Cleary School for the Deaf
Kathleen Kerzner
Principal

Cleary student have the right to come to school with the expectation that they will be in a safe environment. School is a place where students come to learn many things they need to know in order to become responsible and knowledgeable citizens. In order to feel comfortable in school we must show respect and caring attitudes towards all members of our school community. We are kind, inclusive, and helpful. Therefore, to have a productive and inviting learning environment, students need to follow the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct.

**Student Responsibilities**

1. Listen to and respect all adults in the school community.
2. Listen carefully to all directions.
3. Walk quietly through the halls.
4. Keep the school community clean and organized.
5. Care about your classmate’s feelings.
6. Respect other students and their property.
7. Be kind, polite and considerate of others.
8. Celebrate everyone’s accomplishments.
9. Invite others to play with you and include other children if they are alone.
10. Try to solve problems, and ask for help when needed.
11. Use a quiet, inside voice.
12. Get permission from an adult to leave an area.

Students are expected to follow these expectations in areas such as classrooms, hallways, cafeteria, playground, offices, buses, field trips, and/or afterschool activities.

We fully expect that students will respect people, property, and school rules. For those who do not follow the rules, consequences will result.

**The following are examples of consequences that may be given (dependent on each individual situation)**

- Verbal warning
- Principal warning
- Parent contact
- Referral to our School Social Worker and/or Psychologist
- Removal from an activity
- Student removal from class
- In school detention
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Restitution

**Dignity Act for Elementary Students**

New York State Lawmakers believe it is essential to treat everyone with respect and civility at all times. They have passed a law, called "The Dignity Act," which is meant to help all students know how they should treat one another, both in school and in the community, and what kind of behaviors will not be allowed.

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 race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practice, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex.

Bullying usually occurs when someone uses power over another person and it usually occurs repeatedly. There are different types of bullying:

- **Verbal Bullying** - can include name calling & teasing.
- **Physical Bullying** - can include hitting, kicking, & pushing.
- **Social Bullying** - can include exclusion & rumor spreading.
- **Cyber bullying** - is when people show any kind of bullying behavior using technology to harasser intimidate (computer, cell phones, iPods, etc.)

We hope that everyone will follow our Students’ Responsibilities. However, if someone forgets, we have consequences from our Code of Conduct in place. Our Assistant Principal and School Psychologist are the Dignity Act Coordinators and they will work together in order to make sure everyone feels safe and comfortable and that our students are caring citizens.