



## PARTICIPANT CODE OF CONDUCT

The Board of Directors for WCTSMA requires each delegate attending any WCTSMA conference to read and complete the Code of Conduct Form and return to the WCTSMA school instructor as partial completion of attendance requirements. The term “participant” shall mean any WCTSMA member, including instructors, attending conferences (high school, collegiate, alumni, professional). **This Code of Conduct applies to both the time spent at all sponsored “Events” and during time spent at the WCTSMA contracted hotels:**

1. Personal Conduct: Participants are required to keep adult advisors informed of activities and whereabouts; Participants shall not invade another delegate, volunteer, or staff member’s personal space without consent of the individual. Participants shall treat local business establishments and personnel with respect while following proper compensation and gratuity etiquette. Participants shall not possess, sell or consume alcohol, drugs, and/or tobacco products at any time during the conference. Weapons of any kind are also not permitted. Participants shall refrain from using inappropriate or profane language at all times. Participants shall refrain from verbal, physical or sexual harassment, hazing or name-calling. Participants shall refrain from gambling—playing cards, dice, or games of chance for money or other things of value.
2. There shall be no defacing of public property. The individual or school responsible must pay for any damage to any property or furnishing in the hotel rooms or building.
3. Participants must wear identification badges at all times including during open hour times prior to curfew in the hotels. Students who are not registered for the Conference should not be at any conference hotels or Conference venues (with the exception of model volunteers)
4. Participants will **NOT** be allowed to use the swimming pools of hotel facilities where available.
5. Participants should be prompt and prepared for all activities and show respect to those in the audience and on stage. You are expected to attend all general sessions and other scheduled conference activities.
6. Hotel Protocol: Participants will follow guidelines of all housing facilities which includes but is not limited to:
  - a. Accruing incidental room charges (i.e. phone calls, room service, pay-per-view movies, etc.) without settling the account prior to check-out.
  - b. Throwing objects out of the window or into the hallway.
  - c. Moving hotel furniture from rooms (e.g. onto the balcony).
  - d. Failing to follow hotel rules and regulations.
  - e. Crowding hotel elevators, review posted limits.
  - f. Having a member of a different gender or opposite sex in a room where no WCTSMA appointed adult chaperone is present.
  - g. Being out on a hotel room balcony.
7. Curfew will be enforced. Curfew means the participant will be in their assigned room. Participants will spend nights at their assigned hotel and in their assigned room. No guests allowed during curfew hours.
  - a. Curfew hour- Participants in their rooms at 10:00 pm
  - b. Quiet time- 11:00 pm to 6:00 am
  - c. Anyone caught outside of their rooms during these times by an identified adult (BOD, Instructor or Chaperone) will be immediately reported to a WCTSMA BOD member for possible consequences as outlined in section # 11.
8. Tasteful casual wear will be accepted during specific social functions as designated during orientation. Participants must not dress or behave in a manner that can be interpreted as explicit.
9. Social Media: As a member of WCTSMA, participants represent their school, state, and WCTSMA organizations. As participants create, post, share, like, and link to content through all social media sites (including but not limited to: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, Pinterest, Tumblr, TikTok.), it is important to keep in mind that people they do not know (including WCTSMA advisors, sponsors, and

potential employers) can review and archive the participants' social media profile and activities. WCTSMA will remove any participant social media activity that breaks the WCTSMA Code of Conduct or is otherwise derogatory or inappropriate, as determined by WCTSMA in its sole discretion. This includes, but is not limited to, posts, photos, videos, shares, and retweets that:

- a. Use foul language.
- b. Negatively portray the delegate, school, WCTSMA chapters, members, and/or the WCTSMA organization.
- c. Violate trademark laws including competitive event guidelines.
- d. Portray or insinuate illegal behavior (such as underage drinking, texting while driving, violence, etc.). In the event a photo, video, message, tweet, or other post portrays or insinuates illegal behavior, the delegate's parent/legally appointed guardian, WCTSMA Advisor, and law enforcement may be contacted by WCTSMA.

10. School instructors will be responsible for participants' conduct.

11. Participants ignoring or violating any of the above rules will subject their entire team to being unseated, team scoring penalties and their candidates or competitive events participants to being disqualified. Individual participants may be sent home immediately at their own expense. Teams not adhering to rules may be suspended from future WCTSMA activities following a review of rule transgressions.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

This is to certify that the below student has my permission to attend the above named WCTSMA activity. I also do hereby, on behalf of the above student, absolve and release the school officials, the WCTSMA instructors and the WCTSMA staff from any claims for personal injuries or illness which might be sustained while they are enroute to and from or during the WCTSMA-sponsored activity.

#### **EMERGENCY**

I authorize the advisor to secure the services of a physician or hospital, and to incur the expenses for necessary services in the event of accident or illness, and I will provide for the payment of these costs.

We have read and agree to abide by the WCTSMA Code of Conduct. We also agree that the school officials, the WCTSMA instructors, the association WCTSMA staff, or the conference conduct committee have the right to send the above student home from the activity at our expense, if they have violated the Code of Conduct and/or their conduct has become a detriment.

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Print Name of Parent/Guardian	Parent/Guardian Signature	Date
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Print Name of Student	Student Signature	Date
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Print Name of Instructor	Instructor Signature	Date
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