welcoming, comfortable, and safe for all community members. Tapestry has put procedures in place that follow the guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH), and the New York State Department of Education (NYSED) to lessen the likelihood of someone in our building from contracting the COVID-19 virus. Such procedures include, but are not limited to, wearing facemasks, social distancing, temperature scans, breakfast/lunch protocols, and more.

Health Services Policy including Medication Policy

Tapestry Charter School offers comprehensive Health Services for all students in the District.

If your child is ill, it is in his/her best interest and that of others to be at home where special health care can be provided. If, in the judgment of the School Nurse, your child is too ill to remain in school, you will be requested to pick up your child as soon as possible. If we cannot reach you, we will contact the person(s) noted on the emergency card each parent is requested to complete.

- Medication in School: Please remember that we must have a physician's order to give all medication in school, and it must be given in the Nurse's Office. This also includes any over-the-counter medication such as Tylenol or Advil. Medications will be given to students only when a Physician's Order for Giving Medication in School form has been filed with the School Nurse.
- School Physicals: Required at initial school entry and for students entering grades PreK or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, and 11.
- Continue to follow Commissioner's Regulations 136.3 (c)(1)(iii), which requires schools to notify the parent/guardians of any student who does not present a health certificate within the 30 days from the start of the school year for new entrants and students entering into Grades Pre-K or K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11 that if the required health certificate is not furnished within 30 days from the date of such notice, the director of school health services may conduct an examination by health appraisal of the student.
- School nurses and medical directors should continue to exclude students and staff who show symptoms of any communicable or infectious disease in accordance with Article 19, Section 906.
- Permit student athletes to participate in the fall 2023 sports season if they have previously had a health examination for school attendance in the 2023-2024 school year and provide a health history completed (Sample Recommended NYSED Interval Health History for Athletics) and signed by the parent/guardian within 30 days of the start of the season. Student athletes who have not previously had a health examination must still obtain a health examination prior to participation in sports season.

As of January 31, 2021, physical examinations for school are to be documented on the NYS Required Health Examination Form or an electronic health record equivalent form. The Instructions for completion of New York State School Health Examination Form provides direction to healthcare providers on the details of the required components and the required presentation order of those components for an electronic health record form to be an equivalent form. Both of these documents are available on NYSED's School Health Services Webpage. Please contact the Office of Student Support Services if you have questions by email at studentsupportservices@nysed.gov or at 518-486-6090.

Bee Sting Allergies, Food Allergies and Asthma

If your child has allergies to bee stings or food, or if your child has asthma, please contact the Health Office to make arrangements for medication and treatment. A doctor's order is required for any medication your child may need while at school. The parent/guardian needs to supply the medicine ordered. This is vitally important, as time is of the essence in treating these conditions.

Physical Education Excuses

If your child is unable to take gym or is restricted from certain gym activities, a doctor's excuse must be sent to the Health Office. If this is an ongoing restriction, the order needs to be renewed at the start of the school year. Please contact the Health Office if you have any questions.

Routine screenings

All students are screened for height, weight, vision and hearing each year K, 1, 3, 5, 7 and 11 scoliosis for 5, 7, 9. Tests for color perception are administered once during a child's school experience.

Important State Laws

Regulations of the Commissioner of Education require that a health examination be completed for each public school student in certain grades. As part of the required school health examination, students are weighed and their height is measured. These numbers are used to compute the student's body mass index or BMI. The BMI helps the doctor, nurse or parent know if the student's weight is in a healthy range. Recent changes to the New York State Education Law require that BMI and weight status group be included as part of the student's school health examination. Additionally, our school district must take part in a survey by the New York Department of health. Only summary information is sent. No names or other information about individual students are sent. Parents may choose to have their child's information excluded from this survey report. If you do not wish your child's information to be sent to the Department of Health or have questions, please contact your school nurse.

Illnesses or Injuries

Students who become ill during the school day should report to the nurse. If the problem cannot be resolved, a parent or guardian will be contacted if a pick-up is necessary. If a student leaves school without permission, the student will be given an "unexcused absence", and disciplinary action will be taken.

