

STUDENTS

Hazing/Assault and Battery or Fighting/Profane, Obscene or Abusive Language or Conduct/Bullying

A. Hazing

Students who haze or otherwise mistreat another student so as to cause bodily injury shall immediately be suspended from school under the provisions set forth in Policy 5-21 and Regulations 5-21.1 and 5-21.3.

B. Assault and Battery or Fighting

~~Assault and battery or fighting~~ Fighting on school grounds or in school buildings, school buses, on the way to or from school, or at school sponsored extra-curricular or other activities is prohibited. Violators may also be subject to prosecution as provided by state law.

Any student grabbing, striking, hitting, kicking, or otherwise physically abusing a teacher or any other school personnel shall immediately be ~~suspended~~ disciplined in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and the Discipline Guidelines and recommended for appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. Criminal action may be taken against such student.

C. Profane or Abusive Language or Conduct

Students who use language, a gesture, or engage in conduct that is vulgar, profane, obscene, or abusive, or which substantially and materially disrupts the educational or work environment shall automatically receive a discipline referral to the principal or assistant principal for appropriate disciplinary action including suspension and/or a recommendation for long-term suspension or expulsion.

D. Bullying

Bullying is defined as: any aggressive and unwanted behavior that is intended to harm, intimidate, or humiliate the victim; involves a real or perceived power imbalance between the aggressor or aggressors and victim; and is repeated over time or causes severe emotional trauma. "Bullying" includes cyber bullying. Bullying does not include ordinary teasing, horseplay, argument, or peer conflict. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, verbal or written threats, or physical harm. Bullying will not be tolerated and students shall be referred to the principal or assistant principal for appropriate disciplinary action which may include suspension and/or recommendation for long-term suspension or expulsion. Within five school days of receiving a complaint of alleged bullying, parents/legal guardians

of minor students or the adult student alleged to be involved with the complaint, will be notified of the status of any investigation regarding the complaint.

Legal Reference:

| Code of Virginia § 18.2-56, as amended. Hazing unlawful; civil and criminal liability; duty of school, etc., officials.

| Code of Virginia § 18.2-57, as amended. Assault and battery.

| Code of Virginia §22.1-276.01, as amended. Definitions.

| Code of Virginia § 22.1-279.8, as amended. School safety audits and school crisis and emergency management plans required.

| Code of Virginia §22.1-279.6, as amended. Board of Education guidelines and model policies for codes of student conduct; school board regulations.

Code of Virginia §22.1-291.4, as amended. Bullying prohibited.

Approved by Superintendent: September 21, 1993 (Effective August 14, 1993)

Adopted by School Board: May 19, 1998

Amended by School Board: August 2, 2000

Amended by School Board: April 4, 2006

Amended by Superintendent: September 5, 2017

Amended by School Board: May 14, 2018

Amended by School Board: 2018

APPROVED AS TO
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY


