

## WELCOME!

Grapeview staff and administration would like to thank you for joining us at Grapeview Elementary and Middle School!

This planner is provided to each student at Grapeview (except TK-K students) to encourage consistent communication between school and home, as well as encourage students to be organized. You will find valuable information from your child's teacher(s) - including, but not limited to, assignment due dates, homework assignments, behavioral notes, and important school activities. Regular review of the planner between parent and child is highly encouraged, a suggested minimum is weekly, but daily would be best. Use of the planner daily to stay organized and informed is the goal of our staff for each of our students.

Also included in this planner are important school procedures and policies. We have tried to include answers to the most frequently asked questions of parents/guardians. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact the office, principal, or the specific teacher.

Have a great year!

The Grapeview Staff

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

School Phone Numbers: (360) 426 - 4921 (360) 275 - 4921 Fax Number: (360) 427 - 8975 Attendance Line: attendance@gsd54.org Website: www.gsd54.org This site has access to staff webpages/contact information, parental access to online payments and grades, district information, calendars, parent information, links to student resources, and much, much more!

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

Grapeview School Color – Purple Grapeview Mascot – Gators Grades: K-8 Start/End times: 8:45 – 3:15, except Mondays (late arrival) student times 9:45-3:15

## NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Grapeview School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights and Title IX Coordinator: Superintendent, Gerald Grubbs, 360-426-4921, <u>ggrubbs@gsd54.org</u>. 504 Coordinator: Hannah Nelsen, 360-426-4921, <u>hnelsen@gsd54.org</u>. 822 E Mason Benson Road Grapeview, WA 98546.

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance is positively linked to academic success!

If your child is absent, please call, send a note, or email the office directly. Our automatic system will call home for any student who is absent without notification. Attendance Line: <u>attendance@gsd54.org</u>

## **EXCUSED ABSENCES**

All absences due to illness and/or family emergencies are excused if provided with a note/email/phone call from the appropriate guardian. Other absences may be excused following a confidential conversation with the principal. *All absences not excused within 48 hours will be considered unexcused; appropriate disciplinary consequences will be assigned.* 

#### <u>SSHB 2449</u>:

- After five excused absences in any month the school district is required to contact you to schedule a conference at a mutually agreeable, reasonable time with at least one district employee, to identify the barriers and supports available to you and your student.
- After ten or more excused absences in the school year a conference is required.
- A conference is not required if your student has provided a doctor's note, or pre-arranged the absence in writing, and the parent, student and school have made plan, so your student does not fall behind academically. If your student has an Individualized Education Plan or a 504 Plan the team that created the plan needs to reconvene.

## **UNEXCUSED ABSENCES/TARDIES**

Oversleeping, missing the bus, transportation issues, clothing problems, and babysitting siblings are not excused absences. The parent and principal must work together to excuse family trips and other absences, not due to illness or emergencies. **Prior approval is mandatory**. Students should bring a note from parents to the Attendance Secretary a minimum of one week prior to the dates of a planned absence. The student will receive a planned absence form from the Attendance Secretary, which needs to be given to teachers and then approved by the principal.

RCW 28A.225.030, .035,.018, and .020 School/District Requirements

- After one unexcused absence in a month, the school is required to inform the parent in writing or by phone.
- After three unexcused absences, the school is required to initiate a parent conference to improve the student's attendance.
- No later than seven unexcused absences in a month, the district and parents will enter into an agreement establishing attendance requirements, or refer the student to the Community Engagement Board, or file petition under subsection (1) of RCW 28A.225.030.
- After seven unexcused absences in a month, and not later than 15 cumulative unexcused absences in a school year, a truancy petition is filed with Juvenile Court-Court must "stay" the petition and parent, child and district must meet with CEB within 20 days and enter into agreement.

#### **PARENT ACCESS**

Family Access gives parents/guardians access to their child's information, including attendance, assignments, grades (as posted), food service, schedules and more. To sign up, please complete the Skyward Family Access Use Agreement and return to the office. Parents/guardians will need to provide their email for this option.

If you are unable to sign up for Family Access, please notify the office if you would like the above information (including progress reports) sent home on a regular basis.

#### **REPORT CARDS**

Grapeview uses a semester system; therefore, report cards are printed two times a year: January and June. Middle school will receive progress reports/report cards at each of the quarters, with conferences for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Whereas the elementary will have report cards only at the semester, the conferences will be to share current growth for 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. The elementary school (K-5) utilizes a standards-based report card and a 1-4 scoring option. Students are graded based on their acquisition of specific skills in each subject area. The middle school (6-8) utilizes the letter grade system for completion of assignments and assessment within each course.

#### **FEES and FINES**

The following are some of the fees and fines that can be incurred while attending Grapeview: Art Programs: \$2.00 - \$10.00 Textbook Fines: \$5.00 - \$80.00+ Extra – Curricular Activities: these costs are dependent on the activity. Athletics Fee: Under review by the School Board.

## **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH PRICES**

Elementary and Middle School Breakfast - \$1.50; Milk - \$.50. Elementary Lunch - \$2.75 Middle School Lunch - \$3.00

## **RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

Federal law requires an annual reminder to parents that the School District is permitted to publish certain information about students, such as name, address, telephone, place of birth, participation in sports and activities, diplomas and awards, athletic rosters, and honor roll. These items may be in yearbooks, on the website, in the newspaper or other public forms. If parents or guardians do not wish such information released, please complete the "opt out" form that is available in the office.

## **MONEY, VALUABLES, TOYS**

Money and valuables should not be brought to school due to the danger of loss. Students are requested not to bring more money than is needed during the day. It is STRONGLY ADVISED that all valuables (jewelry, cameras, media devices, radios, and toys) not be brought to school. Personal items are brought at the student's risk and may be taken by the teacher or administrator if they cause a problem and will be returned to the parent.

## TECHNOLOGY

Using computers at Grapeview School is a privilege and are to be used for educational purposes only. The following actions are prohibited and could result in disciplinary procedures:

- Viewing objectionable material or materials not authorized by the instructor.
- Involvement in any form of electronic communication is not allowed on the Grapeview School campus.
- Involvement in cyber-bullying, threats, or other potentially harmful incidents, which would be detrimental to the learning of self or others and will result in consequences.
- Participating in, destroying, modifying, deleting, or adding software to district computers without permission.
- Interfering or disrupting other users, services (work) or equipment.

In consideration for the privilege of using the school network and for having access to the public networks (Internet), the student and Parent/Guardian agree to release the Grapeview School District and any related service provider(s) from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from the students use, or ability to use, the school's computer facilities.

#### PERSONAL MEDIA DEVICES

Grapeview School District recognizes the importance of digital devices for accessing educational opportunities. The district provides students with computers for this purpose. Students may bring a cell phone or other personal communication device to school as needed. <u>Grapeview does not allow cell phones or any other personal</u> <u>communication devices from 8:15 – 3:15, or on the bus from pick up to drop off.</u>

These devices are to be used ONLY for educational purposes such as research, reading, assessment, etc. Games, videos, music, photos, etc. are not allowed – unless part of the educational process and under adult supervision.

# All students with a personal device MUST complete a parental permission form for its use on school grounds. All damages, loss, and expenditures are the responsibility of the student and his/her family; Grapeview School and District are to be released from any claims and/or damages of the student's personal computing device.

- Parents may reach students in an emergency by calling the school.
- Students may also place phone calls between classes or at lunch in the office or with the permission of their teacher.
- Students having a device visible and/or which causes a disruption during school will have it confiscated and it will ONLY be returned to the parent.

Parental support of these policies is appreciated. Loss of the privilege will occur with continued infractions, as well as disciplinary consequences.

## VISITING SCHOOL

Parents and guests are always welcome at school and we highly encourage you to come. Please contact the principal in advance if you wish to visit a classroom. For safety reasons, please always sign in and out through the office. A child will only be released when signed out through the office. Children leaving school during the school day must bring a signed note from home permitting us to excuse them.

## **GUARDIANSHIP OF STUDENTS**

Parents or guardians who have restraining orders or other legal documents regarding the custody of a child are required to have a copy on file with the principal. If problems concerning custody arise during the year, please notify us as soon as possible. In a custody question, the custodial parent will be contacted. We will not allow a child to leave without the permission of the custodial parent or guardian.

#### **GENDER INCLUSIVE BATHROOM**

Any student who requests greater privacy for any reason will be given access to an alternative restroom. The gender inclusive bathroom is located in the Elementary School, directly across from the school Library.

#### DISCIPLINE

Please refer to School Board Policies listed in the Student Rights and Responsibilities section, which are included at the end of this insert, for more specific information.

(Board Policy 3240) Students are expected to:

- A. Respect the rights, person and property of others;
- B. Pursue the required course of study;
- C. Preserve the degree of order necessary for a positive climate for learning; and
- D. Comply with district rules and regulations;
- E. Submit to the authority of staff and reasonable discipline imposed by school employees and respond accordingly.

## **PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE**

It is important to remember that the frequency with which students violate various school policies, rules and regulations is often of greater concern than single violations. The cumulative effects of these acts, as well as student age, extenuating circumstances, and district policy, will determine the form of discipline.

The school may use the following disciplinary actions:

- Classroom interventions, best practices, and restorative practices
- Conference with an administrator
- Restriction of recess and/or lunch break
- After school detention/work service assigned by an administrator
- In School Suspension (ISS)
- Short Term Suspension student is removed from classes 1-10 days
- Long Term Suspension student is removed from classes 11-90 days (grades 5-8)
- Emergency Expulsion –student is removed from classes indefinitely until investigation is concluded and discipline is assigned
- Expulsion student is removed from classes for the remainder of the school year.

## **Grapeview Dress Code Guidelines**

The shaded portion of this figure represents front and back views. These parts of the body must be covered in all positions (sitting, standing, bending, reaching) while attending school.



In order to facilitate learning for all students, Grapeview's dress code requires students' dress and appearance not be distracting to the learning environment, unhealthy, or unsafe.

Students who do not follow these guidelines will be requested to change. Numerous incidents of dress code violations will result in disciplinary action.

## <u>Headwear</u>

Hats, hoods, may be worn at the discretion of the staff member and may not distract form the educational environment.

## Torso

Tank tops with open armholes, shirts with spaghetti straps, bare midriffs, open backs, and clothing that is showing undergarments are not allowed.

## Legs

All clothing for legs should be at least mid-thigh, this includes "rips" or "cuts" in clothing. No pajama bottoms or "sagging" – all clothing should cover undergarments.

