

## Student Discipline

Parents, school personnel and students shall be involved in the development of policies, and public hearings before the Board shall be held during the formulation of these policies in the high school attendance areas within each district or on a district-wide basis for those districts that have no high school. The Superintendent shall prepare and recommend the final format of discipline policies and develop procedures for the discipline of students that comply with state laws and regulations. These policies and procedures will apply to all students traveling to, attending, and returning from school, and while visiting another school or at a school-sanctioned activity and may be imposed if the student's behavior affects the school order. When suspension or expulsion is involved, notice, hearing, and appeal procedures shall conform to applicable legal requirements.

Information concerning a student's disciplinary record will be held in the strictest confidence.

Disciplinary actions taken will be recorded in an administrative log, and all types of suspensions or expulsions will be recorded in a separate file for each student.

## Student Discipline Regulation

The following are prohibited activities:

- Criminal or delinquent acts;
- Gang related activity;
- Sexual harassment;
- Disruptive conduct;
- Refusal to identify self; and
- Refusal to cooperate with school personnel.

A student may be subject to disciplinary action when the student engages in the above or those below:

- Engages in conduct that is disorderly, i.e., intentionally causing public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, or recklessly creating a risk thereof, by:
  - Fighting or engaging in violent behavior.
  - Making unreasonable noise.
  - Using abusive or obscene language or gestures.
  - Obstructing vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
  - Creating a hazardous or physically offensive condition by any act that serves no legitimate purpose.
- Engages in conduct that is insubordinate, i.e., failing to comply with the lawful directions of a teacher, school administrator, or other school employee in charge of the student.
- Endangers the safety, morals, health, or welfare of others by any act, including but not limited to:
  - Selling, distributing, using, or possessing alcohol, drugs, or other controlled substances or drug paraphernalia.
  - Selling, distributing, using, or possessing weapons, fireworks, or other dangerous instruments or contraband.

- Selling, using, or possessing obscene materials.
- Using profane, vulgar, or abusive language (including ethnic slurs).
- Gambling.
- Hazing.
- Engaging in lewd behavior.
- Engages in any of the following forms of academic misconduct:
  - Lateness for, missing, or leaving school or class without permission or excuse.
  - Cheating (including but not limited to copying, using unauthorized help sheets and like, illegally obtaining tests in advance, substituting for a test-taker, and other forms of unauthorized collusion).
  - Plagiarism.
- Engages in conduct violative of the Board's rules and regulations for maintenance of public order on school property.
- Has record of excessive absenteeism.
- Is believed to have or actually has committed a crime.

Reasonableness of use of physical force in self-defense, defense of others, and defense of property will be considered as a mitigating factor in determining penalties for misconduct. The threat or use of physical force by a student is not reasonable (i) when made in response to verbal provocation alone, (ii) when assistance from a school staff member is a reasonable alternative, or (iii) when the degree of physical force used is disproportionate to the circumstances or exceeds that necessary to avoid injury to oneself or to others or to preserve property at risk.

**The following acts may result in long-term suspension, expulsion, or placement in an alternative educational setting:**

- Possession of alcoholic beverages, narcotics or controlled substances;
- Serious, continued, documented misbehavior/\*habitually disruptive;
- Serious vandalism of District property or any personal property on District property over the total value of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) including the cost of repair or replacement;
- Serious, continued fighting or threatening bodily injury to others; and
- Open and persistent defiance of District personnel, volunteers or visitors.

[\*Declaration as a habitually disruptive student for which long-term suspension shall be mandatory. For purposes of this section, "habitually disruptive student" means a child who caused a disruption in the classroom, on school grounds, in school during vehicles, or at school activities or events, which resulted in five (5) suspensions during the school year because of behavior, which was initiated, willful and overt on the part of the child, and required the attention of school personnel to deal with the disruption. No child shall be declared to be an "habitually disruptive student" prior to the development of a remedial discipline plan for such child in accordance with the conduct and discipline code of the District.]