Student Handbook 2021-2022



"Soaring to Greater Heights"

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Savanna Ridge Elementary Student Handbook

Please complete this page.	
Student's Name	
Grade	<u> </u>
Grade	
Teacher's Name	<u> </u>
<u>2021-202</u>	<u>2</u>
Parent and Student Ack	nowledgment
My child and I have read and discussed the inj	formation contained in this booklet.
Parent's Signature	
Student's Signature	
Student 3 Signature	
Date	_

St. Lucie County Public Schools Mission, Beliefs, Vision

MISSION: The mission of the St. Lucie County School District is to ensure all students graduate from safe and caring schools, equipped with knowledge, skills and the desire to succeed.

Every child can learn, and each child can learn more than he or she is now learning.

- School district personnel, community members, parents, and students share the responsibility for student achievement.
- Quality learning experiences are the central focus of all school and district activities.
- We ensure equity and quality for all students, not just some.
- Equity without quality is prejudice, quality without equity is privilege, equity plus quality equals excellence.
- Students are volunteers. Their attendance can be required, but their attention must be earned.
- We teach the whole child, not simply the test-taker.
- All students have the absolute right to a safe, trusting, and drug-free environment.

The core business of the St. Lucie County Schools is to create challenging, engaging, and satisfying work for every student, every day.

- The teacher's primary role is to design rigorous, engaging work that leads students to higher levels of learning.
- We provide clear and compelling understandings about what students are expected to know and be able to do.
- We provide support for student success, understanding that different students master tasks in different ways and at different times.
- District and school support personnel are partners with teachers and schools in the core business.
- Collaboration around the core business is essential to quality learning experiences.
- Quality tools are required for quality work. Quality facilities are required for quality work.
- Instructional needs drive the design and construction of facilities.

Quality schools are the responsibility of the entire community.

- Parents, students, community members, agencies, businesses, governmental entities, other educational institutions, and the school district constitute the community.
- The community works together to provide the political advocacy and support needed for student success.
- Our community actively advocates for support of education by holding candidates and elected officials accountable for their commitment to quality public schools.
- The community is responsible for providing and supporting the facilities and Infrastructure necessary to accommodate growth.
- All district employees are committed to sharing our vision and engaging the community in successfully confronting our common challenges.
- The school district has an obligation to achieve quality results for both the schools and the community.

A healthy school system is key to the maintenance of a healthy democracy.

- Quality schools develop productive, contributing citizens.
- Quality schools improve the quality of community life.
- We strengthen relationships and broaden perspectives by embracing diversity.
- We model principles of representative democracy both in our schools and throughout the district.
- Systems of checks and balances contribute to quality decisions.
- We share a fundamental common commitment to the common good.
- Leaders are responsible both to constituents and for shaping the future.

The district and its employees have mutual obligations for support and development toward continuous improvement.

- Our core values are fairness, respect, trust, integrity, and commitment to improvement.
- We develop leaders committed to our common vision at all levels in the system.
- Collegiality and collaboration are key to our success.
- All district employees have the absolute right to a safe, trusting, and drug-free environment.
- All district employees provide prompt and courteous attention to their customers.
- We are a school system, not a system of schools.
- We are a learning organization, in which all roles serve the common purpose of pursuing continuous improvement in quality learning experiences for all.

Therefore, we promise continuous improvement in student achievement and in the success of each individual.

- We are committed to a common vision.
- We use our beliefs and vision as the key criteria for making decisions.
- We lead and manage by results.
- We hold ourselves mutually accountable for quality effort.
- We assess progress toward agreed-upon goals on a regular basis.
- We expect and we work to bring out the best in every employee.
- We accept change as inevitable and shape it into opportunity.
- We exercise flexibility and we encourage innovation in pursuit of our goals.



Savanna Ridge Elementary is a Kids At Hope School!



Kids at Hope Student Pledge

I am a Kid at Hope.

I am talented, smart and capable of success.

I have dreams for the future, and I will climb to reach those goals and dreams everyday.

Kids at Hope Adult Treasure Hunter Pledge

As an adult and a Treasure Hunter,

I am committed to search for all the talents,
skills and intelligence that exists in all
children and youth.

I believe all children are capable of success,

NO EXCEPTIONS!