## Footwear

Sandals must encapsulate the foot, no wheelies, and slippers are not allowed unless it is a spirit day. Middle School students may choose to wear flip-flops or high heels, but it is not advised due to safety.

## **Other Guidelines**

Clothing or personal items (backpacks, etc.) that promote drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, hatred, prejudice, or are sexually suggestive in words or graphics are prohibited.

Clothing designed to draw undue attention and/or cause a disruption to the learning environment is not allowed.

## **Physical Education attire:**

Middle School students are required to dress down into t-shirt, athletic shorts, and tennis shoes.

Elementary students must have athletic shoes during PE.

## **GRAPEVIEW PROGRESSIVE DISCIPLINE**

Classroom Environment/Adult Strategies

- Teach expectations
- Build relationships
- Reinforce positive behaviors
- Problem solve with student(s)
- Elicit parent/guardian/family help

Observe and identify problem

Is the behavior minor or major?

**Restorative Practices** 

Conference with teacher

Reteach expectation

If removed from the class setting for over 10 minutes: Parent phone call Infraction sheet completed

**MINOR** Blurting out Talking back Disruptions Debating Incomplete work Not listening to adult Irresponsible use of Facilities Running in halls Teasing Dress Code Swearing Misuse of electronics Cell phone misuse Horseplay

MAJOR Fighting/Assault Racial/sexual behaviors or comments Verbal disrespect Harassment/threats Stealing Vandalism Bullying Weapons Abusive language Leaving class Continual minor behaviors Serious disruption to class or activity

Administrative Action

Investigation of incident

Principal determines consequences.

Contacts families

Gives copy of decisions to referring staff member

## The following actions by students will be subject to immediate Administrative Actions and may result in notification of law enforcement:

- Possession, use, or sale (or attempt to sell) of alcohol, chemical, or illegal substances
- Possession, use, or sale of tobacco products
- Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying (HIB) of students and/or staff
- Threatening to use a firearm or weapon at school
- Possessing and/or using firearms, weapons, or explosive devices
- Arson and/or damaging public or private property
- Excessive or flagrant disruption to the educational process
- Sexual harassment
- Use of abusive or insulting language
- Theft over \$25
- Fighting/assault

Please see Board Policy 3241 and 3241P (both revised in the 2021-22 school year) for additional information. Both can be found at <u>www.gsd54.org</u>, under the heading School Board, Policies, 3000.

## **BUS EXPECTATIONS**

Our goal is to provide safe, reliable transportation. Our bus drivers need everyone's cooperation to ensure a pleasant ride for all. Pupils are always accountable for their actions while riding the bus. The following expectations will be enforced for students riding Grapeview School busses.

- Follow the directions of the bus driver.
- Remain seated and face the front of the bus, leaving aisles and exits clear.
- Eating, drinking, or littering on the bus is not allowed.
- All school rules apply while on the bus: language, touching others, cell-phone use, etc.
- Please use level 1 voices; unnecessary or excessive noise is not allowed.
- Glass containers, animals, large objects, balloons, skateboards, etc. are not allowed. Students must be able to hold objects on their laps without impeding the seating area of others.
- Students shall be silent at railroad crossings.
- Students must have an office bus pass to be let off at a different stop.
- Due to our busses being at capacity, no students can ride a bus different than the one they are assigned. (If you are requesting a change of address for babysitting, etc. please contact the office.)
- Students must cross in front of the bus; wait for the driver's hand signal before beginning to cross.
- Windows must only be opened to a level approved by the driver. Students will not extend head, arms, or any objects out of the windows.

## **Gator Behavior Expectations**

	Safe	Responsible	Respectful
Hallway	<ul> <li>Walk.</li> <li>Stay in your line.</li> <li>Hands to your side, face forward.</li> <li>Keep your backpack zipped and on your back.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Go directly to where you need to be.</li> <li>Follow directions.</li> <li>Stay to the right.</li> <li>Allow younger students to move before you.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Enjoy the artwork; look with your eyes only.</li> <li>Remain in your space in line.</li> <li>Voice level 0/1</li> </ul>
Playground	<ul> <li>Stay within boundaries.</li> <li>Hands to yourself.</li> <li>Run on grassy areas only.</li> <li>Use only school-provided equipment.</li> <li>Follow rules of specific areas or games</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Dress appropriately for the weather.</li> <li>Be a problem solver</li> <li>Tell an adult if you see an unsafe choice.</li> <li>Line up when the signal is given and use a voice level 1.</li> <li>Follow directions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use kind language.</li> <li>Take turns.</li> <li>Be a good sport.</li> <li>Respect nature.</li> <li>Respect others</li> <li>Food remains inside</li> <li>Voice level 0-3.</li> </ul>
Cafeteria	<ul> <li>Eat your own food.</li> <li>Have a calm body while waiting in line and eating.</li> <li>Stay seated until you are dismissed.</li> <li>Sit at your assigned table areas.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Make room for all of your friends at the table.</li> <li>Be a problem solver.</li> <li>Clean up your space, including the floor</li> <li>Follow directions.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use good manners.</li> <li>Raise your hand if you need an adult's help.</li> <li>Wait patiently and quietly in line.</li> <li>Voice level 0, 1, or 2</li> </ul>
Bus	<ul> <li>Back to the back of seat.</li> <li>Stay seated</li> <li>Backpack in lap.</li> <li>Feet on floor.</li> <li>Stay in your personal place.</li> <li>Follow driver directions.</li> <li>Follow safety rules.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Get on and off bus carefully and quietly</li> <li>Follow directions.</li> <li>Be a problem solver.</li> <li>All cell phones are off and put away.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use kind language.</li> <li>Make space for others.</li> <li>Voice level 0 or 1.</li> </ul>
Classroo m	<ul> <li>Stay in your personal space.</li> <li>Walk.</li> <li>Use materials or equipment appropriately.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Take pride in our school, keep it clean!</li> <li>Follow directions and classroom routines.</li> <li>Do quality work.</li> <li>Be a problem solver.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Work cooperatively.</li> <li>Listen carefully while others speak.</li> <li>Be considerate.</li> <li>Show kindness to others.</li> <li>Voice level 0, 1, 2, or 3.</li> </ul>
Rest Rooms	<ul> <li>Walk.</li> <li>Wait in line, if there is one.</li> <li>Hands, feet, and all objects to yourself.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Clean up after yourself.</li> <li>1 pump of soap.</li> <li>Use towels sparingly.</li> <li>Ensure the toilet is flushed before exiting.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Be considerate.</li> <li>Keep the area clean.</li> <li>Voice Level 0</li> </ul>

## **GRAPEVIEW AWARDS AND CELEBRATIONS**

In an effort to recognize the positive behaviors and choices of students, Grapeview employs several different types of celebrations. Below is a list of those that are at the school level.

## Gator Tails

Every student at Grapeview can be recognized for their positive contributions to the school. The Gator Tails Initiative is a PBIS activity where students are caught by their teachers doing the right things, supporting their classmates, or otherwise displaying the qualities that make them a Great Gator.

- Students will be taught the Gator Expectations by school staff.
- Each month there will be a designated theme for student behavior.
- Students who are seen by school staff displaying the qualities of that theme will be given a Gator Tail.
- Gator Tails must have the student's full name, grade, and staff signature.
- Gator Tails should be turned in to the boxes outside the main office.
- Each month a student from grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8 will be drawn from the Gator Tails boxes and receive a prize.
- Gator Tails are displayed in the hallway outside the Gym.

## Academic Excellence

Students in the eighth grade who are in the top 10% of academic achievement are recognized by the Skookum Rotary. They are honored through a recognition assembly, visit to the University of Puget Sound, and a photo memorial.

## HOMEWORK POLICY

## **PRIMARY STUDENTS:**

Please do not expect your primary (K-1) child to have homework in the "typical" sense of a worksheet or task to be completed. Instead, we wish to encourage you to utilize your time for family activities. Consider the abbreviation: PDF = Playtime, Downtime, and Family time.

<u>Playtime</u> - consider playing a game, being outside, or competing in a sport = activities that would allow your child time to practice their social skills.

<u>Downtime</u>- relax by reading, napping, watching T.V. = this would be time they could practice their independence. <u>Family Time</u>- spend time together by cooking together, playing a counting game, writing out the grocery list = the goal for this time is to work on academic skills in a non-academic setting – "real-life" situations.

If you wish your child to practice the more familiar Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic – we have placed numerous websites and ideas on our website.

## **INTERMEDIATE STUDENTS:**

While we continue to encourage PDF in grades 2-5; there will be times when your child has book reports and/or projects that must be completed at home. All teachers will communicate with you when these projects are occurring so that you are aware of the extra expectations. (Students that are absent are required to make up missing assignments.)

## MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS:

You can expect all middle school students to have a minimum of 30 minutes of homework each evening. This could be the expectation to read, practice writing, finish math problems, or studying for a test. As students progress through the grade levels, this amount may increase in preparation for high school expectations.

If your child is struggling with a concept or assignment – please contact the teacher. Please try to avoid spending hours debating and arguing over the assignment that has come home. Let the teacher know it is a concern.

## **SPORTS PROGRAM (Grades 5-8)**

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

Grapeview School participates in an interscholastic athletic program dedicated to the learning of skills and promoting sportsmanship. Grapeview is a member of the Tri-County Athletic League.

## FEES

The Grapeview School Board is reviewing the possibility of a small sports fee. If this occurs, more information will be provided – including how to apply for a scholarship and/or waiver.

## SPORTS PHYSICALS

A current sports physical must be on file in the office in order to be eligible to participate in any sport. The physical expires 24 months from the examination date.

## ELIGIBILITY

Grapeview is a "no-cut" sports program – students will not be removed from a team due to athletic ability. However, some students may be eliminated because of a negative or uncooperative attitude, disrespect towards others, and/or grades.

To be eligible to participate in a sport, students must have a C- or better in all classes for the immediate term prior to the season and maintain these grades through the season. Students will be placed on probation for D grades and suspended for an F. Probation allows a student to practice with the team, but they may not participate in a game or travel with the team. A suspended student is unable to practice or attend games until their grades are improved. \*For 5<sup>th</sup> grade students – eligibility is determined by teacher recommendation, as standards are not similar to letter grades.

