

STUDENTS

Introduction/Philosophy/Purpose

Kennewick School District focuses on the educational achievement of each and every student. The District holds high expectations for all students and gives all students the opportunity to achieve personal and academic success. “Discipline” means any action taken by the school district in response to behavioral violations, including exclusionary as well as positive and supportive forms of discipline. The Board intends that this policy and procedure be implemented in a manner that supports positive school climate, maximizes instructional time, and increases equitable educational opportunities.

The purposes of this policy and accompanying procedure include:

- Engaging with school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community in decisions related to the development and implementation of discipline policies and procedures;
- Supporting students in meeting behavioral expectations, including providing for early involvement of parents and families;
- Administering discipline in ways that respond to the needs and strengths of students and keep students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible;
- Providing educational services that students need to complete their education without disruption;
- Facilitating collaboration between school personnel, students, parents, and families to support successful reentry into the classroom following a suspension or expulsion;
- Ensuring fairness, equity, and due process in the administration of discipline;
- Implementing culturally responsive discipline that provides every student the opportunity to achieve personal and academic success;
- Providing a safe environment for all students and for district employees.

Rights and Responsibilities/District Commitment

The Board recognizes the negative and disproportionate impact of exclusionary discipline practices and is committed to:

- Identifying and addressing discipline policies and practices that perpetuate educational opportunity gaps;
- Proactively implementing discipline practices that support students in meeting behavioral expectations without losing access to instruction;
- Ensuring the District reviews disaggregated discipline data in accordance with [WAC 392-190-048](#) at least annually.

The District will observe students’ fundamental rights and will administer discipline in a manner that does not:

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Student Discipline – Continued

1. Unlawfully discriminate against a student on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal;
2. Deprive a student of the student's constitutional right to freedom of speech and press, the constitutional right to peaceably assemble and to petition the government and its representatives for a redress of grievances, the constitutional right to the free exercise of religion and to have the student's school free from sectarian control or influence, subject to reasonable limitations upon the time, place, and manner of exercising the right;
3. Deprive a student of the student's constitutional right to be secure in the student's person, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures;
4. Unlawfully interfere in a student's pursuit of an education while in the custody of the school district; or
5. Deprive a student of the student's right to an equal educational opportunity, in whole or in part, by a school district without due process of law.

This District's student discipline policy and procedure is designed to provide students with a safe, healthy, and educationally sound environment. Students are expected to be aware of and comply with this policy and procedure, including behavioral expectations that respect the rights, person, and property of others. Students are also expected to pursue the required course of studies. Students and staff are expected to work together to develop a positive climate for learning.

Development and Review

Accurate and complete reporting of all disciplinary actions, including the associated student-level information, behavioral violations, and other forms of discipline the district considered or attempted, is essential for effective review of this policy; therefore, the district will ensure such reporting. The district will collect data on disciplinary actions administered in each school, as required by RCW [28A.300.042](#), and any additional data required under other district policies and procedures.

Within each school the school principal shall determine that appropriate student discipline is established and enforced. In order to assist the principal in carrying out the intent of this section, the principal and the certificated employees in a school building shall confer at least annually in order to develop and/or review building disciplinary standards and uniform enforcement of those standards. Such building standards shall be consistent with the provisions of RCW [28A.600.020\(3\)](#). School principals and certificated employees shall also confer annually, to establish criteria for determining when certificated employees must complete classes to improve classroom management skill.

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Student Discipline – Continued

The district will develop written school procedures for administering discipline in accordance with law. Schools handbooks, codes of conduct, and building discipline standards must not conflict with this policy, accompanying procedures, or other Board policies.

The District will periodically review and further develop this policy and procedure with the participation of school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community. As part of this development and review process, the district will use disaggregated data collected under RCW [28A.300.042](#) to monitor the impact of student discipline practices as well as to improve fairness and equity in the administration of student discipline, in accordance with WAC [392-190-048](#).

Distribution of Policies and Procedures

The District will make the current version of this policy and procedure available to families and the community. The District will annually provide this policy and procedure to all District personnel, students, parents, and families, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

The District will ensure district employees and contractors are knowledgeable of this student discipline policy and procedure. At the building level, schools will annually provide the current building discipline standards, developed as stated above, to all school personnel, students, parents, and families, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Schools will ensure all school personnel are knowledgeable of the school building discipline standards.

Application

This policy and accompanying procedure will be construed in a manner consistent with Washington law as stated in WAC [392-400-020](#).

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Legal Reference:

RCW [28A.300.042](#) [Collection and submittal of student-level data](#)—Student data-related reports—Disaggregation of data by subgroups—Modification of statewide student data systems.

[28A.400.100](#) Principals and vice principals – Employment of -
Qualifications – Duties

[28A.400.110](#) Principal to assure appropriate student discipline – Building discipline standards – Classes to improve classroom management skills

[28A.600.020](#) Exclusion of student from classroom—Written disciplinary procedures—Long-term suspension or expulsion.

WAC [392-190-048](#) Access to course offerings—Student discipline and corrective action.

[392-400-020](#) Application.

Adopted: September 8, 1993
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