

Instruction

**SUBJECT: CIVILITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND CHARACTER EDUCATION/
INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION****Civility, Citizenship, and Character Education**

The Board recognizes that teaching students respect, civility and understanding toward others, as well as the practice and reinforcement of appropriate behavior and values of our society, is an important function of the BOCES.

The BOCES wishes to foster an environment where students exhibit behavior that promotes positive educational practices, allows students to grow socially and academically, and encourages healthy dialogue in respectful ways. By presenting teachers and staff as positive role models, the BOCES stresses positive communication and discourages disrespectful treatment. This policy is not intended to deprive and/or restrict any student of his or her right to freedom of expression but, rather, seeks to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a safe, harassment free and educationally conducive environment for our students and staff.

Character education will instruct students on the principles of:

- a) Honesty;
- b) Tolerance;
- c) Personal responsibility;
- d) Respect for others;
- e) Awareness and sensitivity to discrimination and/or harassment as defined in the Dignity for All Students Act;
- f) Civility in relation to people of different races, weights, national origins, ethnic groups, religions, religious practices, physical or mental abilities, sexual orientations, genders or sexes;
- g) Observance of laws and rules;
- h) Courtesy;
- i) Dignity, and other traits which will enhance the quality of students' experiences in, and contributions to, the community; and
- j) Safe and responsible use of the Internet and electronic communications.

(Continued)

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**SUBJECT: CIVILITY, CITIZENSHIP, AND CHARACTER EDUCATION/
INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE PREVENTION EDUCATION (Cont'd.)**

Education Law Sections 801-a and 804
8 NYCRR Section 100.2(c)

NOTE: Refer also to Policies #3430 -- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the BOCES

Adoption Date: 12/12/24