## **SPORTS OFFERINGS**

Season	Boys' Sports	Girls' Sports
Fall	Flag Football	Volleyball
Winter	Basketball	Basketball
Spring	Track and Field	Track and Field

## ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY

## **OVERVIEW**

Grapeview Middle School has a very active student government. The ASB has the responsibility of planning student activities such as dances, fundraising projects, and other activities. Our ASB participates in leadership activities and follows the guidelines of the Association of Washington Student Leaders (AWSL).

## DANCES

During the school year, the ASB sponsors several dances or socials. Staff and parent volunteers supervise the dances. All school socials are limited to current Grapeview students only. Attendance the day of the dance or social is required and school dress codes apply.

## SPECIAL ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Students are encouraged to participate in all afterschool activities. To participate in extra-curricular events, students need to maintain passing grades and have acceptable school behavior.

## COORDINATORS

Grapeview School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

The following employee(s) has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination:

Civil Rights and Title IX Coordinator: Gerald Grubbs, 360-426-4921, ggrubbs@gsd54.org

504 Coordinator: Hannah Nelsen, 360-426-4921, <u>hnelsen@gsd54.org</u>

822 E Mason Benson Road Grapeview, WA 98546.

## MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS CHILDREN POLICY

The Grapeview School District's Homeless Child Liaison is Hannah Nelsen: 360-426-4921; <u>hnelsen@gsd54.org</u>. If you need assistance, please contact the office.

## **GUN-FREE SCHOOL POLICY**

The Grapeview School District has a gun-free school policy that includes one-year mandatory expulsion for firearms, mandatory notification of student violations to parent/guardians and law enforcement and allows the expulsion to be modified by principal or superintendent on a case-by-case basis.

## **Complaints about Discrimination, Discriminatory Harassment, and Sexual Harassment**

## What is discrimination?

Discrimination is unfair or unlawful treatment of a person or group because they are part of a defined group, known as a protected class. Discrimination may include treating a person differently or denying someone access to a program, service, or activity because they are part of a protected class or failing to accommodate a person's disability.

## What is a protected class?

A protected class is a group of people who share common characteristics and are protected from discrimination or harassment by federal, state, or local laws. Protected classes under Washington State law include sex, race, color, religion, creed, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, veteran or military status, and the use of a trained guide dog or service animal.

## How do I file a complaint about discrimination?

If you believe that you or your child has experienced unlawful discrimination or discriminatory harassment at school based on any protected class, you have the right to file a formal complaint. For a full copy of the school district's nondiscrimination procedure, visit <u>www.gsd54.org</u> or contact the school district at 360-426-4921 or 275-4921.

Before filing a complaint, you may wish to discuss your concerns with your child's principal or with the school district's Section 504 Coordinator, Title IX Officer, or Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. This is often the fastest way to resolve your concerns.

## Step 1: Complaint to the School District

In most cases, complaints must be filed within one year from the date of the event that is the subject matter of the complaint. A complaint must be in writing, it must describe what happened, and state why you believe it is discrimination. It is also helpful to include what actions you would like the district to take to resolve your complaint.

Complaints may be submitted by mail, fax, email, or hand delivery to any district or school administrator or the district's Compliance Coordinator.

When the school district receives your written complaint, the Compliance Coordinator will give you a copy of the district's discrimination complaint procedure. The Compliance Coordinator will then make sure that the school district conducts a prompt and thorough investigation. You may also agree to resolve your complaint in lieu of an investigation.

The school district must respond to you in writing within 30 calendar days after receiving your complaint, unless you agree on a different date. If exceptional circumstances related to the complaint require an extension of the time limit, the school district will notify you in writing about the reasons for the extension and the anticipated response date.

When the school district responds to your complaint, it must include:

1. A summary of the results of the investigation;

- 2. Whether or not the school district has failed to comply with civil rights requirements related to the complaint;
- 3. Notice of your right to appeal, including where and to whom the appeal must be filed; and
- 4. Any corrective measures determined necessary to correct any noncompliance.

## Step 2: Appeal to the School Board

If you disagree with the school district's decision, you may appeal to the School District's Board of Directors. You must file a notice of appeal in writing to the secretary of the school board within 10 calendar days after you received the school district's response to your complaint.

The school board will schedule a hearing within 20 calendar days after they received your appeal, unless you agree on a different timeline. At the hearing, you may bring witnesses or other information related to your appeal.

The school board will send you a written decision within 30 calendar days after the district received your notice of appeal. The school board's decision will include information about how to file a complaint with OSPI.

## Step 3: Complaint to OSPI

If you do not agree with the school board's appeal decision, you may file a complaint with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI). A complaint must be filed with OSPI within 20 calendar days after you received the district's appeal decision. You may send your complaint to OSPI by e-mail, mail, fax, or hand-delivery:

E-mail: Equity@k12.wa.us

Fax: (360) 664-2967

Mail: OSPI Equity and Civil Rights Office, PO Box 47200, Olympia, WA 98504-7200

Complaints cannot be filed with OSPI unless they have already been raised with the school district and appealed, as outlined in Steps 1 and 2 above, or if the school district did not follow the correct complaint and appeal procedures.

For more information, visit www.k12.wa.us/Equity/Complaints.aspx, or contact OSPI's Equity and Civil Rights Office at (360) 725-6162/TTY: (360) 664-3631 or by e-mail at equity@k12.wa.us.

## STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **3200 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The mission of the district is to assure learning experiences to help all students develop skills, competencies and attitudes fundamental to achieving individual satisfaction as responsible, contributing citizens. As a result of the process of education, each student should clarify his/her basic values and develop a commitment to act upon these values within the framework of his/her rights and responsibilities as a participant in the democratic process.

Each year, the superintendent shall develop and make available to all students, their parents and staff handbooks pertaining to student rights, conduct, corrective actions and punishment. Such statements shall be developed with the participation of parents and the community. The school principal and staff shall confer at least annually to develop and/or review student conduct standards and the uniform enforcement of those standards as related to the established student handbooks. They shall also confer annually to establish criteria for determining when certificated employees must complete classes to improve classroom management skills. All students who attend the district's schools shall comply with the written policies, rules and regulations of the schools, shall pursue the required course of studies, and shall submit to the authority of staff of the schools, subject to such corrective action or punishment as the school officials shall determine.

#### 3205 Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited

This district is committed to a positive and productive education free from discrimination, including sexual harassment. This commitment extends to all students involved in academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs or activities of the school, whether that program or activity is in a school facility, on school transportation or at a class or school training held elsewhere.

#### Definitions

For purposes of this policy, sexual harassment means unwelcome conduct or communication of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment can occur adult to student, student to student or can be carried out by a group of students or adults and will be investigated by the District even if the alleged harasser is not a part of the school staff or student body. The district prohibits sexual harassment of students by other students, employees or third parties involved in school district activities.

Under federal and state law, the term "sexual harassment" may include:

• acts of sexual violence;

• unwelcome sexual or gender-directed conduct or communication that interferes with an individual's educational performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment;

- unwelcome sexual advances;
- unwelcome requests for sexual favors;
- sexual demands when submission is a stated or implied condition of obtaining an educational benefit;
- sexual demands where submission or rejection is a factor in an academic, or other school-related decision affecting an individual.

A "hostile environment" has been created for a student when sexual harassment is sufficiently serious to interfere with or limit the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's program. The more severe the conduct, the less need there is to demonstrate a repetitive series of incidents. In fact, a single or isolated incident of sexual harassment may create a hostile environment if the incident is sufficiently severe, violent, or egregious.

#### Investigation and Response

If the district knows, or reasonably should know, that sexual harassment has created a hostile environment, it will promptly investigate to determine what occurred and take appropriate steps to resolve the situation. If an investigation reveals that sexual harassment has created a hostile environment, the district will take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to end the sexual harassment, eliminate the hostile environment, prevent its recurrence and as appropriate, remedy its effects. The district will take prompt, equitable and remedial action within its authority on reports, complaints and grievances alleging sexual harassment that come to the attention of the district, either formally or informally. The district will take these steps every time a complaint, alleging sexual harassment comes to the attention of the district, either formally or informally or informally.

Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement and suspected child abuse will be reported to law enforcement or Child Protective Services. Regardless of whether the misconduct is reported to law enforcement, school staff will promptly investigate to determine what occurred and take appropriate steps to resolve the situation, to the extent that such investigation does not interfere with an ongoing criminal investigation. A criminal investigation does not relieve the district of its independent obligation to investigate and resolve sexual harassment.

Engaging in sexual harassment will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff or other third parties involved in school district activities. Anyone else who engages in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities will have their access to school property and activities restricted, as appropriate.

#### Retaliation and False Allegations

Retaliation against any person who makes or is a witness in a sexual harassment complaint is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. The district will take appropriate actions to protect involved persons from retaliation. It is a violation of this policy to knowingly report false allegations of sexual harassment. Persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

#### Staff Responsibilities

The superintendent will develop and implement formal and informal procedures for receiving, investigating and resolving complaints or reports of sexual harassment. The procedures will include reasonable and prompt time lines and delineate staff responsibilities under this policy.

Any school employee who witnesses sexual harassment or receives a report, informal complaint, or written complaint about sexual harassment is responsible for informing the district Title IX or Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. All staff are also responsible for directing complainants to the formal complaint process.

Reports of discrimination and discriminatory harassment will be referred to the district's Title IX/Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. Reports of disability discrimination or harassment will be referred to the district's Section 504 Coordinator.

## 3207 PROHIBITION OF HARASSMENT, INTIMIDATION AND BULLYING

The board is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees, parents/legal guardians, volunteers and community members that is free from harassment, intimidation or bullying. "Harassment, intimidation or bullying" means any intentionally written message or image — including those that are electronically transmitted — verbal, or physical act, including but not limited to one shown to be motivated by race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation including gender expression or identity, mental or physical disability or other distinguishing characteristics, when an act:

- A. Physically harms a student or damages the student's property;
- B. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
- C. Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- D. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Nothing in this section requires the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for the harassment, intimidation or bullying.

"Other distinguishing characteristics" can include but are not limited to physical appearance, clothing or other apparel, socioeconomic status and weight.

"Intentional acts" refers to the individual's choice to engage in the act rather than the ultimate impact of the action(s).

#### Behaviors/Expressions

Harassment, intimidation or bullying can take many forms including, but not limited to, slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendoes, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats or other written, oral, physical or electronically transmitted messages or images.

This policy is not intended to prohibit expression of religious, philosophical, or political views, provided that the expression does not substantially disrupt the educational environment. Many behaviors that do not rise to the level of harassment, intimidation or bullying may still be prohibited by other district policies or building, classroom or program rules.

