



# Cureton Elementary School Discipline Policy

## **Classroom Discipline**

Cureton Elementary School is a community of learners, thinkers, and high achievers. It is the responsibility of each person in our community to create an environment in which learning can take place. Good discipline, within a community, is based on building good relationships and advocacy for all. By building relations with students, teachers are the key to good discipline. Teachers are also role models for student behavior and it is the responsibility of teachers to resolve problems and conflicts peacefully. The following are general guidelines for good classroom management, and should be referred to, discussed, and contemplated with students and parents as expectations are articulated.

- 1. Students are involved and help develop classroom rules and expectations.**
- 2. Discipline practices are fair and consistent and built on RESPECT.**
- 3. Consequences for behavior make sense and are logically connected to the behavior. (i.e. students who hurt another's feelings apologize and find a way to make up for the behavior; students who write on the desk, wash the desk.)**
- 4. Parents are asked to help when students are not meeting classroom expectations**
- 5. Students are engaged in meaningful activities.**
- 6. Students receive New Starts each day.**
- 7. Student problems are handled in the classroom, not the office. Sending students to someone else to be "fixed" takes away from a teacher's ability to form the relationships that will lead to positive growth and change.**
- 8. When the teacher/student relationship is severely strained, students will spend down time in a partner teacher classroom. Students will write personal reflections before returning to class.**

# Behavioral Interventions

Teachers are the keys to the behavioral growth of students. As such there are many interventions to use to teach and reteach appropriate behavior. The following is a list of possible **interventions**. There are many more. It is important to become familiar with classroom interventions as they will serve to redirect unwanted behaviors, reaffirm the notion that unwanted behavior will not be tolerated, and strengthen the teacher/student relationship.

1. **Demonstrate RESPECT. You will get it back.**
2. **Lower your voice. Raising your voice often escalates student behavior.**
3. **Whisper privately to misbehaving students.**
4. **Let students know what you want and expect, as often as necessary.**
5. **Find ways that every student can succeed DAILY.**
6. **Use ACTIVE LISTENING skills. Find out what the child needs. Listen for the meaning behind the words of what they are saying.**
7. **Never get defensive.**
8. **Be fair, neutral, consistent, and firm.**
9. **Have students write what happened and what they plan to do differently in the future.**
10. **Use physical proximity. Stand near students whose behavior you want to change.**
11. **Develop non-verbal cues that symbolize what behaviors you want. Light switching, hands raised, etc.**
12. **Use consequences that are logical and make sense to kids i.e. if students do not finish their work before recess, they might stay in the classroom with a teacher during recess to finish it.**
13. **Use consequences that give to others through service. Find ways that students can "make up" for what happened with a positive compensation, i.e. giving service, helping, cleaning, apologizing, tutoring.**
14. **Never humiliate students. Humiliation leads to anger, withdrawal, or retaliation.**
15. **Know the difference between punishment and consequences. Consequences fit the infraction and are logically related to it. Punishments do not.**
16. **Call parents. Ask them to help, visit, talk to students, etc.**
17. **Have students call their parents and explain what they did.**
18. **Reward positive behavior.**

# School Rules and Discipline

**1. Follow directions the first time given and respect all.** Talking back, insults, insubordination, hostility, or belligerent behavior, are not acceptable.

*Consequence: Parent notified by teacher, students calls home, student temporarily removed from the classroom. Apology and parent conference expected before student is readmitted. Consistent violation of this rule may result in office intervention and/or suspension.*

**2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to self.** Harm to other people or property is not acceptable. Threatening, fighting, intimidating, swearing, extortion, stealing, and disregard for safety of people and property will not be tolerated.

*Consequence: Students who steal or who destroy school property will be expected to pay and/or work to repair the damage or replace the property. Report all serious problems to the office. Fighting is an automatic 5 day suspension (). Police may be called depending on the extent of the damage.*

**3. Use equipment and facilities in a safe and proper manner:** including technology and other school resources, PE equipment, etc.

*Consequence: Any equipment or facility damaged because of willful improper use will be paid for by the student. The student may be put on work duty/school beautification to help compensate for the damage.*

**4. Do not disrupt the educational process:** candy, toys and other disruptive items (such as radios, ipods, cell phones, cameras, etc.), as well as clothing not outlined in uniform policy are not permitted unless otherwise approved by a teacher. Gum chewing is not allowed anytime.

*Consequence: Items will be taken and parents notified. Repeat offenses will result in items being taken away and not returned. Gum chewing offenses will result in school beautification.*

**5. Respect others:** teasing, bullying, harassment, are not allowed.

*Consequences: Will result in parent conference and/or suspension.*

**6. Proudly represent Cureton in all that you say and do:** whether working in class, enjoying recess and lunch, taking part in after school programs, participating in school community events, traveling on educational trips, etc.

*Consequences: Will result in loss of privileges, removal from class, suspension, etc.*

# Office Referrals

Discipline plans, interventions, and incentives are designed to provide all students with conduct boundaries within which to operate and be successful. When these boundaries are repeatedly tested in an inappropriate manner, or when the infraction is so grossly egregious (ie: blatant insubordination, fighting, threatening, possession of dangerous items, etc.) an office referral is necessary.

A child shall be sent to the office when:

- **He/she is a danger to him/herself or others**
- **He/she has committed an infraction that warrants immediate removal from the class/school facility (ie: blatant insubordination, fighting, threatening, possession of dangerous items, etc.)**
- **Behavioral interventions have not altered the behavior to an acceptable manner for the classroom teacher/community member**

\*An explanatory note or phone call must accompany any child being sent to the office.

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When a child is sent to the office the following actions will be taken:

1. **Student will be secluded and asked to write a composition of no less than 100 words explaining:**
  - a. **Reason for being sent to the office**
  - b. **Explanation of why his/her actions or non-actions warrant an office referral**
  - c. **Explanation of what could have been done differently and how that would that have changed the situation**
  - d. **Thoughtful reflection of how to rectify the situation and restore harmony**
2. **Student will conference with the principal regarding the matter. The principal will make the determination whether to send the child back to class for the remainder of the day or if further consequences are warranted. In the event that the principal is unavailable the Program Improvement Administrator will handle the discipline, handing out any necessary consequences.**
3. **Parents will be notified and a conference will take place between the parent, teacher, and student. Parents will be responsible for ensuring that the child restores the strained relationship in an acceptable manner.**
4. **Student will take part in lunchtime detention, after school detention or school beautification on Friday afternoons from 2:30-3:30 without exception.**
5. **Any privileges or activities taking place within a week's time of the referral will be taken away (extra curricular activities, etc.)**