Savanna Ridge Elementary Points of Pride

The Points of Pride at Savanna Ridge Elementary are multifaceted. We emphasize Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Technology, Science, and the Environment. Our goal is to help students prepare to continue their education in an ever-changing technological world and develop both the ability and desire to become proficient readers and writers to meet the demands of that world.

- Kids at Hope School
- 5 Star and Golden School Award
- PBIS Bronze Model School
- Computers are available in every classroom.
- Children are encouraged to read for enjoyment as well as knowledge.
- Reading is emphasized in all subject areas and is integrated with other communication skills.
- Children's speaking, listening, reading, writing and math skills are enhanced through school-wide activities.
- Students are exposed to the natural environment in which the campus is situated. They are active
 participants in cultivating this natural setting by developing an appreciation and respect for their
 surroundings.
- Scientific processing is cultivated in a laboratory setting to include "real-world" investigations. Students learn by doing.
- Students are provided hands-on experiences to develop a robust mathematical and scientific knowledge base.

School Logo



School Colors
Teal and Maroon

School Mascot
Cranes

School Hours

Office 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Students 8:45 AM – 3:15 PM

Savanna Ridge Elementary Mission Statement

All students will learn at Savanna Ridge Elementary. Through a nurturing environment, which supports quality and equitable achievement, we will create a strong educational foundation on which future experiences can be built.

Accident/Illness: When a student is injured on school property or ill, the parent shall be notified as soon as possible. When the injury/illness is serious and a parent cannot be located, the school staff must take the responsibility of securing emergency treatment and/or transportation to the nearest hospital. It is essential that emergency numbers be provided for each child and that any changes in work or home telephone numbers are provided to the office.

Animals: Animals are not permitted on campus unless they are a service animal.

<u>Arrival Procedures</u>: <u>STUDENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS BEFORE 8:15 A.M.</u> The school does not provide supervision before this time. Parents of students arriving prior to 8:15 a.m. will be asked to make other arrangements for their child's supervision.

Students may enter the building at 8:15 a.m. and go to breakfast or directly to their assigned waiting area. Instruction begins at 8:45 a.m.

Attendance: It is the responsibility of the parent to encourage consistent school attendance. An absence will be considered "unexcused" unless an absence excuse note is received. It is the responsibility of each student's parent/guardian to write a note to the school within three (3) days of the absence. Please include your child's full name, teacher's name, dates absent, and reason for the absence. NOTE: A phone call does not constitute an excused absence. If the child will miss more than five (5) consecutive days, the absence must be approved in advance by the principal to be considered excused. Please see the SLPS elementary Student Progression Plan for detailed description.

<u>Bicycles:</u> Bike riders are required to wear helmets and lock their bikes always at the bike rack. <u>THE SCHOOL DOES NOT ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOST OR STOLEN BIKES.</u>

Breakfast and Lunch Programs:

Savanna Ridge Elementary students will receive meals at no cost for both breakfast and lunch for the 2021-2022 school year. Meals will be served according to USDA guidelines so that both students and staff remain safe. Specific meal service procedures and the meal charging policy are located on our district website at www.stlucieschools.org under the parent/student tab.

<u>Snacks:</u> Students may not have soda or gum on campus. If your child has an allergy to any type of food, please notify the front office, teacher, health clinic and cafeteria manager in writing from your child's doctor.

Should a parent/visitor wish to join a student for lunch, he/she must come to the front office to sign in and have their identification checked on the Florida Sexual Offenders and Predators website. Once approved, the visitor will receive a special "Lunch Visitor Pass" sticker and will be seated in the designated "Visitor Area" in the cafeteria. A healthy choice of delicious food items are available to purchase by visitors. Please refrain from bringing fast foods, such as McDonalds and Burger King for yourself or student.

<u>Birthdays</u>: Birthday treats may only be shared during a child's designated lunch time. All food items must be <u>STORE</u> <u>BOUGHT and PRE-PACKAGED</u>. Any food items brought in for sharing that do not meet the required guidelines will not be permitted. Thank you for contributing to the safety and nutritional health of our children.

<u>Bus Rules</u>: In order for students to ride school buses in a safe and orderly manner, the following rules must be observed. **Back** to back, bottom to bottom; **Use** voice level 2; **S**tay in seat. Eating and drinking is not allowed on the bus. Skateboards and other toys are not allowed on the bus.

