

# Nova Central School District

LEARN • DISCOVER • ACHIEVE

## Safe & Caring Schools Policy

WORKING DRAFT  
JUNE 2012

<b>Division</b> PROGRAMS	<b>Policy Series</b> 800	<b>Policy #</b> 800.7
<b>Subject</b> Student Field Trips	<b>Replaces</b>	
<b>Responsible Authority</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION</li> <li>• ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS</li> </ul>	<b>Date Approved</b>	
	<b>Effective Date</b>	
<i>Date Reviewed</i>	<i>Date Revised</i>	

---

**800.5 (1) Policy Name**

**Safe and Caring Schools**

**800.5(2) Policy Statement**

- 800.5(2.1) Nova Central School District is committed to providing a safe and caring learning environment for all students, fostered by the:
- 2.1.1 Promotion of a positive social climate and school culture.
  - 2.1.2 Establishment of clear and consistent expectations of positive behaviour for all students.
  - 2.1.3 Modeling of positive behaviour by teachers and other staff members.
  - 2.1.4 Implementation of a clear and consistent process for student discipline.
  - 2.1.5 Promotion of a learning environment free from harassment and bullying.
  - 2.1.6 Focus on health and safety as a priority in all settings.
- 800.5(2.2) Each school shall develop and implement a *Safe and Caring Schools* policy, in accordance with district and provincial policies.
- 800.5(2.3) Each school shall identify a committee with responsibility to support implementation of the school's policy.
- 800.5(2.4) Each school's *Safe and Caring Schools Policy* is expected to be reflected in its *School Growth and Development Plan*.

### **800.5(3) Policy Rationale/Purpose**

To better address safety and well-being in schools and to support the province's *Violence Prevention Initiative (VPI)*, the Department of Education introduced the Safe and Caring Schools Initiative in 2001 and implemented a Safe and Caring Schools policy. That policy is intended to provide a framework for the development and implementation of provincial, district and school level policies and action plans *"to ensure that learning and teaching can take place in a safe and caring environment"*.

Among other things, the provincial policy requires that:

- School districts establish Safe and Caring Schools teams at both the district and school level.
- Teachers and school staff do their best to facilitate and promote a safe and caring learning environment,
- There are established guidelines, plans and a range of consequences for managing unacceptable behaviours.

In addition to teaching the curriculum, schools have the responsibility to help students to learn pro-social skills, develop self-discipline and share in the responsibility for a positive school environment. Our provincial public education system supports:

*"....the fullest and best development of the student as a private individual and as a member of society."*

There are proven strategies that contribute to positive school environments and lead to a reduction in student behaviours that result in disciplinary measures, including bullying behaviour.

A safe and caring environment reflects:

- A culture of inclusion.
- Collaboration between students, teachers, parents/guardians and other school community stakeholders.
- A focus on positive behaviour.
- Proactive disciplinary practices, based on respect and shared responsibility.
- Disciplinary practices that take into consideration the diversity of the student population.
- A clean, well-maintained, accessible and secure physical environment.

### **800.5(4) References**

800.5(4.1) *Schools Act, 1997*

800.5(4.2) Department of Education, Government NL: Safe and Caring Schools Policy, 2006

800.5(4.3) RCMP SAFE Plan (School Action for Emergencies)

**800.5(5) Scope**

This policy governs:

800.5 (5.1) All students attending school in Nova Central School District

800.5 (5.2) All employees of Nova Central School District

800.5 (5.3) All other members of the school community, when on district property or participating in a school or district-sponsored event.

**800.5(6) Roles and Responsibilities**

800.5 (6.1) Responsible Division:       **Programs**

800.5 (6.2) The **Assistant Director of Education (Programs)** shall be responsible for the implementation, monitoring and revision of this policy.

800.5 (6.3) The **Assistant Director of Education (Programs) or his/her designate** shall establish and work with a district advisory committee for Safe and Caring Schools, and provide support for the development and implementation of school-based Safe and Caring Schools policies.

800.5 (6.4) **School administrators** shall be responsible for the implementation, monitoring and revision of school policies and for ensuring that the policies are communicated to all stakeholders.

**800.5(7) Procedures**

**800.5(7.1) Safe Arrival and Early Dismissal of Students**

**800.5(7.2) Code of Conduct:**

*Promoting Positive Student Behaviour*

**800.5(7.3) Intervention Strategies/Disciplinary Process**

**800.5(7.4) Suspension**

**800.5(7.5) Expulsion**

**800.5(7.6) Re-Entry/Transitional Plans**

**800.6(7.7) Behaviour Management Plan (BMP)**

**800.5(7.8) Documentation**

**800.5(7.9) Illegal Activity**

**800.5(7.10) Student Searches**

**800.5(7.11) Bullying Prevention and Intervention**

**800.5(7.12) Student Supervision**

**800.5(7.13) Student Attendance**

**800.5(7.14) Safety Equipment**

**800.5(7.15) Property and Physical Plant**

**800.5(7.16) Smoke Free School Grounds**

**800.5(7.17) Visitors**

**800.5(7.18) Travel**

**800.5(7.19) Emergency Preparedness**  
**800.5(7.20) Parent and Community Relations**

**800.5(8) Definitions**

N/a

**800.5(9) Review**

This policy shall be reviewed every two years.

**800.5(10) School Policy**

Schools are expected to establish their own Safe and Caring Schools policies, in line with the district's *Safe and Caring Schools* policy.

WORKING DRAFT