

BOARD POLICY: STUDENT BEHAVIOR, MISCONDUCT, RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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Section A - Introduction

These policies have been developed by the board to provide a safe and positive educational environment for all students and staff in order to foster academic success, social responsibility and healthy social development. The board recognizes the important role of parents in the management of student behavior. Therefore, these policies and procedures provide opportunities and notifications to involve parents in the discipline process.

Section B - Jurisdiction as to Students' Rights and Responsibilities and Code of Conduct

District discipline policies will apply:

1. In any physical area attendant to school or District-sponsored or related activities, whether or not such area is on school or District property (including but not limited to, school buildings and lands, District offices), or at any school-sponsored or related activities, performances, extracurricular and athletic events, school-sponsored travel at other venues; and
2. On means of school-supplied or sanctioned transportation to or from any of the above; and
3. With respect to activities or events at other locations, if the administration determines that the incident bears a nexus (i.e. impact or connection) to the school, safety at school, or is disruptive to the educational environment.

Section C - Additional Jurisdiction as to Code of Conduct

In addition to the above jurisdiction, the administration is authorized to establish a Code of Conduct that imposes progressive loss of privileges by reason of any conduct by a student in violation of these policies wherever the conduct or event occurs. Students who participate in extracurricular activities such as inter-scholastic athletic, drama, fine arts and other competitions or who participate in clubs and activities are representatives of our schools, and as such are expected to conform their behavior to these policies as a condition to continued enjoyment of these privileges.

Section D - Student Behavior

The Board expects all students to behave in a way that enhances academic growth and social maturity. This includes academic honesty, civility, respect for others, tolerance, inclusiveness, responsible citizenship, and fair play.

Section E - Misconduct

Behaviors that are wholly untenable, in that they cause harm or threaten to cause harm to the safety of others, or harm or offer the threat of harm to property or persons attending school or district-sponsored events, and/or interfere with or disrupt the educational process and educational environment, are subject to disciplinary action. Such unpermitted behavior includes, but is not limited to:

1. Theft and destruction of property, hazing, gambling, dishonesty, theft, harassment, bullying, and infliction or threats of harm to persons or property, failure to comply with reasonable directions, actions which provoke any substantial disruption of normal school operation, patterns of behavior that fail to conform to minimal school expectations.; and
2. Gang related activity or behavior, which shall include, but shall not be limited to, the wearing or displaying of gang apparel or colors, the communication of gang signs or signals, engaging in actions or conduct indicating membership or participation in, or endorsement of, a gang, or engaging in any actions or conduct defined as gang-related activity or conduct in any applicable federal, state or local statute, ordinance, rule or regulation; and
3. Such other conduct as in Policy 7220: Purpose and Use of Computer and Network Resources; Policy 8420: Student Attendance; Policy 8430: Student Smoking and Tobacco Use; Policy 8440: Academic Dishonesty; Policy 8450: Weapons Possession; Policy 8460: Illegal Substances and Paraphernalia; Policy 8470: Harassment - Students; and Policy 8480: Hazing, Bullying, or Aggressive Behavior.

Section F - Implementation and Notification as to Rights and Responsibilities/Code of Conduct

1. The Board directs the superintendent to establish Student Rights and Responsibilities for inclusion in the Student/Parent Handbook which will inform parents and students of expected student behavior and prohibited misconduct and will define the rights and responsibilities of the student.
2. The Board offers a wide variety of extracurricular and athletic opportunities for students and recognizes that participation in these activities is a privilege and not a part of the right to education. The Board directs the superintendent to establish a Code of Conduct for student participants in athletics and student activities for inclusion in the Student/Parent Handbook with progressive loss of these privileges for violations.
3. The Board directs the superintendent and staff to develop, publish, and implement procedures for disciplinary actions to achieve the aims of this policy, and for appropriate parental notification.

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4. In cases when student misconduct and related consequences are not specifically addressed in Board policies or procedures, the administration is authorized to take such action as it deems appropriate, provided that all such action shall be consistent with the School Code and these policies.

5. The Student Rights and Responsibilities, Code of Conduct, and procedures, as described in the Student Handbook, will be reviewed and adopted by the Board annually.

6. The Board acknowledges the importance of parental cooperation in the implementation of these policies and has provided for procedures which, when supported by parents, can minimize the adverse educational impact from prescribed discipline.

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