Every student deserves a safe and supportive space to learn and grow. In Frederick County Public Schools, one of our core goals is the safety and well-being of all students. FCPS fosters an environment of respect, responsibility and trustworthiness.

**Our Expectations**

We will meet these expectations by:

1. **Understanding the Student Code of Conduct**
   **How:** All students are expected to understand and demonstrate the appropriate behaviors covered in the Code of Conduct. Families are encouraged to review and reinforce expectations before the start of the school year.

2. **Utilizing Levels of Responses Aligned to Behavior Intervention Matrix**
   **How:** Staff are expected to utilize the Levels of Response and the Student Behavior Matrix when determining disciplinary responses. This brings systemic consistency to each school’s response, while recognizing the importance of considering a student's individual discipline history.

3. **Practicing Progressive Discipline**
   **How:** Discipline is intended to teach and motivate students to demonstrate appropriate behavior. FCPS utilizes progressive discipline as a framework to respond and resolve student disciplinary matters. We have clearly defined the five levels of progressive discipline in the Student Code of Conduct.

4. **Promoting Restorative Approaches**
   **How:** Building on FCPS’ commitment to support every student, every day, FCPS is continuing its work to embed equity, restorative practices and trauma-informed care and rehabilitation as part of each school’s culture, climate, and expectations. Each school strives to ensure each student is seen, heard, known, and supported.

5. **Providing Support for Students**
   **How:** FCPS uses a continuum of instructional strategies and behavior intervention responses to support the teaching and learning process.

6. **Partnering with Parents, Families and Caregivers**
   **How:** Parents/Caregivers serve as their child’s first and most important teacher, and this responsibility continues throughout the rest of their lives. As students grow and mature, families should continue to talk with their children about appropriate conduct.

7. **Building strong relationships**
   **How:** Staff serve as caring adults in schools, and they play an important role in building strong relationships with students. This enhances student social and emotional competencies and decreases their likelihood of engaging in disruptive behaviors.

8. **Setting Clear Student Expectations**
   **How:** Students are informed and taught appropriate behavioral expectations. When students have clear expectations and are acknowledged for appropriate behavior, they are less likely to demonstrate misbehavior.