

Descriptor Term: UNSAFE SCHOOL CHOICE OPTION

Descriptor Code: JGF

Rescinds: JGF

Board Approved: 2/27/2006

Previously Approved: 4/04/1988

The Board of Trustees requires the Superintendent and Principals to maintain a safe learning environment. The health and safety of students will be protected by an organized program.

1. All pupils enrolling in the Gulfport School District will comply with immunization requirements.
2. Sanitary conditions in each school will meet State Board of Health requirements.
3. Each school will comply with state laws regarding fire drills.
4. Each school will have a current disaster plan.
5. Each school will have adequate custodial personnel and equipment to maintain lighting, heating, ventilation, plumbing, toilets, and school furniture.
6. Regular scheduled inspections and maintenance will ensure that the buildings and grounds are clean and orderly.
7. Housekeeping procedures will produce a clean, sanitary, pleasant, and stimulating school environment.
8. Protective eye devices will be worn by the students and staff in dangerous situations.
9. A fully charged, recently inspected fire extinguisher will be readily available in laboratories where chemical experiments are conducted and at other strategic locations.
10. All chemicals will be clearly labeled to indicate contents and possible hazards.
11. Carcinogens, potentially dangerous radioactive materials, or pathogenic organisms will be handled and/or maintained only with approval of the local health department.
12. Each school will have a weather radio that provides inclement weather warnings.

The administration will develop safety rules and regulations to carry out the above requirements, including other ways in which student safety requires special supervision and school protection. These will include precautions at dismissal time and instruction for safety on the way home from school.

Legal Reference: Mississippi Code 1972, '37-11-5, '37-41-101, '37-11-49

In addition, the Board requires recording incidents of violent criminal offenses in the categories of:

1. **Simple or Aggravated Assault** as defined in '97-3-7 of the Mississippi Code Annotated 1972, as amended;
2. **Homicide** as defined in ' 97-3-19, 97-3-27, 97-3-29, 97-3-31, 97-3-35, 97-3-37, 97-3-47;
3. **Kidnapping** as defined in '97-3-53;

4. **Rape** as defined in '97-3-65, '97-3-71
5. **Robbery** as defined in '97-3-73, 97-3-77, 97-3-79;
6. **Sexual Battery** as defined in '97-3-95 of the Mississippi Code Annotated 1972, as amended;
7. **Mayhem** as defined in '97-3-59;
8. **Poisoning** as defined in '97-3-61;
9. **Extortion** as defined in '97-3-82;
10. **Stalking** as defined in '97-3-107;
11. **Seizure and Forfeiture of Firearms** as defined in '97-3-100.

These records must be maintained for the purposes of reporting to the State Department of Education as required by the No Child Left Behind Act.

The following definitions apply to this policy:

1. A persistently dangerous school@ is a school in the District in which the conditions during the past two school years continually exposed its students to injury from violent criminal offenses and is:
  - a. an elementary, middle, or secondary school in which a total of 20 or more violent criminal offenses were committed per 1000 students (2.0 or more per 100 students) in two consecutive school years; or
  - b. an elementary, middle or secondary alternative school in which a total of 75 or more violent criminal offenses were committed per 1000 (7.5 or more per 100 students) in two consecutive years.

Once a school has been designated a persistently dangerous school, it retains that designation for at least one year. Students assigned to a school which the State Board of Education has determined to be persistently dangerous will be allowed to attend another school in the District which is not designated a persistently dangerous school, provided there is such a school in the District which offers instruction at the student=s grade level. Any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense committed against him or her while he or she was in or on the grounds of the school that he or she attends, will be allowed to choose to attend another school in the District which is not designated a persistently dangerous school, provided there is such a school in the District which offers instruction at the student=s grade level and provided the student requests transfer within 30 days of the violent criminal offense.

The Superintendent and Principals are responsible for the safety and our students must create and maintain a learning environment to avoid the persistently dangerous school environment.