

STUDENTS

Extent of School Authority

A. Generally

~~Virginia law gives T~~he ~~S~~school ~~B~~board is authorized ~~the power~~ to make reasonable rules for the governance of the schools and to regulate the conduct of students. ~~going to and returning from school.~~

B. School Board and Parental/Guardian Responsibility

The School Board will be responsible for maintaining good order and discipline of students while traveling to and from or attending school or school sponsored events. The Superintendent is authorized to take appropriate action against students who are not in compliance with compulsory attendance laws and regulations. The School Board may exercise jurisdiction over students for activities that happen off of school property, outside of school hours or days, and/or through online or social media when such activity disrupts or has the potential to disrupt the educational environment and the operation of school services. The distinction between the responsibility that the School Division has for students and the responsibility that parents/legal guardians have for their children is difficult to define in situations occurring off of school property. These are situations in which students are not on school grounds and are not engaged in any school sponsored activity, but they are either traveling to or from school or school sponsored activities or they are maintaining the appearance of being a student of the School Division's schools.

1. 1. —The following guidelines shall apply:

a. _____ Students shall be under the jurisdiction of the rules and regulations governing school activities while:

_____ 1) in transit to and from school as a pedestrian;;

_____ 2) in transit ~~route~~ to, -from, or at the bus stop

_____ 3) ~~and~~ while riding on a school bus, in a School Division vehicle, or a vehicle being used for school activities;

_____ 4) while using School Division equipment, computers, School Division provided online resources or networks;:-

_____ 5) while outside of school hours or school days if school administrators determine that the student's conduct causes or has the potential to cause substantial and material disruption to the educational environment or the operation of the school or School Division;

_____ 6) when a student is the subject of investigation, arrest, petition for review, probation and sentencing for criminal conduct unrelated to school matters;

7) when public attention or scrutiny of the student causes or has the potential to cause substantial and material disruption to the educational environment; and

8) when school authorities determine that there are unique circumstances that justify the need to take action against the student.

~~2.—Rules and regulations governing school-sponsored activities that occur off school property shall apply to all students who are either participants in the activity or are spectators. Such rules shall bear a reasonable relationship to the purpose and functions of the activity.~~

~~3.—For situations in which students are off school property and are not associated with a school-sponsored activity, the School Administration will exert its authority over students only insofar as the actions of such students could substantially disrupt the educational process in the schools or deprive other students of their right to an education both in the curricular and extra-curricular program.~~

~~1.—For all situations other than those covered in the above, the parents and legal guardians have full responsibility for minor children and adult students will be responsible for themselves. These situations where students are outside the scope of school authority include, but are not limited to, the following:~~

~~a.—While a student is in transit to and from school in a private vehicle.~~

~~b.—When a student leaves the school premises during lunch.~~

~~c.—When a student absents himself/herself from the school property during the regular day without authorization from a school official.~~

Legal Reference:

Code of Virginia § 22.1-78, as amended. Bylaws and regulations.

~~1960-1961 Opinions of the Attorney General 274.~~

Adopted by School Board: October 21, 1969

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