September 1, 2019

Dear Schenectady Parents, Guardians, Caregivers, Students, Staff and Community,

I am pleased to present a revised student code of conduct for the 2019-2020 School Year.

The new Schenectady City School District Code of Conduct is designed to promote equity and strongly supports our principles and efforts to be trauma-sensitive, culturally responsive and presents a strong focus on restorative practices.

In addition to outlining guiding principles, rights, responsibilities and various types of discipline, this document serves to provide a preventative approach and therapeutic response as we aim to keep students in the classroom and out of the juvenile justice system.

We know that suspension does not improve school climate or outcomes for students. In this document, we outline and describe practices and alternative pathways that are diagnostic and prescriptive, such as diversion. This alternative pathway provides an opportunity for mental and behavior health treatment, potentially reducing the amount of time a student is out of school.

Please log on to our district website at http://www.schenectady.k12.ny.us/ where you will find the full code of conduct, the summary video, and an electronic acknowledgement form. We ask that you view the summary video and submit the either the electronic acknowledgement form or the hard copy attached by 9/15/19. If you wish to have a printed copy of the full code of conduct, please feel free to request one from your child’s school.

It is our goal to ensure all students have what they need to be academically successful and that race, economics and disability are never predictors of student achievement.

We are partners in the education of our students. Together we can ensure that every student is academically successful and on the path to graduation.

If you have any questions, concerns or comments, please contact us through Let’s Talk on our district website.

Sincerely,

Laurence T. Spring
Superintendent of Schools