Accident reports are completed for injuries that occur on school grounds once staff is notified of the occurrence. Parents/guardians will be notified by telephone or note describing the accident, the extent of the injury, and the treatment provided. If an accident or illness is deemed serious in nature, appropriate medical care and 911 intervention will be taken immediately, with contact made to the parent/guardian.

Immunizations

New York State law requires all students to be up to date with necessary immunizations before entrance to school. As of June 13th, 2019, the new State law no longer grants religious exemptions for vaccination. Any exemptions previously granted based on religious beliefs are no longer valid. Caregivers must show proof of immunizations. Any student without required immunizations will not be permitted to attend school starting 14 days from the start of the school year. Only medical exemptions may be granted, with a written statement from a physician that states immunization against one or more diseases may be inadvisable. The Tapestry Director and/or public health officials may exclude non-immunized students from school if there is a health threat to the student or others. Questions concerning these requirements may be addressed to the Principal or school nurse.

Food Services

The K-4 Tapestry food service team is committed to providing all of our students with healthy and nutritious meals to fuel their growing minds and bodies throughout their busy days. Much of what we prepare in our on-site kitchen is made from scratch using fresh and seasonal ingredients. We offer breakfast and lunch for those students who wish to partake. We encourage all of our students to try new and sometimes unfamiliar menu items in order to have a balanced diet.

All of our lunches include a lean protein, a whole grain, 2 or more varieties of fresh cut vegetables, 2 varieties of fresh and canned fruit and 2 varieties of milk. We also offer 3 alternate meals; a peanut butter and jelly sandwich on whole grain bread, a 4-component snack box- which consists of a fruit, a vegetable, a protein and a whole grain or a daily "chef's special". Please notify our school nurse of any allergies or religious restrictions.

Our menu is created to help our students, staff, and parents remember "What's For Lunch?". Monday's are dedicated to our vegetarian friends so we call it "Meat-less Monday!" Lunch options include items such as Texas toast grilled cheese, penne pasta with red sauce and oven baked haddock fish sticks. Side dishes range from garden salad or Caesar salad, to steamed vegetables to oven baked waffle fries. Tuesday's are dedicated to the ever-loving "Taco Tuesday!" where we offer a variety of taco-type items such as beef and cheese nachos, chicken fajitas with peppers and onions, chicken taco soup and the like. Side dishes might include whole grain tortilla chips and fresh salsa, Mexican street corn salad or a fiesta 3 bean salad. The next 2 days are "Wacky Wednesday!" and "Thankful Thursday!". On these days you will see items like Sloppy Joe's, BBQ chicken sandwiches or chicken souvlaki with side dishes like oven baked tater tots to pasta salad to carrot sticks with hummus. Fridays are "Fun Food Friday!"...think pizza, turkey hot dogs, chicken fingers and cheeseburgers. The side dishes on Fridays can be anything from French fries to vegetarian baked beans to celery sticks with buttermilk ranch.

Tapestry is pleased to announce that starting with the 2023-24 school year, Tapestry will be participating in a Community Eligibility Program which means breakfast and lunch are free to all students attending Tapestry. All reimbursable meals are required to meet the NYSED standards. In order for our students to have a well-balanced meal, they should choose at least 3 out of the 5 components. One of these components must be a fruit or a vegetable.

If a student wishes to only purchase a milk, without a meal, the charge is 65 cents. Please check your child's balance in our parent portal or call the main office. Our monthly menus are posted on-line at the Tapestry website. They are also available in our main office, as well as in our classrooms. We encourage all of our students to enjoy lunch with their friends to fuel their minds and bodies with the energy needed to grow strong, learn and stay healthy.

SECTION 8: FAMILY COMMUNICATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Essential Partners

Parents and guardians are expected to:

- Recognize that the education of their child(ren) is a joint responsibility of the parents and the school community.
- Provide school officials with current working telephone numbers so that we may reach parents to discuss student progress and other matters of mutual concern.
- Send their children to school on time, ready to participate and learn.
- Insist and help their children to be dressed and groomed in a manner consistent with the student dress guidelines.
- Know school rules and help their children understand them.
- Build good relationships with teachers, other parents, and their children's friends.
- Inform school officials of changes in the home situation that may affect student conduct or performance.