#### Training

This policy is a component of the district's responsibility to create and maintain a safe, civil, respectful and inclusive learning community and will be implemented in conjunction with comprehensive training of staff and volunteers.

#### Prevention

The district will provide students with strategies aimed at preventing harassment, intimidation and bullying. In its efforts to train students, the district will seek partnerships with families, law enforcement and other community agencies. *Interventions* 

Interventions are designed to remediate the impact on the targeted student(s) and others impacted by the violation, to change the behavior of the perpetrator, and to restore a positive school climate.

The district will consider the frequency of incidents, developmental age of the student, and severity of the conduct in determining intervention strategies. Interventions will range from counseling, correcting behavior and discipline, to law enforcement referrals.

#### Students with Individual Education Plans or Section 504 Plans

If allegations are proven that a student with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan has been the target of harassment, intimidation or bullying, the school will convene the student's IEP or Section 504 team to determine whether the incident had an impact on the student's ability to receive a free, appropriate public education (FAPE). The meeting should occur regardless of whether the harassment, intimidation or bullying incident was based on the student's disability. During the meeting, the team will evaluate issues such as the student's academic performance, behavioral issues, attendance, and participation in extracurricular activities. If a determination is made that the student is not receiving a FAPE as a result of the harassment, intimidation or bullying incident services and supports as deemed necessary, such as counseling, monitoring and/or reevaluation or revision of the student's IEP or Section 504 plan, to ensure the student receives a FAPE.

#### Retaliation/False Allegations

Retaliation is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. It is a violation of this policy to threaten or harm someone for reporting harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

It is also a violation of district policy to knowingly report false allegations of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Students or employees will not be disciplined for making a report in good faith. However, persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

#### Compliance Officer

The superintendent or designee will appoint a compliance officer as the primary district contact to receive copies of all formal and informal complaints and ensure policy implementation. The name and contact information for the compliance officer will be communicated throughout the district.

#### **3210 NONDISCRIMINATION**

The district will provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities program without discrimination based on race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment. Auxiliary aids and services will be provided upon request to individuals with disabilities.

Conduct against any student that is based on one of the categories listed above that is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive as to limit or deny the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the district's course offerings; educational programming or any activity will not be tolerated. When a district employee knows, or reasonably should know, that such discriminatory harassment is occurring or has occurred, the district will take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to end the harassment, prevent its recurrence and remedy its effects.

The district's nondiscrimination statement will be included in all written announcements, notices, recruitment materials,

employment applications, and other publications made available to all students, parents, or employees. The statement will include: 1) notice that the district will not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of any of the above-listed categories; 2) the name and contact information of the district's compliance officer designated to ensure compliance with this policy; and 3) the names and contact information of the district's Section 504 and Title IX compliance officers.

The district will annually publish notice reasonably calculated to inform students, students' parents/guardians (in a language that they can understand, which may require language assistance), and employees of the district's discrimination complaint procedure. The superintendent will designate a staff member to serve as the compliance officer for this policy. The compliance officer will be responsible for investigating any discrimination complaints communicated to the district.

The district will provide training to administrators and certificated and classroom personnel regarding their responsibilities under this policy and to raise awareness of and eliminate bias and discrimination based on the protected classes identified in this policy.

#### 3230 STUDENT PRIVACY AND SEARCHES

Students over fourteen years of age have the right to keep private from everyone any district records indicating that they have been tested or treated for a sexually transmitted disease. Students thirteen years and older have confidentiality rights in records regarding drug, alcohol or mental health treatment. All students have confidentiality rights in family planning or abortion records. Searches of Students and Personal Property Personal privacy is a fundamental aspect of individual liberty. All students possess the constitutional right to be secure in their persons, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures. Staff shall take particular care to respect students' privacy.

School officials have authority to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect students from exposure to illegal drugs, weapons, and contraband. The superintendent/principal, and other staff designated by the superintendent shall have the authority to conduct reasonable searches on school property as provided by board policy.

## **Student Discipline**

## Introduction/Philosophy/Purpose

The Board of the Grapeview 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;

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

- 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, consistent with Board Policy 3112 – Social Emotional Climate.

#### **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 <u>28A.300.042</u>, and any additional data required under other district policies and procedures.

The District will ensure that school principals confer with certificated building employees at least annually to develop and/or review building discipline standards and review the fidelity of implementation of those standards. At each district school, principals and certificated staff will develop written school procedures for administering discipline at their school with the participation of other school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community. Each school will:

- 1. Establish behavioral expectations with students and proactively teach expectations across various school settings.
- 2. Develop precise definitions for problem behaviors and behavioral violations to address differences in perceptions of subjective behaviors and reduce the effect of implicit bias.
- 3. Define the differences between minor and major behavior incidents to clarify the types of behaviors that may or may not result in classroom exclusion or are severe enough that an administrator needs to be involved.
- 4. Identify a continuum of best practices and strategies for classroom-based responses that building staff should administer before or instead of classroom exclusion to support students in meeting behavioral expectations.

Schools' handbooks, codes of conduct, and building discipline standards must not conflict with this policy, accompanying procedures, or other Board policies. A school's building discipline standards must be annually approved by the principal.

School principals will ensure teachers and other school personnel receive adequate support to effectively implement a continuum of identified best practices and strategies that:

- 1. Focus on prevention to reduce the use of exclusionary discipline practices;
- 2. Allow the exercise of professional judgment and skill sets; and
- 3. May be adapted to individual student needs in a culturally responsive manner.

School principals will confer with certificated building employees at least annually to establish criteria for when certificated employees must complete classes to improve classroom management skills.

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 <u>28A.300.042</u> to monitor the impact of student discipline practices as well as to improve fairness and equity in the administration of student discipline. Discipline data must be disaggregated by:

- 1. School.
- Student groups, including by gender, grade level, race/ethnicity (including further disaggregation of federal race and ethnicity categories in accordance with RCW <u>28A.300.042</u>(1) and <u>CEDARS</u> Appendices Y and Z), lowincome, English language learner, migrant, special education, Section 504, foster care, and homeless.
- 3. Behavioral violation.
- 4. Discipline types, including classroom exclusion, in-school suspension, short-term suspension, long-term suspension, emergency expulsion, and expulsion.

The District will follow the practices outlined in guidance from the <u>Race and Ethnicity Student Data Task Force</u> when disaggregating broader racial categories into subracial and subethnic categories. The District will consider student program status and demographic information (i.e. gender, grade-level, low-income, English language learner, migrant, special education, Section 504, foster care, and homeless) when disaggregating student race and ethnicity data to identify any within-group variation in school discipline experiences and outcomes of diverse student groups. This process may include reviewing data to prevent and address discrimination against students in protected classes identified in chapters <u>28A.640</u> and <u>28A.642</u> RCW, however, the District will ensure it reviews disaggregated discipline data in accordance with WAC 392-190-048 at least annually.

The District will support each school The District will support each school-based team e.g. Student Success Team (SST), Learning Leadership Team (LLT), and Professional Learning Community (PLC) to:

- set at least one goal annually for improving equitable student outcomes;
- create an action plan or plans;
- evaluate previous goals and action plans; and
- revise goals and action plans, based on evaluations.

Schools will share identified goals and action plans with all staff, students, parents, families, and the community.

#### **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 materials will be posted on the district website and/or in student planners.

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. Schools are encouraged to provide discipline training developed under RCW <u>28A.415.410</u> to support implementation of this policy and procedure to all school staff as feasible.

## Application

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

## Supporting Students with Other Forms of Discipline

Unless a student's on-going behavior poses an immediate and continuing danger to others, or a student's on-going behavior poses an immediate and continuing threat to the educational process, staff members must first attempt one or more forms of other forms of discipline to support students in meeting behavioral expectations before imposing classroom exclusion, short-term suspension, or in-school suspension. Before imposing a long-term suspension or expulsion, the district must first consider other forms of discipline.

The types of behaviors for which the staff members may use other forms of discipline include any violation of the rules of conduct, as developed annually by the Superintendent. In connection with the rules of conduct, school principals and certificated building staff will confer at least annually to develop precise definitions and build consensus on what constitutes manifestation of problem behaviors. (See Policy 3200 Rights and Responsibilities.) The purpose of developing definitions and consensus on manifestation of a problem behavior is to address the differences in perception of subjective behaviors and reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias.

These other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior available online at: <u>http://www.k12.wa.us/SSEO/pubdocs/BehaviorMenu.pdf</u>. The district has identified the following for use as other forms of discipline: Behavior monitoring, mentoring, peer mediation, social skills instruction, de-escalation, and restorative justice practices.

Staff members are not restricted to the above list and may use any other form of discipline compliant with WAC 392-400-025(9).

Additionally, staff may use after-school detention as another form of discipline for not more than 10 minutes on any given day. Before assigning after-school detention, the staff member will inform the student of the specific behavior prompting the detention and provide the student with an opportunity to explain or justify the behavior. At least one professional staff member will directly supervise students in after-school detention.

Administering other forms of discipline cannot result in the denial or delay of the student's nutritionally adequate meal or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

Students and parents may challenge the administration of other forms of discipline, including the imposition of after-school detention using the grievance process below.

## **Procedure – Student Discipline**

## Introduction

The purpose of this student discipline procedure is to implement the District's student discipline policy as adopted by the Board. These procedures are consistent with the Board's student discipline policy, as well as all applicable federal and state laws.

## Definitions

For purposes of the student disciplinary policy and procedures, the following definitions will apply:

- "Behavioral violation" means a student's behavior that violates the district's discipline policies.
- "Best practices and strategies" refers to other forms of discipline the district identified that school personnel should administer to support students in meeting behavioral expectations.
- "Classroom exclusion" means the exclusion of a student from a classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations, subject to the requirements of WAC <u>392-400-330</u> and <u>392-400-335</u>. Classroom exclusion does not include actions that result in missed instruction for a brief duration when:

(a) a teacher or other school personnel attempts other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations; and

(b) the student remains under the supervision of the teacher or other school personnel during such brief duration.