The parent/guardian must notify the office of any dismissal changes for their child. Dismissal changes can be sent in writing or by calling the front office at 772-460-3050 prior to 2:15 p.m.

<u>Cell Phones</u>: If it is necessary for your child to bring a cell phone to school, please adhere to the following: (1) Turn off phone during school hours (2) Secure phone in child's purse, pocket, backpack, etc. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen cell phones. Any violations of this policy will result in confiscation of the cell phone or electronic device. Parents must come to school to retrieve the confiscated cell phone or electronic device. Confiscation will lead to disciplinary action.

<u>Change of Address</u>: If you move, <u>you are required to provide the school with verification of your new address within <u>five</u> (5) days of the change. Proof of your address change must be a utility bill or a phone bill dated within the past thirty days, or a rental agreement showing your name and new address.</u>

<u>Checkout During the School Day</u>: Students must be checked out through the office by a parent/guardian. Teachers are not allowed to dismiss students from the classroom, cafeteria, or playground without prior notice from the office. Due to end of the day activities, homework assignments, class movement, and dismissal, there will be <u>no dismissing of students from school after 2:45 p.m. on regular days or after 12:45 p.m. on Early Dismissal days unless there is a <u>documented family emergency.</u> Students will only be released to adults whose names appear on the emergency card. Parents must notify the office <u>immediately</u> of any changes in legal custody. Anyone checking out a student must show identification to the office staff.</u>

<u>Clinic</u>: If a student becomes ill or injured during school hours, he/she will be sent to the clinic. Parents/guardians will be notified to pick up sick children. In order to notify parent, we must have the current home and work telephone number of every parent on file. <u>Please keep additional emergency contact numbers current.</u>

<u>Medication</u> - The parent is responsible for the delivery of the medication and the physician's authorization form to the school clinic. <u>No medication will be administered without a physician's form completed by the physician and the parent/guardian</u>. This applies to all prescription and nonprescription medications.

Students are not permitted to carry any kind of medication on them at any time, including aspirin, cough drops, Tylenol, etc. (unless authorized by a physician). Medications without a physician's authorization form will be confiscated and held in the front office to be picked up by the parent/guardian. If a child needs emergency medications such as inhalers and/or epi-pens, that medication may be carried by the student with physician and parent approval. In the event of a serious medical emergency requiring medical treatment above that which is available at the school site, the principal or her designee shall call 911. Once the emergency medical service (EMS) personnel arrive at the scene, they assume responsibility for the care of the individual.

Code of Conduct

St. Lucie Public Schools (SLPS) has established a uniform Disciplinary Response Code. The Code of Conduct applies to all students enrolled in the district. The Code of Conduct is available in three languages located on the SLPS website under the Parents and Students tab.

<u>Conferences</u>: The communication between the home and school is a key factor in monitoring a child's progress. Conferences with teachers and other school personnel are encouraged and can be made by calling the school at 460-3050 or by sending a note to the teacher. Please allow 24 hours notice for an appointment. You will be contacted by your child's teacher prior to conference time to schedule an appointment. We encourage every parent to attend at least two (2) face-to-face conferences during the school year.

<u>Custody</u>: School personnel will release pupils to either parents, guardians, or their designees unless there is on file in the school a copy of a Florida court order which grants custody or denies access to one parent or a third party. Proper identification (driver's license, picture ID, etc) for release of pupils will be required.

Dismissal: Dismissal begins at 3:15 p.m.

Parent Pick-Up Procedures

- Parents will drive through the designated car line to pick up their child
- Parents must remain in their vehicles while in the car line
- At the beginning of the school year, parent pick-up tags will be issued and the car tag must be visible during dismissal. Tags can be transferred to a different vehicle if someone else is picking up the student.
- If the parent/car does not have a tag, the parent must park and show identification in order to pick up the student
- 2:45 p.m. is the deadline to pick students up early
- Students are not permitted to walk across the parking lot to a parked vehicle