Teachers and administration are expected to:

- Maintain a climate of mutual respect and dignity for all students regardless of (included but limited to) actual or perceived race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex, which will strengthen students' self-concept and promote confidence to learn in the classroom and on school property.
- Work to strengthen each student's self-concept and promote confidence to learn.
- Know their students as learners and demonstrate a commitment to student achievement.
- Communicate to students and parents: a) course objectives and requirements b) marking/grading procedures c) assignment deadlines d) expectations for students e) classroom discipline plan.
- Communicate regularly with students, parents and other teachers concerning student growth and achievement.

Communications

K-4 Newsletter

Individual classrooms will send a weekly newsletter updating families on what is happening in the classroom as well as information about upcoming school events.

School Messenger

Periodically an important update or announcement will be sent through school messenger via email and phone call. Please be sure to read these messages as they will contain important information.

School Cancellation or Delay

In the event of emergency or weather-related school delay, cancellation, or early closing, announcements are made on all major local media stations. Please note that Tapestry will be announced separate from the Buffalo Public School District and from other charter schools in the area. Please refrain from calling the school office for closing information, as telephone lines are very busy during these times. School delays or cancellations are announced by 6:15 am. Early school closings may require announcements during the school day.

Visitor and Guest Expectations

In order to maintain the safety of your child and our entire community, when you enter the building, please proceed directly to the transaction window and our administrative assistants will ask for your driver's license or government issued photo identification. They will scan this into the Raptor Security system and issue you a name tag to wear while in the building. When you are ready to leave the building, please return your pass to our administrative assistants at the transaction window on your way out.

We encourage parents and guardians to be active participants in their child's education, however, certain limits must be put in place regarding visitors (anyone who is not a regular staff member or student of the school) to ensure a safe and productive learning environment. Tapestry expects all visitors to model our school's core values of Perseverance, Integrity, Responsibility, Respect, and Kindness (PIRR-K) in all interactions. The principal is responsible for all persons in the building and on school grounds. For these reasons, the following expectations apply:

- All visitors must report to the office to sign in, provide a valid government issued ID, and receive a visitor's pass. Visitor's identification is screened through our Raptor Security system.
- All visitors on school property or attending a school function
 - Shall conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner.
 - Shall not disrupt the orderly conduct of class, school programs or other school activities, conferences or meetings.
 - Shall not violate traffic directions, parking regulations, or restrictions on other vehicles.
- The principal may limit the access of any visitor, and/or parent, if the visitor and/or parent's conduct disrupts educational process or environment of the school. This limitation may include a suspension from being on campus for a period of time. Such suspension will depend on the severity of the misconduct.

Parental Involvement

Principal's Advisory Group (PAG)

The Principal's Advisory Group (PAG) serves as a consultative body to assist the principal and administration in making decisions that reflect the interests of parents, faculty, and students, leveraging family involvement. Community voice is encouraged in such areas as the setting and maintaining of school policies, the hiring of staff, the raising of funds, setting of priorities for use of funds, and helping with community engagement.

Tapestry Community Association (TCA)

The Tapestry Community Association (TCA) is a voluntary parent/family organization of Tapestry Charter School that was created to enhance and enrich the educational and social development of the students, faculty and families. It raises funds for the school and provides social events for the Tapestry community. All Tapestry parents/guardians, teachers, administrators and staff are members of the TCA.

Family involvement in supporting student success

Family involvement in TCS is essential for the achievement of an effective school community in which all students succeed. We look forward to partnering with families and would appreciate family support in the following areas:

Creating an effective learning environment at home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set a schedule and structure to make sure your child completes school work. Limit TV "electronic" time. Keep books and other reading materials available and set aside a time to read each day.
Learning about and supporting Tapestry Charter School's values and programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Encourage your child to participate fully in fieldwork and team building events. ● Be familiar with and discuss with your child the Code of Conduct and the content of this handbook. ● Attend school-wide activities during the year.