- "Culturally responsive" has the same meaning as "cultural competency" in RCW <u>28A.410.270</u>, which states "cultural competency" includes knowledge of student cultural histories and contexts, as well as family norms and values in different cultures; knowledge and skills in accessing community resources and community and parent outreach; and skills in adapting instruction to students' experiences and identifying cultural contexts for individual students.
- "Discipline" means any action taken by a school district in response to behavioral violations.
- "Disruption of the educational process" means the interruption of classwork, the creation of disorder, or the invasion of the rights of a student or group of students.
- "Emergency expulsion" means the removal of a student from school because the student's presence poses an
  immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of
  material and substantial disruption of the educational process, subject to the requirements in WAC <u>392-400-510</u>
  through <u>392-400-530</u>.
- **"Expulsion"** means a denial of admission to the student's current school placement in response to a behavioral violation, subject to the requirements in WAC <u>392-400-430</u> through <u>392-400-480</u>.
- "Length of an academic term" means the total number of school days in a single trimester or semester, as defined by the board of directors.
- "Other forms of discipline" means actions used in response to problem behaviors and behavioral violations, other than classroom exclusion, suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion, which may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW <u>28A.165.035</u>.
- "Parent" has the same meaning as in WAC <u>392-172A-01125</u>, and means (a) a biological or adoptive parent of a child; (b) a foster parent; (c) a guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized to make educational decisions for the student, but not the state, if the student is a ward of the state; (d) an individual acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent, including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative with whom the student lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the student's welfare; or a surrogate parent who has been appointed in accordance with WAC <u>392-172A-05130</u>. If the biological or adoptive parent is attempting to act as the parent and more than one party meets the qualifications to act as a parent, the biological or adoptive parent must be presumed to be the parent unless he or she does not have legal authority to make educational decisions for the student. If a judicial decree or order identifies a specific person or persons to act as the "parent" of a child or to make educational decision on behalf of a child, then that person or persons shall be determined to be the parent for purposes of this policy and procedure.
- "School board" means the governing board of directors of the local school district.
- "School business day" means any calendar day except Saturdays, Sundays, and any federal and school holidays upon which the office of the Superintendent is open to the public for business. A school business day concludes or terminates upon the closure of the Superintendent's office for the calendar day.
- "School day" means any day or partial day that students are in attendance at school for instructional purposes.
- "Suspension" means the denial of attendance in response to a behavioral violation from any subject or class, or from any full schedule of subjects or classes, but not including classroom exclusions, expulsions, or emergency expulsions. Suspension may also include denial of admission to or entry upon, real and personal property that is owned, leased, rented, or controlled by the district.
  - In-school suspension means a suspension in which a student is excluded from the student's regular educational setting but remains in the student's current school placement for up to ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC <u>392-400-430</u> through <u>392-400-475</u>.
  - **Short-term suspension** means a suspension in which a student is excluded from school for up to ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC <u>392-400-430</u> through <u>392-400-475</u>.
  - **Long-term suspension** means a suspension in which a student is excluded from school for more than ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC <u>392-400-430</u> through <u>392-400-475</u>.

## **Engaging with Families & Language Assistance**

The district will provide for early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. Additionally, school personnel will make every reasonable attempt to involve the student and parent in the resolution of behavioral violations.

The district will ensure that it provides all discipline related communications [oral and written] required in connection with this policy and procedure in a language the student and parent(s) understand. These discipline related communications include notices, hearings, conferences, meeting, plans, proceedings, agreements, petitions, and decisions. This effort may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This effort may require accommodations for parents and students with communication disabilities. For parents who are unable to read any language, the district will provide written material orally.

## Supporting Students with Best Practices and Strategies

The District will implement culturally responsive discipline that provides every student the opportunity to achieve personal and academic success. The administration of other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior available online at: <a href="https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support-programs/learning-assistance-program-lap/menus-best-practices-strategies/behavior-menu-best-practices-strategies">https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support-programs/learning-assistance-program-lap/menus-best-practices-strategies/behavior-menu-best-practices-strategies</a>. Each District school will take into consideration the skills of school personnel and needs of students when identifying a continuum of best practices and strategies school personnel should use to support students in meeting behavioral expectations.

The District will ensure schools receive adequate support to effectively implement a continuum of identified best practices and strategies that:

- 1. Focus on prevention to reduce the use of exclusionary discipline practices;
- 2. Allow the exercise of professional judgment and skill sets; and
- 3. May be adapted to individual student needs in a culturally responsive manner.

Each school within the District will implement best practices and strategies consistent with this policy and procedure and the district's. In accordance with WAC 392-400-110(1)(e), the District has identified the following continuum of best practices and strategies that school personnel should administer before or instead of exclusionary discipline to support students in meeting behavioral expectations: See Model Form 3241F2 for possible examples.

All school personnel are authorized to implement the best practices and strategies identified above as well as building discipline standards. At least annually, school personnel at each District school will review the identified best practices and strategies as well as building discipline standards. The District will provide training for newly hired school personnel on implementation of the identified best practices and strategies.

Unless a student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to others, or a student's presence poses an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption to the educational process, school personnel must first attempt one or more best practices and strategies to support students in meeting behavioral expectations before considering imposing classroom exclusion, short-term suspension, or in-school suspension. Before considering imposing a long-term suspension or expulsion, school personnel must first consider one or more best practices and strategies.

When administering best practices and strategies in response to behavioral violations, school personnel will follow this policy and procedure as well as building discipline standards.

## **Behavioral Violations**

Having sought the participation of school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community, the Grapeview School District has developed definitions for the following behavioral violations, which clearly state the types of behaviors for which discipline—including other forms of discipline, classroom exclusion, suspension, and expulsion—may be administered:

The District will continue to further develop and/or revise the definitions for what constitutes behavioral violations to reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias. In addition to these District definitions, school principals will confer with certificated building employees at least annually to develop and/or review building discipline standards as stated in the Board Policy. This development of building standards will also address differences in perceptions of subjective behaviors and reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias. Please see 3141F1 for possible examples.

## **Staff Authority and Exclusionary Discipline**

District staff members are responsible for supervising students immediately before and after the school day; during the school day; during school activities (whether on or off campus); on school grounds before or after school hours when a school group or school activity is using school grounds; off school grounds, if the actions of the student materially or substantially affect or interferes with the educational process; and on the school bus. Staff have the responsibility to provide a safe and supportive learning environment for all students during school-related activities. In accordance with the Board's

student discipline policy, district staff will administer discipline in ways that respond to the needs and strengths of students, support students in meeting behavioral expectations, and keep students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible.

Staff members will seek early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. The Superintendent has general authority to administer discipline, including all exclusionary discipline. The Superintendent designates disciplinary authority to impose in-school suspension and short-term suspension to the school principal, to impose long-term suspension to the school principal, to impose expulsion to the school principal, and to impose emergency expulsion to the school principal.

#### Exclusions from transportation or extra-curricular activities and detention

The Superintendent authorizes the school principal to administer other forms of discipline that exclude a student from transportation services or extracurricular activities or impose detention. For students who meet the definition of homeless, the district will provide transportation according to 3115 –Students Experiencing Homelessness – Enrollment Rights and Services.

Authorized staff may administer lunch or afterschool detention for not more than 30 minutes on any given day. Before assigning detention, the staff member will inform the student of the specific behavioral violation prompting their decision to administer detention and provide the student with an opportunity to share their perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation. At least one school personnel will directly supervise students during the duration of any detention.

The district will not administer other forms of discipline in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements. The district will not exclude an in-district student from transportation services without providing access to alternative transportation the student needs to participate fully in regular educational services or educational services provided during suspension or expulsion.

Students and parents may challenge the administration of other forms of discipline, including exclusions from transportation or extra-curricular activities and detentions using the district's grievance procedures.

#### **Classroom exclusions**

After attempting at least one other form of discipline, as set forth in this procedure, teachers, substitutes, and para educators have statutory authority to exclude a student from the teacher's classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations that disrupt the educational process while the student is under the teacher's immediate supervision in accordance with this policy and procedure and building discipline standards. Additionally, the district authorizes the principal or their designee to administer classroom exclusion with the same authority and limits of authority as classroom teachers. As stated in policy 3241, the Superintendent, school principals, and certificated staff will work together to develop definitions and consensus on what constitutes behavioral violations that disrupt the educational process to reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias.

Except for emergency circumstances, the teacher or other school personnel must first attempt one or more other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations before considering using classroom exclusion. Classroom exclusion may be administered for all or any portion of the balance of the school day. Classroom exclusion does not encompass removing a student from school, including sending a student home early or telling a parent to keep a student at home, based on a behavioral violation. Removing a student from school constitutes a suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion and must include the required notification and due process outlined in the procedures below.

The school will provide the student an opportunity to make up any assignments and tests missed during a classroom exclusion. The district will not administer other forms of discipline or classroom exclusions, in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

Following the classroom exclusion of a student, the teacher (or other school personnel as identified) must report the classroom exclusion, including the behavioral violation that led to the classroom exclusion, to the principal or the principal's designee as soon as reasonably possible. The principal or designee must report all classroom exclusions, including the behavioral violation that led to it to the Superintendent. Classroom exclusion under the behavioral violation category of "other" is insufficient.

The teacher, principal, or the principal's designee must notify the student's parents regarding the classroom exclusion as soon as reasonably possible. As noted above, the district must ensure that this notification is in a language and form (i.e. oral or written) the parents understand.

When the teacher or other authorized school personnel administers a classroom exclusion because the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process and is serious:

(a) The teacher or other school personnel must immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee; and(b) The principal or the principal's designee must meet with the student as soon as reasonably possible and administer appropriate discipline.

The district will address student and parent grievances regarding classroom exclusion through the district's following grievance procedures.

#### Grievance procedures for classroom exclusion and other forms of discipline

Any parent/guardian or student who is aggrieved by the administration of classroom exclusion and/or other forms of discipline, including discipline that excludes a student from transportation or extra-curricular activities and detention, has the right to an informal conference with the principal for resolving the grievance. If the grievance pertains to the action of an employee, the district will notify that employee of the grievance as soon as reasonably possible.

At such conference, the student and parent will have the opportunity to voice issues and concerns related to the grievance and ask questions of staff members involved in the grievance matter. Staff members will have opportunity to respond to the issues and questions related to the grievance matter. Additionally, the principal will have opportunity to address issues and questions raised and to ask questions of the parent, student, and staff members.

If after exhausting this remedy the grievance is not yet resolved, the parent and student will have the right, upon two (2) school business days' prior notice, to present a written and/or oral grievance to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee will provide the parent and student with a written copy of its response to the grievance within ten (10) school business days. Use of the grievance process will not impede or postpone the disciplinary action, unless the principal or Superintendent elects to postpone the disciplinary action.

