

Disciplinary Action Relative to Student Misconduct

Section A – Introduction

The administration is authorized to suspend, and/or refer or recommend to the Board for consideration of disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, expulsion of a student for violation of any of the following policies:

- Policy 6:235: Purpose and Use of Computer and Network Resources
- Policy 7:181: Harassment - Students
- Policy 7:180: Hazing, Bullying, or Aggressive Behavior.
- Policy 7:190: Student Behavior, Misconduct, Rights and Responsibilities
- Policy 7:193: Student Smoking and Tobacco
- Policy 7:194: Illegal Substances and Paraphernalia
- Policy 7:195: Weapons Possession
- Policy 7:196: Academic Dishonesty
- Policy 7:70: Student Attendance

Section B – Disciplinary Action Relative to Student Misconduct

1. Students whose misconduct is determined to violate Board policy may be subject to a range of consequences as stated in this policy and in the policies related to student conduct.
2. The Board of Education directs the Superintendent or designee to develop procedures for administering the cases of student misconduct. These procedures will include:
 - a. Interventions – The Board of Education directs and authorizes the Superintendent or designee to develop interventions aimed at assisting students who manifest an inability to adjust to the demands of school life as evidenced by violations of any of the above policies. Such interventions may include, but are not limited to: modifying the educational placement of the student, (consistent with the requirements of Federal and State laws relative to students with disabilities, where applicable) providing in-school support services, and recommending community support services.
 - b. Major Disciplinary Review Committee (MDRC) – Each school shall establish a Major Disciplinary Review Committee. The MDRC shall be chaired by the Director of Student Supports and shall comprise the Principal, the Assistant Principal for Student Services, a Dean, a social worker, a school counselor, a school psychologist, and other staff members as assigned on a case by case basis by the Principal. In the event the student who is the subject of an MDRC meeting receives special education services, the Director of Special Education shall also serve as a member of the MDRC.

The purpose of the MDRC will be to review each case to: (1) assemble documentation relevant to the student and the alleged violation to be used in consideration of the matter; (2) assure due process procedures have been followed; and (3) determine if a violation of policy has occurred.

- c. The Principal will thereafter develop a recommendation for appropriate action. The Principal may gather additional information, as the Principal deems appropriate for the recommendation. The recommendation will be referred to the Superintendent, who may

make a referral to the Board of Education for review and possible expulsion.

- d. **Alternative Discipline Plan (ADP)** – The Board of Education directs and authorizes the Superintendent or designee to develop and implement an ADP for student misconduct and/or behaviors resulting in violations of the policies listed above.
- e. **Suspension** – Suspension is the removal from school for a period not to exceed 10 school days, due to gross disobedience or misconduct. The Board authorizes the Principal or designee to suspend students from school for a period not to exceed 10 school days. Students may also be assigned to an in-school suspension or a Saturday detention at the discretion of the Principal or designee. A student who is subject to suspension or expulsion may be eligible for transfer to an alternative school program by the Superintendent or Board of Education as permitted by State law.
- f. **Expulsion** – Expulsion is the removal from school for a period longer than 10 school days. Acts of gross disobedience, egregious conduct, or gross misconduct or repeated violations as enumerated in the policies listed above may result in a referral to the Board of Education for consideration of expulsion. Only the Board can expel a student from school. A student who is subject to suspension or expulsion may be eligible for transfer to an alternative school program by the Superintendent or Board of Education as permitted by State Law.
- g. **Review Procedures** – The Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to develop informal and formal review procedures for students who are suspended, and/or may be considered for expulsion from school.
- h. **Hearing Procedures** – Students referred to the Board of Education for review of a student’s suspension, or for possible expulsion, will be entitled to a hearing before the Board, or a hearing officer designated by the Board. Unless otherwise directed by the Board, the Superintendent or designee is authorized to engage a hearing officer for the purpose of hearing evidence and providing a written summary of the evidence to the Board for its consideration and final action.
- i. **Waiver of Discipline Hearing** – The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop a waiver procedure as an option to students and parent(s)/guardian(s) in lieu of a hearing when a major disciplinary infraction may result in a consideration of expulsion and a hearing before the Board of Education or a hearing officer as authorized by Board policies.
- j. **No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student where the student’s conduct is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student or the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.**

Section C - Education of the School Community

Information about the school district's discipline policies shall be included in the Student and Parent Handbook and the faculty shall review the discipline policies with students within fifteen (15) days after the beginning of each school year or when a student transfers into the district.

Section D - Staff Training and Education

The school district, at least once per academic year, shall conduct appropriate training sessions for all administrators, faculty, and staff responsible for implementing disciplinary procedures.

Section E - Board Decision Not Precedential

The Board's decision in any case involving this policy shall be made on a case-by-case basis and shall not be deemed precedential in effect.

Approved: August 26, 1996

Reviewed: August 25, 1997

Revised: August 21, 2000

Revised: August 11, 2003

Adopted: April 11, 2005

(Replaced Policy 8140: Major Disciplinary Problems and Policy 8120: Student Suspensions)

Revised: June 26, 2006

Revised: June 22, 2015

Revised: June 10, 2023