NAIS offers this document for the sole purpose of illustrating what one school has implemented within its community. Neither NAIS nor the contributing school warrant or guarantee in any way the appropriateness or legality of this document for any particular school community. Each school should consider its own community and situation when considering parent covenants or similar documents.

SCHOOL CODE OF CONDUCT

To be a member of our school community is to accept and abide by the following expectations…

Principles of partnership for parents:

It is expected that all school parents will:

• Seek, in selecting an independent school, an optimal match between the needs of their child, their own expectations, and the philosophy and programs of the school.

• Recognize that effective partnerships are characterized by clearly defined responsibilities, a shared commitment to collaboration, open lines of communication, mutual respect, and a common vision of the goals to be achieved.

• Respect the school's responsibility to do what is best for the entire community, while recognizing the needs of their individual student.

• Familiarize themselves with and support the school's policies and procedures.

• Provide a home environment that supports the development of positive learning attitudes and habits that are consistent with those of the school.

• Involve themselves in the life of the school, through volunteerism and other means, to promote the best interests of their student.

• Share with the school any religious, cultural, medical, or personal information that the school may need to best serve their child and the school community.

• Seek to resolve problems and secure information through appropriate channels (i.e., teacher/advisor, division head, head of school-in that order).

• Treat everyone with respect and maintain an educational, rather than adversarial tone, in the face of the inevitable conflicts and challenges.

• Utilize the support of the Parents' Advisory Committee when appropriate.
• Acknowledge that their payment of tuition is not an investment of ownership in the school, with related controls, but rather an investment in the educational process of their child.

The school believes that a positive and constructive partnership between the School and a student's parents or guardian is essential to the fulfillment of the School's mission. Thus, the School reserves the right not to continue enrollment or not to re-enroll a student if the School reasonably concludes that the actions of the parent or guardian make such a positive, constructive relationship impossible, or otherwise seriously interfere with Wellington's accomplishment of its educational purposes.

**Principles of good conduct for school employees:**

• Establish positive, professional relationships with students, characterized by mutual respect, warmth, and good will.

• Participate in the establishment and maintenance of an atmosphere of collegial support and adherence to professional standards.

• Initiate growth in their own intellectual and professional development, seeking out opportunities to learn.

• Know the mission and policies of the school and as they arise, raise questions or concerns with appropriate colleagues and supervisors.

• Model integrity, curiosity, responsibility, creativity, and respect for all persons.

• Model an appreciation for diversity of race, religion, culture, gender, and learning style.

• Be teachers to all students at all times; be committed to teaching ethics and character formation.

• Develop and sustain relationships with colleagues that benefit their students, and further their own professional growth.

• Strive to be mentors and friends to each other, treating colleagues with the same degree of respect that we expect students to demonstrate for their teachers and peers.

• Avoid gossiping, spreading rumors, or making judgments about colleagues, students, or parents.
• Develop and sustain partnerships with parents that support each student's well being and increasing autonomy.

• Enforce standards of student behavior in a fair, firm, compassionate and educationally sound manner.

• Make the school’s philosophy implicit in their teaching and other work with young people, and also interpret this philosophy to parents as necessary.

Principles of good conduct for students:

• Attend all classes (unless excused well in advance) and arrive on time.
• Come to class prepared to learn and to help others with their learning.
• Show respect for others, starting with basic civility and courtesy, and extending through acts of kindness.
• Consider the safety, feelings, and general needs of others at all times.
• Tell the truth and act truthfully.
• Respect the property of others and of the school; keep our building and campus clean.