#### Suspension and expulsion – general conditions and limitations

The district's use of suspension and expulsion will have a real and substantial relationship to the lawful maintenance and operation of the school district, including but not limited to, the preservation of the health and safety of students and employees and the preservation of an educational process that is conducive to learning. The district will not administer discipline, including suspension and expulsion, in any manner related to a student's performance of or failure to perform any act not related to the orderly operation of the school or school-sponsored activities or any other aspect of preserving the educational process. The district will not administer any discipline in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements; excluding out of school suspensions or expulsions.

The district will provide the parent(s) opportunity for involvement to support the student and resolve behavioral violations before administering suspension or expulsion. Additionally, the Superintendent or designee must consider the student's individual circumstances and the nature of the violation before administering any suspension or expulsion to determine whether the suspension or expulsion, and the length of the exclusion, is warranted.

The principal or designee at each school must report all suspensions and expulsions, including the behavioral violation that led to the suspension or expulsion, to the Superintendent or designee within twenty-four (24) hours after the administration. Suspension or expulsion under the behavioral violation category of "other" is insufficient.

An expulsion or suspension of a student may not be for an indefinite period and must have an end date. After suspending or expelling a student, the district will make reasonable efforts to return the student to the student's regular educational setting as soon as possible. Additionally, the district must allow the student to petition for readmission at any time. The district will not administer any discipline in a manner that prevents a student from completing subject, grade-level, or graduation requirements.

When administering a suspension or expulsion, the district may deny a student admission to, or entry upon, real and personal property that the district owns, leases, rents, or controls. The district must provide an opportunity for students to receive educational services during a suspension or expulsion in accordance with WAC <u>392-400-610</u>. The district will not suspend or expel a student from school for absences or tardiness.

If during a suspension or expulsion the district enrolls a student in another program or course of study, the district may not preclude the student from returning to the student's regular educational setting following the end of the suspension or expulsion, unless one of the following applies:

The Superintendent or designee grants a petition to extend a student's expulsion under WAC <u>392-400-480</u>; The change of setting is to protect victims under WAC <u>392-400-810</u>; or

Other law precludes the student from returning to their regular educational setting.

#### In-school suspension and short-term suspension – conditions and limitations

The Superintendent designates the principal and/or the principal's designee with the authority to administer in-school and short-term suspension. Before considering administering an in-school or short-term suspension, staff members must have

first attempted one or more other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations. Before administering in-school or short-term suspension, the district will consider the student's individual circumstances and the nature and circumstances of the behavioral violation to determine whether the suspension and the length of the suspension, is warranted. The district will not administer in-school or short-term suspension in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

The district is not required to impose in-school or short-term suspensions and instead, strives to keep students in school, learning in a safe and appropriate environment. However, there are circumstances when the district may determine that inschool or short-term suspension is appropriate. As stated in this policy and procedure, the district will work to develop definitions and consensus on what constitutes behavioral violations to reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias.

For students in kindergarten through fourth grade, the district will not administer in-school or short-term suspension for more than ten (10) cumulative school days during any academic term. For students in grades five through twelve, the district will not administer in-school or short-term suspension for more than fifteen (15) cumulative school days during any single semester, or more than ten (10) cumulative school days during any single trimester. Additionally, the district will not administer a short-term or in-school suspension beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

The district will not administer in-school or short-term suspensions in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student.

When administering an in-school suspension, school personnel will ensure they are physically in the same location as the student to provide direct supervision during the duration of the in-school suspension. Additionally, school personnel will ensure they are accessible to offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes.

#### Long-term suspensions and expulsions – conditions and limitations

Before administering a long-term suspension or an expulsion, district personnel must consider other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations. The district must also consider the other general conditions and limitations listed above.

Unless otherwise required by law, the district is not required to impose long-term suspension or expulsion and may only administer long-term suspension or expulsion for specific severe behavioral violations. In general, the district strives to keep students in school, learning in a safe and appropriate environment. However, in accordance with the other parameters of this policy there are circumstances when the district may determine that long-term suspension or expulsion is appropriate for behavioral violations that meet the definitions provided under RCW <u>28A.600.015</u> (6)(a) through (d), which include:

- a. Having a firearm on school property or school transportation in violation of RCW 28A.600.420;
- b. Any of the following offenses listed in RCW <u>13.04.155</u>, including:
  - i. Any violent offense as defined in RCW <u>9.94A.030</u>, including:
    - any felony that Washington law defines as a class A felony or an attempt, criminal conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a class A felony;
    - manslaughter;
    - indecent liberties committed by forcible compulsion;
    - kidnapping;
    - arson;
    - assault in the second degree;
    - assault of a child in the second degree;
    - robbery;
    - drive-by shooting; and
    - vehicular homicide or vehicular assault caused by driving a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or by operating a vehicle in a reckless manner.
  - any sex offense as defined in RCW <u>9.94A.030</u>, which includes any felony violation of chapter <u>9A.44</u> RCW (other than failure to registered as a sex offender in violation of <u>9A.44.132</u>), including rape, rape of a child, child molestation, sexual misconduct with a minor, indecent liberties, voyeurism, and any felony conviction or adjudication with a sexual motivation finding;
  - iii. any weapons violation of chapter <u>9.41</u> RCW, including having a dangerous weapon at school in violation of RCW <u>9.41.280</u>; or
  - iv. unlawful possession or delivery, or both, of a controlled substance in violation of chapter <u>69.50</u> RCW.
- C. Two or more violations of the following within a three-year period

- criminal gang intimidation in violation of RCW <u>9A.46.120</u>:
- gang activity on school grounds in violation of RCW <u>28A.600.455;</u>
- willfully disobeying school administrative personnel in violation of RCW 28A.635.020; and
- defacing or injuring school property in violation of RCW <u>28A.635.060</u>; and
- d. Any student behavior that adversely affects the health or safety of other students or educational staff.

The district may only administer long-term suspension or expulsion for behavioral violations that meet the definitions provided under RCW <u>28A.600.015</u>(6)(a) through (d) as outlined above, and after determining that the student would pose an imminent danger to others or, in the case of long-term suspension, an imminent threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process should they return to school before an imposed length of exclusion. Consistent with this policy and procedure, the district will work to develop definitions and consensus on what constitutes an imminent danger or imminent threat to reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias.

A long-term suspension may not exceed the length of an academic term as defined by the school district. The district may not administer a long-term suspension beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

An expulsion may not exceed the length of an academic term, unless the Superintendent grants a petition to extend the expulsion under WAC <u>392-400-480</u>. The district is not prohibited from administrating an expulsion beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

In accordance with RCW <u>28A.600.420</u>, a school district must expel a student for no less than one year if the district has determined that the student has carried or possessed a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools. The Superintendent may modify the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

A school district may also suspend or expel a student for up to one year if the student acts with malice (as defined under RCW <u>9A.04.110</u>) and displays an instrument that appears to be a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools. These provisions do not apply to students while engaged in a district authorized military education; a district authorized firearms convention or safety course; or district authorized rifle competition.

Except for a firearm violation under WAC <u>392-400-820</u>, the district will not impose a long-term suspension or an expulsion for any student in kindergarten through fourth grade.

If a long-term suspension or expulsion may exceed ten (10) days, the district will consider whether the student is currently eligible or might be deemed eligible for special education services. If so, the principal will notify relevant special education staff of the suspension or expulsion so that the district can ensure it follows policy and procedure 2161 – Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students as well as this student discipline policy and procedure.

After suspending or expelling a student, the district will make reasonable efforts to return the student to the student's regular educational setting as soon as possible.

#### Suspensions and expulsions - initial hearing

Before administering any suspension or expulsion, the district will attempt to notify the student's parent(s) as soon as reasonably possible regarding the behavioral violation and the principal or designee will conduct an informal initial hearing with the student to hear the student's perspective. At the initial hearing, the principal or designee must provide the student an opportunity to contact their parent(s), or, in the case of long-term suspension or expulsion, the principal or designee must make a reasonable attempt to contact their parent(s) to provide an opportunity for the parents to participate in the initial hearing in person or by telephone. The district must hold the initial hearing in a language the student and parents understand.

At the initial hearing, the principal or designee will provide the student:

- Notice of the student's violation of this policy;
- An explanation of the evidence regarding the behavioral violation;
- An explanation of the discipline that may be administered; and
- An opportunity for the student to share their perspective and provide explanation regarding the behavioral violation.

#### Suspensions and expulsions – notice

Following the initial hearing, the principal or designee will inform the student of the disciplinary decision regarding the behavioral violation, including the date when any suspension or expulsion will begin and end.

No later than one (1) school business day following the initial hearing with the student, the district will provide written notice of the suspension or expulsion to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email in a language and form the student and parents will understand. The written notice must include:

- a. A description of the student's behavior and how the behavior violated this policy;
- b. The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the dates on which the suspension or expulsion will begin and end;
- **C.** The other forms of discipline that the district considered or attempted, and an explanation of the district's decision to administer the suspension or expulsion;
- d. The opportunity to receive educational services during the suspension or expulsion;
- e. The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the principal or designee; and
- f. The right of the student and parent(s) to appeal the suspension or expulsion; and
- **g.** For any long-term suspension or expulsion, the opportunity for the student and parents to participate in a reengagement meeting.

#### **Emergency expulsions – conditions and limitations**

The district may immediately remove a student from the student's current school placement, subject to the following requirements:

The district must have sufficient cause to believe that the student's presence poses:

- An immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel; or
- An immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

The district may not impose an emergency expulsion solely for investigating student conduct.

For purposes of determining sufficient cause for an emergency expulsion, the phrase "immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process" means:

- The student's behavior results in an extreme disruption of the educational process that creates a substantial barrier to learning for other students across the school day; and
- School personnel have exhausted reasonable attempts at administering other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations.

An emergency expulsion may not exceed ten consecutive school days. An emergency expulsion must end or be converted to another form of discipline within ten (10) school days from its start.

If the district converts an emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district must:

(a) Apply any days that the student was emergency expelled before the conversion to the total length of the suspension or expulsion; and

(b) Provide the student and parents with notice and due process rights under WAC <u>392-400-430</u> through <u>392-400-480</u> appropriate to the new disciplinary action.

All emergency expulsions, including the reason the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, must be reported to the Superintendent or designee within twenty-four (24) hours after the start of the emergency expulsion.

