An educational community is first and foremost a place where individuals may pursue educational, personal, spiritual, and social interests in a safe, supportive environment. Students at all times will demonstrate respect for others and refrain from any behavior which serves to harass, humiliate, or cause injury or discomfort to others.

Bullying:
Bullying is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action up to and including EXPULSION from the school. Bullying includes any written expression, verbal exchange, and physical act intended to cause distress, embarrassment, fear, harm, or intimidation.

Cyberbullying:
Cyberbullying is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action up to and including EXPULSION from the school. Cyberbullying includes any electronic communication, including e-mails, text messages, and postings on social networking sites that is intended to cause distress, embarrassment, fear, harm, or intimidation.

Fighting:
Battery (unprovoked attacks on one person by another) and fighting (two or more students involved in an exchange of blows and battery is not determined) are prohibited. In adjudicating fighting incidents, the school will take into account any actions taken in self-defense, recognizing that the right of an individual to use force for self-protection is sanctioned only insofar as force is necessary for protection. Once the danger of imminent harm has passed, the use of force will not be sanctioned. In other words, if students respond to violence or threats of violence by retaliating when the opportunity to summon assistance or to avoid physical confrontation is present, then any acts will not be considered acts of self-defense and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Harassment:
Harassment of any kind (verbal, physical, or sexual) is prohibited. Harassment includes any behavior designed to humiliate or intimidate another person or which creates a hostile environment for others. Sexual harassment includes unwanted touching, suggestive and/or sexually provocative remarks, and other forms of unwanted and unsought sexual attention. (see "Sexual Harassment Policy")

Harassment can take the form of verbal communication, electronic communication (for example, e-mail or text messaging), or written communication.

Hazing:
Hazing is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action up to and including EXPULSION from the school. Hazing includes any intentional act occurring on or off the campus, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against other students that endangers their mental or physical health or safety for the purpose of maintaining membership in or holding office in any organization.

- ***Behaviors that disrespect others generally are considered MINOR INFRACTIONS. However, such violations may rise to the level of MAJOR INFRACTIONS if, in the professional opinion of the director of student affairs, the violation warrants it.***
- ***Harassment, hazing, and battery generally are considered MAJOR INFRACTIONS but***

may rise to the level of EXPULSION if, in the professional opinion of the Director of Student Affairs, the violation warrants it.