Staying informed about your child's progress.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Attend all of your child's Student Led Conferences and exhibition nights. ● Read teacher communications and promptly return permission slips and other communications asking for family response.
Volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In a school that encourages community engagement and a culture of warmth and acceptance, there are times when family members are needed to participate in panels reviewing student work, provide refreshments or supplies for events, or host or supervise events. Parents are encouraged to support Tapestry's parent organization the Tapestry Community Association.

Emergency Information Forms

Emergency Information Forms are kept on file so that school staff are aware of students' medical information and have the ability to reach a parent or guardian at any time. Please let us know within 48 hours whenever there is a change in address, telephone number, place of employment or emergency contact person, or when there is a change in a student's medical information.

F.O.I.L. Policy

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL), the public, including parents or guardians, has the right to request to obtain copies of or to view charter school records pertaining to school functioning or to the parent/guardian's student. This request needs to be made in writing to the principal, and requested records will be provided in a timely manner, with a fee to cover copying costs.

Grievance and Complaint Procedure

Any individual who has a complaint or grievance of any kind regarding TCS is encouraged to speak directly to the TCS principal in an effort to resolve difficulties informally. The person making the complaint should identify the written or telephone communication as a complaint. The principal or designee will hear the complaint within one week or less of notification. Reasonable efforts will be made to resolve difficulties amicably with an interest in adult problem solving for the students' benefit.

Any individual or group may bring a formal complaint alleging a violation of law to the Tapestry Board of Trustees at any time by submitting such a complaint in writing to the Board President. The complaint will be reviewed by the Board no later than the time of the next scheduled meeting, and at least within a month of filing the complaint. A response to the complaint will be made within one week of the Board's meeting day.

Open Meetings Law Policy

Per the Charter Schools Act, the Tapestry Charter Board of Trustees will follow the Open Meetings Law that allows members of the public to attend any Tapestry board meetings at which business of the school is conducted. Public notice is made in a variety of public venues. Questions regarding notifications or scheduling of such meetings should be directed to the Executive Director.

S.A.V.E. Plan

In response to the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education Act (SAVE), TCS has established a SAVE Plan that identifies the school's Code of Conduct and Discipline Policy and a Building-Level Emergency Response Plan, in coordination with the District-wide School Safety Plan for TCS. A community meeting may be held yearly with the purpose of reviewing the SAVE Plan and obtaining input from families. A Summary of the Building-level Emergency Response Plan will be available to the public. The purpose of the SAVE Plan is to clarify the means by which TCS works to prevent violence and to create a safe and secure setting for learning to take place.

Child Abuse Reporting is a required component of the SAVE legislation. School staff members are considered to be mandated reporters. Reasonable suspicion of child abuse occurring in the home setting or in an educational setting must be reported to child protective services for investigation. The principal will be notified immediately and will facilitate and ensure reporting to law enforcement and notification of parents, if appropriate. A written report of allegations must be prepared, and filed by school administration. No employee of the district will be allowed to resign rather than disclose an allegation of child abuse. Any individual who in good faith complies with the child abuse reporting requirements will be entitled to immunity from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise result from such actions.

Student Records - FERPA Policy

Students' rights of confidentiality and protection from improper disclosure of their records are respected by Tapestry Charter School in accord with the Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 and with New York State law. Contact the Tapestry Charter School principal if you would like more information about the specific rights of students and families under these provisions.

Bathroom Use

Students are expected to use the lavatory during classes when needed. The bathroom will have signage promoting proper hygiene..

Tapestry Families,

Please review this handbook with your child. After reviewing, complete the lower portion of this page indicating your agreement and understanding of the policies and procedures. By receiving this handbook, you acknowledge the policies and procedures outlined. This page needs to be returned to your child's teacher.

I have read and reviewed the Tapestry Family handbook with my child.

Student Grade: _____

Student Name: _____

Teacher Name: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____