



The
Overlake School
— EST. 1967 —

Rights & Responsibilities for Overlake Students Around Personal Boundaries

Fall 2018

Goals of this Presentation

- To create a dialogue within homeroom around several of our key values; responsibility, integrity, compassion, and courage.
- To ensure that students know their rights around feeling safe at school, and some boundaries they can expect adults and students to respect.
- To educate our students about some key behavioral expectations at Overlake on the part of adults and students.

What should students expect on campus?

- That Overlake strives to create an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect.
- That students should feel their emotional and physical boundaries are respected on campus at all times.
- That each of us, students and adults, have the responsibility to respect the boundaries of others on campus.

What does it mean to have your boundaries respected?

- There should not be physical contact that makes you uncomfortable on campus.
- There should not be other behaviors that make you uncomfortable on campus (suggestive remarks, inappropriate gifts, extended affectionate physical contact, etc.).
- What are other examples of people respecting the boundaries of others?



There are other boundaries adults at school should maintain.

- Adults at school should not converse with students about sexual topics except for specific educational or safety related purposes (health class, sex ed.)
- Adults should not be present at a student's home when a parent/guardian is not present, whether for a social gathering or otherwise.
- Adults at school should not “friend” students on social media platforms
- Adults at school should not provide alcohol or drugs to a student, nor permit one to drink or use drugs in their presence.
- Adults at school should not direct a student to keep a secret from, or not share information with, their parents/guardians or other school employees.
- Adults at school should not drive students in their own vehicles unless they are in the role of parent.



What if a boundary has been crossed?

- At Overlake we want students to be empowered to reach out to a trusted adult if they believe **any boundary has been crossed** (theirs or someone else's).
- We care about your personal boundaries, no matter if it's a peer crossing them or an adult.

Discussion Topic

- Who are some trusted adults on or off campus?
- What would be helpful from us as adults to make “see something, say something” easier to do? Or to help you feel more empowered to do so?



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Harassment: When Boundaries Are Crossed by Other Students

- Harassment is defined as any unwelcome behavior that interferes with a student's ability to learn or a person's ability to conduct their usual work. This behavior creates an uncomfortable, or even a hostile, environment for the individual.
- Violations of this policy include, but are not limited to:
 - Putting a person in fear for their safety
 - Derogatory comments; sending threatening letters, e-mail, or instant messages; posting disparaging remarks /pictures for public scrutiny; using personal websites, blogs, or other technologies to disparage others
 - **Threats or references to school violence**, particularly school shootings
 - **Harassment based on group stereotyping** (conduct motivated by a person's race, gender, ethnicity, color, heritage, sexual orientation, or religious beliefs)
 - **Sexual Harassment** (unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.)

Overlake's harassment policy will extend beyond our physical campus or school activities. Harassing a member of our community online or away from school is still a violation of our school policy.



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