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BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT POLICY

The TCS Behavior Management Policy, as stated below, is signed by both parents and teachers and becomes part of a child's cumulative file. The goal of the TCS Behavior Management Policy is to limit or eliminate the use of suspension, expulsion and other exclusionary measures. It is implemented by teachers and directors and provides for the following:

It is our goal that each child learns self-management skills and inner control through a safe, loving, and planned environment. Teachers are trained to help direct or redirect behavior toward appropriate choices. Student/teacher ratio is such that there is always a teacher available to guide the children. All children will be dealt with in a loving, gentle manner. Classroom rules will be discussed and children are encouraged to use their words to express their feelings so they can effectively learn to resolve conflicts. Verbal cues and positive reinforcement will be used. Other means for limits may include: loss of privileges or removal from activity, firm positive statements by the teachers giving the children alternative ways of handling the particular situation, and possible removal from the group to help guide that child to regain control.

Misbehavior will be defined as behavior that is inconsiderate, disrespectful, or hurtful to others. This includes hitting, pushing, biting, or any action that is hurtful to another person. Should a child's inappropriate behavior become violent or frequent, a parent conference will be set up to discuss possible causes and solutions. In severe situations, removal from school is possible. Under no circumstances is physical punishment (shaking, hitting, spanking) or psychological abuse (shaming, name calling, seclusion) by coercion (rough handling, physical restraint) used.

Additionally, communication with parents about a child's challenging behavior is crucial in order to provide a unified approach for the child. If the above measures have been exhausted and it is determined that the child can no longer be safely enrolled, the TCS staff will work with the child's parents and the child's school district to access alternative placement through the TCS transition plan.

TCS Behavior Management Policy is in compliance with federal and Illinois civil rights laws. Questions about the Behavior Management Policy should be discussed with the director.

I have read, understand and agree to abide by Tamarak Country School policies, including the above behavior management policy.

Student Name: _____

Parental signature: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____