Walkers

- Students who live on the north side of Savanna Ridge, toward Kitterman Road, will exit the campus using the bus loading zone sidewalk.
 - K-2 students must be picked up at the bus loading zone sidewalk by an adult before leaving campus
 - 3-5 students are permitted to walk home without an accompanying adult
- Students who live on the south side of Savanna Ridge, toward Prima Vista Boulevard, will exit the campus on the parent pick-up sidewalk.
 - K-2 students must be picked up in the parent pick-up area by an adult before leaving campus
 - 3-5 students are permitted to walk home without an accompanying adult

Dress Code:

YOU ARE IN DRESS CODE IF	YOU ARE <u>NOT</u> IN DRESS CODE IF
SHIRTS/TOPS ARE Solid, striped, or plaid with collars and sleeves Collared shirts with school logo (SRE logo) Tucked in at all times Long enough to remain tucked in when seated SRE Spirit Shirts (can be worn any day)	SHIRTS/TOPS ARE Print, camouflage, with ripped or holes designs, or graphics Collarless Not tucked in Oversized Tight fitting, revealing or sleeveless Wearing a hood of a shirt indoors
PANTS/BOTTOMS ARE Jeans, slacks, capris, shorts, & skorts in solid colors Shorts must extend beyond the fingertips Fitted at the waist Jumpers must have a collar shirt with sleeves underneath Dresses must have collars and sleeves SHOES ARE Sneakers & Athletic Shoes Boots with 1 inch heel or less Closed toe and have a back or back strap Laces must be properly tied and Velcro properly fastened	PANTS/BOTTOMS ARE With holes, frayed or distressed With embellishments/designs Sweat pants, joggers, athletic shorts, spandex, leggings, & jeggings Baggy (loose fittings, oversized) Displaying visible underwear With belt buckles larger than 2 inches SHOES ARE Flip Flops, Sandals or open toes Clogs/Crocs Shoes with wheels, lights, or heels
 OUTERWEAR ARE Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Jackets and Pullovers in any color Collared shirts must be worn underneath all outerwear 	OUTERWEAR ARE/HAVE Inappropriate or obscene pictures Camouflage Graphics Pajamas Hood of a sweater or jacket worn indoors
HEAD ATTIRE/HAIR/JEWELRY ARE Natural hair color only Headbands of any solid color Earrings 2 inches or smaller Piercings on ears only Hair styles, hair accessories & jewelry should be appropriate to school setting & must not distract the learning environment	 Hood of a sweater or jacket worn indoors HEAD ATTIRE/HAIR/JEWELRY ARE Unnatural Hair Color (pink, blue, green, etc.) Caps, Hats, Bandanas Headbands with Kitty ears and Tiaras Hoods are worn on the head Spray painted or dyed hair Inappropriate and/or distracting images or writing or designs through the shaving of a head is not permitted (no Mohauk or Faux Hawk) Tattoos of any kind Sunglasses and non-prescription eye glasses

Dress Code Violations:

1st Incident: Dress Code Violation Form sent home and Teacher/Student conference

2nd Incident: Parent contact and lunch detention for a day

3rd Incident: Mandatory parent conference with administration and loss of privileges

4th Incident: Referral and loss of privileges

Electronic Devices: Misuse of telecommunication services or networking for illegal, inappropriate, or obscene purposes, or in support of such activities, shall be prohibited. Illegal activities shall include all acts defined as a violation of local, state, or federal laws. Inappropriate use includes any act that violates or is inconsistent with the District's mission, goals, policies, or procedures. Obscene activities include all acts that violate generally accepted social standards for use of a publicly owned and operated communication vehicle. In cases of substantial disruption, such misconduct may be the basis for expulsion. Please refer to the SLPS Digital Citizenship policy for detailed information.

Emergency Drills/Evacuations: The safety of our students is one of our greatest concerns. The school holds regular fire, tornado, code red and code yellow drills to teach the students to respond calmly in the event of an emergency. Each classroom has a designated escape route to an outside area located a safe distance from the building. Students are expected to follow the teachers' instructions. Bus evacuation drills are conducted twice per year, and practice per the directions set forth by the Saint Lucie County Transportation Department.

<u>Family Access</u>: St. Lucie County utilizes the Skyward System which allows parents the ability to view their child's school information online. Before you can use Family Access, you must have a Username and password for your new account. Please go to your child's school to have your account activated by showing a picture identification for verification. Once logged in to the system, you can access your child's calendar, grade book, message center, attendance, schedule, and current/past assignments. For families with more than one currently enrolled student, Family Access lets you select which child's information you wish to view.