#### **Emergency expulsions – notice**

After an emergency expulsion, the district must attempt to notify the student's parents, as soon as reasonably possible, regarding the reason the district believes the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the education process.

Within twenty-four (24) hours after an emergency expulsion, the district will provide written notice to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email. The written notice must include:

- The reason the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel, or poses an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process;
- The duration and conditions of the emergency expulsion, including the date on which the emergency expulsion will begin and end;
- The opportunity to receive educational services during the emergency expulsion;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the principal or designee; and
- The right of the student and parent(s) to appeal the emergency expulsion, including where and to whom the appeal must be requested.

#### **Optional conference with principal**

If a student or the parent(s) disagree with the district's decision to suspend, expel, or emergency expel the student, the student or parent(s) may request an informal conference with the principal or designee to resolve the disagreement. The parent or student may request an informal conference orally or in writing.

The principal or designee must hold the conference within three (3) school business days after receiving the request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parent(s).

During the informal conference, the student and parent(s) will have the opportunity to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation and the events that led to the exclusion. The student and parent will also have the opportunity to confer with the principal or designee and school personnel involved in the incident that led to the suspension or expulsion and discuss other forms of discipline that the district could administer.

An informal conference will not limit the right of the student or parent(s) to appeal the suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion, participate in a reengagement meeting, or petition for readmission.

#### Appeals

#### Requesting appeal

The appeal provisions for in-school and short-term suspension differ from those for long-term suspension and expulsion. The appeal provisions for long-term suspension or expulsion and emergency expulsion have similarities but the timelines differ.

A student or the parent(s) may appeal a suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion to the Superintendent or designee orally or in writing. For suspension or expulsion, the request to appeal must be within five (5) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent with written notice. For emergency expulsion, the request to appeal must be within three (3) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent with written notice.

When an appeal for long-term suspension or expulsion is pending, the district may continue to administer the long-term suspension or expulsion during the appeal process, subject to the following requirements:

- The suspension or expulsion is for no more than ten (10) consecutive school days from the initial hearing or until the appeal is decided, whichever is earlier;
- The district will apply any days of suspension or expulsion occurring before the appeal is decided to the term of the student's suspension or expulsion and may not extend the term of the student's suspension or expulsion; and
- If the student returns to school before the appeal is decided, the district will provide the student an opportunity to make up assignments and tests missed during the suspension or expulsion upon the student's return.

#### In-school and short-term suspension appeal

For short-term and in-school suspensions, the Superintendent or designee will provide the student and parents the opportunity to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation orally or in writing. The Superintendent or designee must deliver a written appeal decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within two (2) school business days after receiving the appeal. The written decision must include:

- The decision to affirm, reverse, or modify the suspension;
- The duration and conditions of the suspension, including the beginning and ending dates;
- The educational services the district will offer to the student during the suspension; and
- Notice of the student and parent(s)' right to request review and reconsideration of the appeal decision, including where and to whom to make such a request.

#### Long-term suspension or expulsion and emergency expulsion appeal

For long-term suspension or expulsion and emergency expulsions, the Superintendent or designee will provide the student and parent(s) written notice in person, by mail, or by email, within one (1) school business day after receiving the appeal request, unless the parties agree to a different timeline. Written notice will include:

- The time, date, and location of the appeal hearing;
- The name(s) of the official(s) presiding over the appeal;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to inspect the student's education records;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to inspect any documentary or physical evidence and a list of any witnesses that will be introduced at the hearing;
- The rights of the student and parent(s) to be represented by legal counsel; question witnesses; share the student's perspective and explanation; and introduce relevant documentary, physical, or testimonial evidence; and
- Whether the district will offer a reengagement meeting before the appeal hearing.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the student, parent(s) and district may agree to hold a reengagement meeting and develop a reengagement plan before the appeal hearing. The student, parent(s), and district may mutually agree to postpone the appeal hearing while participating in the reengagement process.

#### <u>Hearings</u>

A hearing to appeal a long-term suspension or expulsion or emergency expulsion is a quasi-judicial process exempt from the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). To protect the privacy of student(s) and others involved, the district will hold hearing without public notice and without public access unless the student(s) and/or the parent(s) or their counsel requests an open hearing. Regardless of whether the hearing is open or closed, the district will make reasonable efforts to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) concerning confidentiality of student education records.

When students are charged with violating the same rule and have acted in concert and the facts are essentially the same for all students, a single hearing may be conducted for them if the hearing officer believes that the following conditions exist:

- A single hearing will not likely result in confusion; and
- No student will have his/her interest substantially prejudiced by a group hearing.

If the official presiding over the hearing finds that a student's interests will be substantially prejudiced by a group hearing, the presiding official may order a separate hearing for that student. The parent and student have the right to petition for an individual hearing.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the district will hold an appeal hearing within three (3) school business days after the Superintendent or designee received the appeal request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parent(s).

For emergency expulsion, the district will hold an appeal hearing within two (2) school business days after the Superintendent or designee received the appeal request, unless the student and parent(s) agree to another time.

The school board may designate a discipline appeal council to hear and decide any appeals in this policy and procedure or to review and reconsider a district's appeal decisions. A discipline appeal council must consist of at least three persons appointed by the school board for fixed terms. All members of a discipline appeal council must be knowledgeable about the rules in Chapter 392-400 WAC and this policy and procedure. The school board may also designate the Superintendent or a hearing officer to hear and decide appeals. The presiding official(s) may not have been involved in the student's behavioral violation or the decision to suspend or expel the student.

Upon request, the student and parent(s) or their legal representative may inspect any documentary or physical evidence and list of any witnesses that the district will introduce at the appeal hearing. The district must make the information available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing. The district may also request to inspect any documentary or physical evidence and list of any witnesses that the student and parent(s) intend to introduce at the appeal hearing. The student and parent(s) must make this information available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing areasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

Upon request, the student and parent(s) may review the student's education records. The district will make the records available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

If a witness for the district cannot or does not appear at the appeal hearing, the presiding official(s) may excuse the witness' nonappearance if the district establishes that:

- The district made a reasonable effort to produce the witness; and
- The witness' failure to appear is excused by fear of reprisal or another compelling reason.

The district will record the appeal hearing by manual, electronic, or other type of recording device and upon request of the student or parent(s) provide them a copy of the recording.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the presiding official(s) must base the decision solely on the evidence presented at the hearing. The presiding official(s) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within three (3) school business days after the appeal hearing. The written decision must include:

- The findings of fact;
- A determination whether (i) the student's behavior violated this policy; (ii) the behavioral violation reasonably warrants the suspension or expulsion and the length of the suspension or expulsion; and (iii) the suspension or expulsion is affirmed, reversed, or modified;
- The duration and conditions of suspension or expulsion, including the beginning and ending dates;
- Notice of the right of the student and parent(s) to request a review and reconsideration of the appeal decision. The notice will include where and to whom to make such a request; and

• Notice of the opportunity for a reengagement meeting and contact information for the person who will schedule it. For emergency expulsion, the district will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within one (1) school business day after the appeal hearing. The written decision must include:

• The findings of fact;

- A determination whether the student's presence continues to pose (i) an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel; or (ii) an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process;
- Whether the district will end the emergency expulsion or convert the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion. If the district converts the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district will provide the student and parent(s) notice and due process consistent with the disciplinary action to which the emergency expulsion was converted; and
- Notice of the right of the student and parent(s) to request a review and reconsideration of the appeal decision. The notice will include where and to whom to make such a request.

#### **Reconsideration of appeal**

The student or parents may request the school board or discipline appeal council, if established by the school board, review and reconsider the district's appeal decision for long-term suspensions or expulsions and emergency expulsions. This request may be either oral or in writing.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the student or parent(s) may request a review within ten (10) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent(s) with the written appeal decision.

For emergency expulsion, the student or parent(s) may request a review within five (5) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent(s) with the written appeal decision.

- In reviewing the district's decision, the school board or discipline appeal council, if established, must consider (i) all documentary and physical evidence from the appeal hearing related to the behavioral violation; (ii) any records from the appeal hearing; (iii) relevant state law; and (iv) this policy adopted.
- The school board (or discipline appeal council) may request to meet with the student and parent(s), the principal, witnesses, and/or school personnel to hear further arguments and gather additional information.
- The decision of the school board (or discipline appeal council) will be made only by board or discipline council members who were not involved in (i) the behavioral violation; (ii) the decision to suspend or expel the student; or (iii) the appeal decision. If the discipline appeal council presided over the appeal hearing, the school board will conduct the review and reconsideration.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the school board (or discipline appeal council) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within ten (10) school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

- Whether the school board (or discipline appeal council) affirms, reverses, or modifies the suspension or expulsion;
- The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the beginning and ending dates of the suspension or expulsion; and

• For long-term suspensions or expulsions, notice of the opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting. For emergency expulsion, the school board (or discipline appeal council) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within five (5) school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

- Whether the school board [or discipline appeal council] affirms or reverses the school district's decision that the student's presence posed (i) an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel; or (ii) an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.
- If the emergency expulsion has not yet ended or been converted, whether the district will end the emergency expulsion or convert the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion. If the district converts the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district will provide the student and parent(s) notice and due process under WAC <u>392-400-430</u> through <u>392-400-480</u> consistent with the disciplinary action to which the emergency expulsion was converted

#### Petition to extend an expulsion

When risk to public health or safety warrants extending a student's expulsion, the principal or designee may petition the Superintendent or designee for authorization to exceed the academic term limitation on an expulsion. The petition must inform the Superintendent or designee of:

- The behavioral violation that resulted in the expulsion and the public health or safety concerns;
- The student's academic, attendance, and discipline history;
- Any nonacademic supports and behavioral services the student was offered or received during the expulsion;
- The student's academic progress during the expulsion and the educational services available to the student during the expulsion;
- The proposed extended length of the expulsion; and
- The student's reengagement plan.

The principal or designee may petition to extend an expulsion only after the development of a reengagement plan under WAC <u>392-400-710</u> and before the end of the expulsion. For violations of WAC <u>392-400-820</u> involving a firearm on school

premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools, the principal or designee may petition to extend an expulsion at any time.

#### Notice

The district will provide written notice of a petition to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within one (1) school business day from the date the Superintendent or designee received the petition. The written notice must include:

- A copy of the petition;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the Superintendent or designee to be held within five (5) school business days from the date the district provided written notice to the student and parent(s); and
- The right of the student and parent(s) to respond to the petition orally or in writing to the Superintendent or designee within five (5) school business days from the date the district provided the written notice.

