

*Our Code of Conduct has been changed. The Dignity Act focuses on helping everyone be safe in and out of school.*

**Dignity Act**

The Dignity Act states that **NO student shall be subjected to harassment or discrimination by employees or students on school property or at a school function based on their actual or perceived (supposed) race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.**

Anyone can report acts of discrimination, harassment and bullying, complete the form and submit it to or contact:

*Mr. Matthew Dyroff, Assistant Principal & Dignity Act Coordinator  
114 North Country Rd.  
Mount Sinai, New York 11766  
E-mail: [mdyroff@mtsinai.k12.ny.us](mailto:mdyroff@mtsinai.k12.ny.us)  
Phone: 631-870-2700*

***It is nice to be important...***

***it is more important to be nice.***

*Bullying, harassment and intimidation are very serious words and situations involving this behavior will be taken and handled seriously, even if it happens on the Internet or through text messages.*

*Jokes can be fun, but when it hurts someone physically or emotionally, it is not. This is never acceptable at Mount Sinai Middle School.*

*If you have a problem, you should tell someone. Your parents, bus drivers, teachers, counselors, the nurse, the Principal and Assistant Principal are all here to help.*

*Most of the time people are nervous to tell that something bad is happening to them or others.*

***Telling is not tattling.***

*Telling = trying to get someone **out of** trouble.*

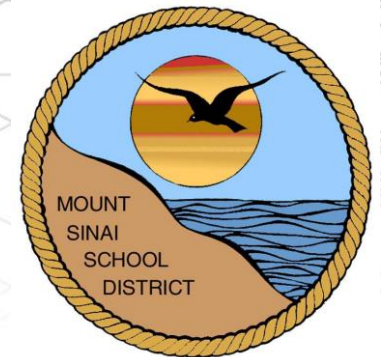
*Tattling = trying to get someone **into** trouble.*

*There is a difference!*

**Always remember the  
“Golden Rule”**

**Mount Sinai Middle School**

Summary of the Code of  
Conduct & Positive  
Behavior Awareness



“The best in  
learning and living”

114 N. Country Road  
Mt. Sinai, NY 11766  
631-870-2700  
[www.mtsinai.k12.ny.us](http://www.mtsinai.k12.ny.us)  
Elizabeth Hine, Principal  
Matthew Dyroff, Asst. Principal/Dignity  
Act Coordinator

## A Parent's View

"You're going to meet a lot of people in your lifetime. Some of these people you may not like. Just because you don't like them doesn't mean you have to work against them. When you see somebody doing something wrong, tell them: 'That's not right. Stop it.' The change you want to see in the world begins with you."

Joseph Clementi, father of Tyler Clementi, who was a victim of cyberbullying in 2011.

### *Student Rights and Responsibilities*

- A. Student Rights** - The district is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. In addition, to promote a safe, healthy, orderly and civil school environment, all district students have the right to:
- Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender or sexual orientation or disability.
  - Present their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty.
  - Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.
- B. Student Responsibilities** - All students have the responsibility to:
- Contribute to maintaining a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and to property.
  - Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct.
  - Attend school every day, unless they are legally excused, and be in class, on time, and prepared to learn.
  - Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest level of achievement possible.
  - React to direction given by teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner.
  - Work to develop mechanisms to control their anger.
  - Ask questions when they do not understand.
  - Seek help in solving problems that might lead to discipline.
  - Dress appropriately for school and school functions.
  - Accept responsibility for their actions.
  - Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating in or attending school-sponsored extracurricular events and to hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.

**Note: Students should consider school their place of business and conduct themselves accordingly.**

## Prohibited Student Conduct

Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with the problem at the time and place it occurs, and in a way that is viewed as fair and impartial by the student. Before seeking outside assistance, teachers will first use all their resources to create a change in behavior in the classroom. When the teacher has made every effort to bring about positive behavioral change, and has been unsuccessful, the student will be referred to building administration. At that point, administration will decide what further action will be taken in accordance with the Code of Conduct found in both the Parent and Student Handbooks and on the district website.