Field Trips: Field trips are one way to improve learning and enrich the curriculum. All students going on field trips must have a signed permission slip from their parent or guardian. Without written permission, the student will remain at school. Parents who accept responsibility of chaperoning field trips will have to make provisions for younger siblings. Field trip participation is limited to grade-specific students only. Parent chaperones who want to take their children home after a field trip must sign them out in the office prior to the child leaving campus. Parent chaperones must ride on the school's transportation to and from the event. Additionally, in order for a parent to be a chaperone on a field trip, a Volunteer Application must be completed at least two weeks prior to the field trip. A fee is charged to help defray the costs of field trips. Cost is usually based on the distance traveled and whether a fee is charged for admission.

<u>Grading:</u> At the end of each nine weeks, report cards will be issued indicating the student's academic performance, attendance, and behavior. Progress Reports are issued every 2 weeks via Skyward Family Access.

Uniform Grading System K-2:

Grade	Definition
4	Above Standard
3	At Standard
2	Approaching Standard
1	Below Standard
0	Not Attempting

Uniform Grading System 3-5:

Grade	Percent	Grade Point	Definition
		Average	
A	90-100	4	outstanding progress
В	80-89	3	above average progress
С	70-79	2	average progress
D	60-69	1	lowest acceptable progress
F	0-59	0	failure
I	0	0	Incomplete

At the end of each 9-week period students in grade 3 through 5 are recognized and may qualify for Honor Roll based on academic achievement. The criterion is as follows:

- Principal's Honor Roll: Students who have received A's in all academic areas and S's in all personal development areas
- Honor Roll: Students who have received A's and/or B's in all academic areas and S's in all personal development areas
- Perfect Attendance Awards K-5: Students are recognized for being present all school days during the nine week marking period.

<u>Health Screenings</u>: In accordance with Florida Statute 381.0056, the St. Lucie County School District in cooperation with the St. Lucie County Health Department will conduct health screening activities for selected student groups during the school year. The screenings will include:

- Height and weight, which will include Body Mass Index (BMI) calculation for grades 1, 3, and 6
- Vision and hearing screenings for grades K, 1, 3 and 6

In addition to these screening activities, your child will receive first aid and care in the event he/she is injured or becomes ill while at school. You will be informed, in writing, if your child fails to meets any of the screening standards. You are encouraged to seek further professional assistance. If you DO NOT want your child to participate in school health screenings, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL in writing and include your child's name and grade.

<u>Homework</u>: The faculty and administration of Gaines Academy believe that homework is a valuable learning experience. Homework can be used to:

- Reinforce academic skills introduced in the classroom
- Increase learning time (time on task), thereby increasing students' achievement
- Communicate the curriculum to parents
- Encourage self-discipline in the student
- Assist the student in becoming more self-directed
- Provide for different rates and styles of learning

We believe that skills and concepts are reinforced through assignments completed outside the school. Through homework you have the opportunity for enrichment, extension and/or remediation of instructional goals and the opportunity for practice of basic skills.

Homework becomes more valuable when there is a strong partnership between home and school. A role of the home is to provide support, encouragement and a place to complete homework. A role of the school is to assign meaningful homework.

<u>Leader of the Month:</u> Every month each teacher selects one student as Leader of the Month, based on the principles of <u>The 7 Habits of Happy Kids</u>. A habit for each month will be provided to teachers by the School Counselor that students must exhibit. Students are not to be involved in this selection. The following criteria, in addition to the character trait, are used in making this decision.

■ **Be Proactive**: You're in Charge

• **Begin With the End in Mind**: Have a Plan

• **Put First Things First**: Work First, Then Play

■ Think Win-Win: Everyone Can Win

Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood: Listen Before You Talk

• **Synergize**: Together Is Better

Sharpen the Saw: Balance Feels Best

<u>Lost and Found:</u> Savanna Ridge maintains a lost and found box where articles may be claimed. All unclaimed items are discarded by the end of the school year. It is imperative that children's clothing, book bags and lunch boxes are labeled.

