

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Board of Education believes that each student can reasonably be expected to be responsible for his own behavior. The school administration shall develop and disseminate to the educational community the rules of conduct, focusing on personal safety and respect for the rights and property of others, to be consistently and equitably applied in the classrooms and throughout the school district. Students who fail to meet this expected degree of responsibility and violate school rules may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and more regulated supervision.

Discipline is most effective when it deals directly with a problem at the time and place it occurs and in a way that is viewed as fair and impartial by the student. Therefore, before seeking outside assistance, teachers will first use their best efforts to create a change of behavior in the classroom.

Disciplinary action, when necessary, will be firm, fair, and consistent in order to be most effective in changing behavior. Group punishment for an individual student's inappropriate behavior should not occur. Pursuant to Section 100.2 of the Commissioner's Regulations, such action will be appropriate to the seriousness of the offense. Extreme penalties (e.g., a one-year suspension) will not be assigned without first reviewing the student's disciplinary records and considering the circumstances which led to the improper behavior.

The Superintendent shall establish a procedure for an annual review of discipline policies, rules and regulations for evaluation, feedback and assessment of current needs and effectiveness, as well as to ensure their equitable application district-wide.

Discipline Policy for Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities should not be disciplined if their inability to conform to the school's code of conduct is related to their disability. If there is a question as to whether a student's behavior is related to that condition, the case should be referred by the building principal to the Committee on Special Education (CSE). The CSE will decide if counseling or disciplinary action will be taken and/or if a change of placement is appropriate.

Ref: Commissioner's Regulations 100.2

Date Adopted: 12/7/04