

## WEST END ACADEMY 2<sup>ND</sup> - 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

Your Name:

Today's Date:

Classroom Teacher:

**Copy the lesson and fill in the blanks with your own words. Be sure to title it "Fifth Grade Behavior Contract"**

Here at West End Academy, the administration, teachers and staff believe that a school should be a safe and inviting place for learning. A successful school environment is dependent upon a high standard of student behavior. Each student's general behavior should not interfere with the safety, comfort, or education of others. As a student I am expected to treat everyone with politeness and respect. Appropriate behavior is everyone's responsibility.

I [Your Name] will demonstrate good behaviors each day at school. I know I am expected to follow the teacher's directions the first time he/she asks me to do something. I know that I am expected to do so promptly and with a good attitude. Each time that I do not meet these expectations, I will receive and copy this Behavior Contract word-for-word.

I understand that school is a place for learning. Every student in the United States is offered 12 years of free education. Not many other countries in the world offer this to their students. I understand that I choose how to use this time. I can get an education and learn more about myself and the world around me, or I can waste this time.

Wasted time is based on the idea that the teacher and the students in the classroom are learning partners, both having a very important job to do. The primary reason for attending school is to do these jobs and anything that interferes with anyone doing their best work is not accepted. This has been discussed with me since the beginning of the school year, stressing that each person (including the teacher) is responsible for making choices that ensure that everyone is successful. It is crucial that I am capable to see a connection between school and what I want in life. This sets the stage for my understanding that my choices determine what happens to me both in and out of school and that the teacher is not doing something to me when I experience the logical and natural consequences of my decisions. If a student is making a choice that interferes with anyone's job in the classroom, they are choosing to waste time. The teacher gives the student the choice to either stop the behavior that is interfering with the learning environment or continue knowing that their choice will result in writing this notice and the loss of free time later

(You can either start working quietly on your assignment in the next minute, or I will have to write this all over again tomorrow.") If I choose to continue the inappropriate behavior, the teacher keeps track of this wasted time (a basic stopwatch works very well). I know I will make up the wasted time and any learning activities that took place during that time during my free/break time. Which means this can occur during PE, art, music, library, counselor, or after school.

I understand that the teacher is responsible for many things. He/She needs to plan the lesson and then do everything possible to help students understand the material. The teacher has a big job because it is not easy to help a class full of students. When I behave disruptively, I am making it hard for the teacher to do his/her job. This isn't fair and I must be held accountable for this.

Being held "accountable" means having to face the consequences of my behavior. It also means the same as the word "responsible" which is defined in Webster's Dictionary as **1)** Liable to be called upon to answer for one's acts or decisions **2)** able to fulfill one's obligations: Reliable, Trustworthy **3)** able to choose for oneself between right and wrong, **4)** involving accountability or important duties.

A responsible person understands that there are consequences to his or her behavior. A consequence is what happens to us as a result of our actions. For example, if you are not suppose to be chewing gum, but you get caught chewing gum any way, then you will be one of many students who find out the hard way that you must write the behavior contract. Having to write the paper is a direct consequence of your behavior. Consequences are important because they help people understand what behaviors are accepted and what behaviors are not acceptable. The important thing is that I am able to learn from these consequences and work hard not to repeat the behaviors that got me into trouble in the first place.

I understand that the other students in my class have a right to the best education possible. When I behave disruptively, I not only keep the teacher from doing his/her job, I am also keeping students from getting the best education possible. This is not fair and I do not have the right to do this.

I am here copying this disciplinary notice because I

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I understand that right now I am missing out on valuable learning time. Instead of learning, I am copying disciplinary note. I understand that I made a decision to behave unacceptably in class and the consequence for this is having to write this disciplinary note and points could be deducted from my grade this week. I understand that I have the power to make good decisions or bad decisions. When I

make good decisions, I am rewarded. In school, this means getting a good education and feeling good about myself as a student. I understand that I deserve a good education and I have the power and responsibility to make this happen. To keep myself out of a dilemma, I will

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Here are some (but not all) General School Rules, I need to keep in mind:

1. My general classroom behavior should not interfere with the safety, comfort, or education of others.
2. I am expected to treat all adults with courtesy, cooperation and respect. Any child at large in the building is subject to the discipline of any teacher or other school personnel.
3. In the halls, ALL students are expected to:
  - walk quietly
  - speak quietly
  - keep to the right
  - keep hands off the walls
  - avoid pushing and shoving
  - go directly to their destination
4. In assemblies, students are expected to:
  - enter and exit the assembly area in quiet, orderly fashion
  - be attentive and courteous to performers and speakers
  - remember that they represent West End Academy to all guests
5. While in the cafeteria, each student is expected to follow the rules of the cafeteria.
6. No student may take anything from within or on top of another's desk, as well as another's personal belongings, without permission.
7. All materials, equipment, supplies and books provided by the district are to be treated with care and respect.

Breaking any of the rules listed above as well as other classroom or school rules could result in me having to rewrite of this information over again therefore I will think before I act or react because I know there will be consequences.