

Houston County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: <h2 style="text-align: center;">Zero Tolerance Offenses</h2>	Descriptor Code: <h3 style="text-align: center;">6.309</h3>	Issued Date: <h3 style="text-align: center;">07/18/24</h3>
		Rescinds:	Issued: 01/19/95; 05/11/15; 05/13/19; 06/14/21; 06/13/22; 06/12/23

In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the following offenses shall not be tolerated:¹

1. Bringing to school or being possession of a weapon or dangerous instrument not otherwise specified in the discipline policy;
2. Bringing to school or being in unauthorized possession of a firearm on school property;²
3. Unlawful possession of any drug, including any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event;³
4. Aggravated assault;⁴
5. Assault that results in bodily injury⁵ upon any student, teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of the school, or school resource officer; or
6. Valid threats of mass violence on school property or at a school-related activity as determined by a threat assessment team.⁶

All Zero Tolerance offenses shall be brought before a district Zero Tolerance Committee. The Committee will hear statements of the parties involved and determine if the infraction meets the criteria as a Zero Tolerance offense.

Committing any of these offenses shall result in a student being expelled from the regular school program for at least one (1) calendar year unless modified by the Director of Schools. Modification of the length of time shall be granted on a case-by-case basis. Students who commit zero tolerance offenses may be assigned to an alternative school or program at the discretion of the Director of Schools.⁷

When it is determined that a student has violated this policy, the principal shall notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system as required by law.⁸

Legal References

1. [TCA 49-6-3401\(g\)](#)
2. [18 USCA § 921\(a\)\(3\)](#); [20 USCA § 7961](#)
3. [TCA 39-17-454](#); [TCA 53-10-101](#)
4. [TCA 39-13-102](#)
5. [TCA 39-13-101\(a\)\(1\)](#)
6. [TCA 39-16-517](#); [TCA 49-6-3401\(g\)\(2\)\(D\)](#); [Public Acts of 2024, Chapter No. 882](#)
7. [TCA 49-6-3401\(g\)\(2\)](#); [TCA 49-6-3402](#)
8. [TCA 49-6-4209](#); [TCA 39-17-1312](#); [20 USCA § 7961\(h\)\(1\)](#); [Public Acts of 2024, Chapter No. 882](#)

Cross References

Threat Assessment Team 3.204
Code of Conduct 6.300
Drug-Free Schools 6.307
Suspension 6.316
Student Disciplinary Hearing Authority 6.317
Alternative Education 6.319
Safe Relocation of Students 6.4081