<u>Media Center</u>: Our media center is open to all students and teachers. There are no fees for overdue books, however, lost or damaged books must be paid for. Students will not be allowed to check out an additional book until the debt is settled.

Parking: It is imperative for the safety of students that all drivers on our campus abide by the posted traffic signs and the following rules:

- No private vehicle parking or driving in the bus loading zone.
- Parking must be in designated areas only.

<u>Positive Behavior Intervention (PBIS)</u>: PBIS uses school-wide EXPECTATIONS and RULES in specific settings to TEACH students appropriate behavior. PBIS also utilizes a reward system to encourage and model appropriate behavior and effective consequences to discourage inappropriate behavior.

<u>Parent Teacher Organization:</u> Parents are encouraged to attend monthly scheduled Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings with faculty members to provide a positive school experience for the students of Savanna Ridge Elementary.

<u>Safety Patrol:</u> Responsible fourth and fifth grade students are selected as Safety Patrol monitors to help students during arrival and dismissal. They encourage fellow students to follow school rules and safety procedures.

<u>School Advisory Council</u>: The School Advisory Council (SAC) meets monthly and meetings are open to any parent, community, or staff member. We strongly encourage parents to participate in our monthly meetings.

School Counselor: A school counselor is available to help students achieve their highest potential academically, emotionally and socially through individual and small group counseling, classroom guidance and/or conferences with teachers and parents.

<u>Textbooks</u>: Basic textbooks are a loan for students use during the school year. It is requested that they be handled carefully and be kept as clean as possible. You will be required to pay for a lost or damaged book. Failure on the part of the student to pay for lost/damaged textbooks may deprive the student of further issuance of free textbooks. (Fl. Statue 233.42)

Toys: Toys, slime, pokemon cards, fidgets, etc. are NOT permitted on campus.

<u>Valuables</u>: <u>All students are to leave valuables such as, money, jewelry, toys, electronic devices, etc. at home.</u> The probability of damage/theft is too great and those items are a distraction to the students throughout the day. While it is tempting to bring a new gift or toy to school, these items, unfortunately, generally end up being damaged or lost, or in some cases, confiscated by adults because they are causing a disturbance or disruption in class. Confiscated items can be picked up in the office by a parent or guardian after dismissal of school. If an adult sees the items on campus at any time it will be confiscated. Savanna Ridge is not responsible for lost, damaged or missing items.

<u>Visitors</u>: Parents are always welcome to visit the school. <u>ALL VISITORS MUST CHECK IN AT THE FRONT</u>
<u>OFFICE AND OBTAIN A VISITOR'S PASS</u>. We will strictly enforce this policy to ensure the safety of all students.

Parents who would like to observe a classroom must obtain prior permission from the principal and teacher, and must allow 24 hours notice.

<u>Volunteers</u>: We have seen excellent results when students receive individual help and we would like to be able to offer this educational opportunity to more students. If you feel that you could volunteer to work with students in a classroom, or help prepare materials for instruction, we would be happy to hear from you. You can reach our volunteer coordinator by calling 460-3050. We ask that all of our volunteers dress professionally while working in our school. **Volunteers will not be assigned to their child's classroom. Volunteers may not be accompanied by family members, children, or younger siblings.**

Ways to Help Your Child at Home:

- Attend Parent/Teacher conferences
- Encourage your child to read to you nightly
- Encourage good citizenship in your child: respect, self-control, cooperation, and good sportsmanship
- Ensure your child gets plenty of sleep
- Encourage your child to do his/her homework independently
- Give praise for success and help overcome failures
- See that your child gets to school on time and is absent only when ill
- Take an interest in and understand the goals for your child
- Check your child's backpack daily for work and notices from school
- Provide adequate time and a quiet setting for your child to do his/her homework

<u>Withdrawals</u>: If it is necessary to withdraw a student from school, please notify the office as soon as possible. All library books and textbooks must be returned to the school, and other obligations satisfied, i.e. cafeteria charges, library books, textbooks, etc. A copy of the withdrawal form will be issued, and may be presented to the new school. Records will be forwarded to the receiving school.

Zero Tolerance Policy: Notice of possession, sale or use of controlled substances, or weapons by any student on school property, or in attendance at a school function, is grounds for suspension and/or expulsion. Refer to the student code of conduct.