The Superintendent or designee may grant the petition only if there is substantial evidence that, if the student were to return to the student's previous school of placement after the length of an academic term, the student would pose a risk to public health or safety. The Superintendent or designee must deliver a written decision to the principal, the student, and the student's parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within ten (10) school business days after receiving the petition.

If the Superintendent or designee does not grant the petition, the written decision must identify the date when the expulsion will end.

If the Superintendent or designee grants the petition, the written decision must include:

- The date on which the extended expulsion will end;
- The reason that, if the student were to return before the initial expulsion end date, the student would pose a risk to public health or safety; and
- Notice of the right of the student and parent(s) to request a review and reconsideration. The notice will include
  where and to whom to make such a request;

#### Review and Reconsideration of extension of expulsion

The student or parent(s) may request that the school board (or discipline appeal council, if established by the board) review and reconsider the decision to extend the student's expulsion. The student or parents may request the review orally or in writing within ten (10) school business days from the date the Superintendent or designee provides the written decision.

The school board (or discipline appeal council) may request to meet with the student or parent(s) or the principal to hear further arguments and gather additional information.

The decision of the school board (or discipline appeal council) may be made only board or discipline appeal council members who were not involved in the behavioral violation, the decision to expel the student, or the appeal decision.

The school board (or discipline appeal council) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within ten (10) school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

- Whether the school board or discipline appeal council affirms, reverses, or modifies the decision to extend the student's expulsion; and
- The date when the extended expulsion will end.

Any extension of an expulsion may not exceed the length of an academic term.

The district will annually report the number of petitions approved and denied to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

## **Educational Services**

The district will offer educational services to enable a student who is suspended, expelled or emergency expelled to:

- Continue to participate in the general education curriculum;
- Meet the educational standards established within the district; and
- Complete subject, grade-level, and graduation requirements.

When providing a student the opportunity to receive educational services during exclusionary discipline, the school must consider:

- Meaningful input from the student, parents, and the student's teachers;
- Whether the student's regular educational services include English language development services, special education, accommodations and related services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or supplemental services designed to support the student's academic achievement; and
- Access to any necessary technology, transportation, or resources the student needs to participate fully in the educational services.

After considering the factors and input described above, the district will determine a student's educational services on a caseby-case basis. The types of educational services the district will consider include, alternative classroom, one-on-one tutoring (when available), and online tutoring. Any educational services in an alternative setting should be comparable, equitable, and appropriate to the regular educational services a student would have received in the absence of exclusionary discipline.

As soon as reasonably possible after administering a suspension or expulsion, the district will provide written notice to the student and parents about the educational services the district will provide. The notice will include a description of the educational services and the name and contact information of the school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work.

For students subjected to suspension or emergency expulsion up to five (5) days, a school must provide at least the following:

- Course work, including any assigned homework, from all of the student's regular subjects or classes;
- Access to school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes; and
- An opportunity for the student to make up any assignments and tests missed during the period of suspension or emergency expulsion.

For students subjected to suspension or emergency expulsion for six (6) to ten (10) consecutive school days, a school must provide at least the following:

- Course work, including any assigned homework, from all of the student's regular subjects or classes;
- An opportunity for the student to make up any assignments and tests missed during the period of suspension or emergency expulsion; and
- Access to school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes. School personnel will make a reasonable attempt to contact the student or parents within three (3) school business days following the start of the suspension or emergency expulsion and periodically thereafter until the suspension or emergency expulsion ends to:
  - Coordinate the delivery and grading of course work between the student and the student's teacher(s) at a frequency that would allow the student to keep current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes; and
  - Communicate with the student, parents, and the student's teacher(s) about the student's academic progress.

For students subject to expulsion or suspension for more than ten (10) consecutive school days, a school will make provisions for educational services in accordance with the "Course of Study" provisions of WAC <u>392-121-107</u>.

## Readmission

#### Readmission application process

The readmission process is different from and does not replace the appeal process. Students who have been suspended or expelled may make a written request for readmission to the district at any time. If a student desires to be readmitted at the school from which he/she has been suspended/expelled, the student will submit a written application to the principal, who will recommend admission or non-admission. If a student wishes admission to another school, he/she will submit the written application to the Superintendent. The application will include:

- The reasons the student wants to return and why the request should be considered;
- Any evidence that supports the request; and
- A supporting statement from the parent or others who may have assisted the student.

The Superintendent will advise the student and parent of the decision within seven (7) school days of the receipt of such application.

#### Reengagement

#### **Reengagement Meeting**

The reengagement process is distinct from a written request for readmission. The reengagement meeting is also distinct from the appeal process, including an appeal hearing, and does not replace an appeal hearing. The district must convene a reengagement meeting for students with a long-term suspension or expulsion.

Before convening a reengagement meeting, the district will communicate with the student and parent(s) to schedule the meeting time and location. The purpose of the reengagement meeting is to discuss with the student and his/her parent(s) and/or guardians, a plan to reengage the student.

The reengagement meeting must occur:

• Within twenty (20) calendar days of the start of the student's long-term suspension or expulsion, but no later than five (5) calendar days before the student's return to school; or

• As soon as reasonably possible, if the student or parents request a prompt reengagement meeting.

#### **Reengagement plan**

The district will collaborate with the student and parents to develop a culturally sensitive and culturally responsive reengagement plan tailored to the student's individual circumstances to support the student in successfully returning to school. In developing a reengagement plan, the district must consider:

- The nature and circumstances of the incident that led to the student's suspension or expulsion;
- As appropriate, students' cultural histories and contexts, family cultural norms and values, community resources, and community and parent outreach;
- Shortening the length of time that the student is suspended or expelled;
- Providing academic and nonacademic supports that aid in the student's academic success and keep the student engaged an on track to graduate; and
- Supporting the student parents, or school personnel in taking action to remedy the circumstances that resulted in the suspension or expulsion and preventing similar circumstances from recurring.

The district must document the reengagement plan and provide a copy of the plan to the student and parents. The district must ensure that both the reengagement meeting and the reengagement plan are in a language the student and parents understand.

#### **Behavior agreements**

The district authorizes the school principal or their designee to enter into behavior agreements with students and parents in response to behavioral violations, including agreements to reduce the length of a suspension conditioned on the participation in treatment services, agreements in lieu of suspension or expulsion, or agreements holding a suspension or expulsion in abeyance. Behavior agreements will also describe district actions planned to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. Behavior agreements may be supplemental to but will not replace best practices and strategies implemented at the classroom level to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. Behavior agreements entered into with students and parents under this section may not replace or negate provisions within a student's Individual Education Plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Behavioral Intervention Plan (BIP). The district will provide any behavior agreement in a language and form the student and parents understand, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

A behavior agreement does not waive a student's opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting or to receive educational services. The duration of a behavior agreement must not exceed the length of an academic term. A behavior agreement does not preclude the district from administering discipline for behavioral violations that occur after the district enters into an agreement with the student and parents.

#### **Exceptions for protecting victims**

The district may preclude a student from returning to the student's regular educational setting following the end date of a suspension or expulsion to protect victims of certain offenses as follows:

- A student committing an offense under RCW 28A.600.460(2), when the activity is directed toward the teacher, shall
  not be assigned to that teacher's classroom for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other
  school where the teacher is assigned;
- A student who commits an offense under RCW 28A.600.460(3), when directed toward another student, may be
  removed from the classroom of the victim for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other
  school where the victim is enrolled.

#### 3413 STUDENT IMMUNIZATION AND LIFE THREATENING HEALTH CONDITIONS

#### Immunizations

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases and in recognition that prevention is a means of combating the spread of disease, the board requires a student to present evidence of his/her having been immunized against the following diseases: diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), poliomyelitis, measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis b, and tetanus. A student satisfies the measles requirement upon a physician's verification that the student has had measles (rubeola). Immediately upon enrollment in the district a certificate of immunization status, distributed by the Washington Department of Health, shall be completed by the student's parent. The certificate shall be made a part of the student's permanent record. If a student has not received any or all of the required immunizations, he/she shall submit evidence of the initiation of an immunization schedule and be placed in a "conditional admittance" category. He/she may remain in school for one school year provided that there is documentation that the immunization schedule is being maintained. Failure to maintain or submit the schedule will be sufficient cause to exclude the student from school.

Exemptions from one or more vaccines shall be granted for medical reason upon certification by a physician that there is a medical reason for not administering the vaccine. Exemptions for personal or religious reasons shall be granted upon request of the parent.

The permanent file of students with exemptions shall be marked for easy identification should the department of health order that exempted students be excluded from school temporarily during an epidemic.

If proof of immunization or a certificate of exemption is not received upon the student's enrollment in school, the principal shall provide written notice to the parents or guardians informing them of:

- A. The immunization requirements;
- B. The denial of farther attendance by the student;
- C. The procedural due process rights; and
- D. The immunization services that are available.

Following proper notification, the school shall exclude the student for noncompliance with the immunization laws pursuant to the appeal process procedures for student expulsions. Parents shall have a right to a hearing provided they notify the school within 3 days after receiving the exclusion order from the school principal. If the parent requests a hearing, the parent or guardian and school principal shall be notified in writing of the time and place for the hearing and shall present the case to a hearing officer appointed by the superintendent.

## Life-Threatening Health Conditions

Prior to attendance at school, each child with a life-threatening health condition shall present a medication or treatment order addressing the condition. A life threatening health condition means a condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication or treatment order providing authority to a registered nurse and nursing plan are not in place. Following submission of the medication or treatment order, a nursing plan shall be developed.

Students who have a life-threatening health condition and no medication or treatment order presented to the school shall be excluded from school, to the extent that the district can do so consistent with federal requirements for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and pursuant to the following due process requirements:

- A. Written notice to the parents, guardians or persons in loco parentis delivered to the parents in person or by certified mail.
- B. Notice of the applicable laws, including a copy of the laws and rules.
- C. The order that the student shall be excluded from school immediately and until a medication or treatment order is presented.
- D. Describe the rights of the parents and student to a hearing, the hearing process and explain that the exclusion continues until the medication or treatment plan is presented or the hearing officer determines that the student should no longer be excluded from school.
- E. If the parents request a hearing, the district shall schedule one within three school days of receiving the request, unless more time is requested by the parents.
- F. The hearing process shall be consistent with the procedures established for disciplinary cases pursuant to Chapter 180-40 WAC.