

# Memo

**To:** Colonel Gray Students and Parents  
**From:** Colonel Gray Administration  
**Date:** February 5, 2007  
**Subject:** Profanity

During our January 8 Professional Development Day, Colonel Gray staff raised a concern regarding the use of profanity by students in school. Profanity use falls into two categories:

1. Casual use among friends.
2. Disrespectful use toward students and/or staff.

Staff would like to reduce the use of profanity at Colonel Gray for the following reasons:

1. The use of profanity in either situation is offensive to many students and staff.
2. The use of profanity does not comply with the Colonel Gray Code of Conduct which states:

***I will respect myself and others through dress, manners and appropriate language.***

3. The use of profanity falls under the definition of inappropriate behaviour as defined in the Eastern School District Caring Places to Learn/Safe School Environment policy:

***Act of Verbal Abuse - The use of language which is insulting, hurtful, offensive, reproachful, or which ridicules, disparages or belittles another person. Verbal abuse may include but is not limited to bullying, discrimination, sexual innuendo, or threats.***

4. The use of profanity creates a culture at Colonel Gray which has been witnessed by visitors. This culture is not appropriate for a school setting.

Beginning immediately, Colonel Gray staff will take the following measures in an effort to eliminate the use of profanity at Colonel Gray and school-sponsored activities:

1. Communicate this initiative to students, staff, and parents.
2. Teachers who witness students using profanity in casual conversation will intervene and encourage the use of appropriate language.
3. Students who use profanity in a disrespectful way toward students or staff will be reported to school administration.

People's tolerance toward the use of language varies. Students and staff must respect these differences and recognize their comments may be unwelcome by others.

Consequences for students who continue to use profanity in casual conversation or who use profanity in a disrespectful way will be dealt with in accordance with the Eastern School District Caring Places to Learn/Safe School Environment policy which states, "**Acts of verbal abuse will result in discipline and may include suspension as outlined in *School Act Regulations*.**"

If you have any questions please contact Bob Andrews at 368-6860.