

**DISCIPLINE**

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and achievement and desires to prepare students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board believes that high expectations for student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent/guardian involvement can minimize the need for disciplinary measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student misbehavior. (cf. 5131 - Conduct) (cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct) (cf. 5131.2 - Bullying) (cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate) (cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

The Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent shall develop effective, age-appropriate strategies for maintaining a positive school climate and correcting student misbehavior at district schools. The strategies shall focus on providing students with needed supports; communicating clear, appropriate, and consistent expectations and consequences for student conduct; and ensuring equity and continuous improvement in the implementation of district discipline policies and practices.

In addition, the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent's strategies for correcting student misconduct shall reflect the Board's preference for the use of positive interventions and alternative disciplinary measures over exclusionary discipline measures.

Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension, and expulsion, shall be imposed when required or permitted by law or when other means of correction have been documented to have failed. (Education Code 48900.5) (cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities) (cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process) (cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities)) (cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

School personnel and volunteers shall not allow any disciplinary action taken against a student to result in the denial or delay of a school meal. (Education Code 49557.5)

Seclusion and behavioral restraint are prohibited as a means of discipline and shall not be used to correct student behavior except as permitted pursuant to Education Code 49005.4 and in accordance with district regulations. (Education Code 49005.2)

**SECTION 5000  
STUDENTS**

**BOARD POLICY  
BP 5144**

The Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent shall create a model discipline matrix that lists violations and the consequences for each as allowed by law.

The principal or assistant principal at each school may develop disciplinary rules to meet the school's particular needs consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. The Board, at an open meeting, may review the approved school discipline rules for consistency with Board policy and state law. Site-level disciplinary rules shall be included in the district's comprehensive safety plan. (education Code 32282, 35291.5)

At all times, the safety of students and staff, providing interventions and supports for students, as well as the maintenance of an orderly school environment shall be priorities in determining appropriate discipline. When misconduct occurs, staff shall attempt to identify the causes of the student's behavior and implement appropriate support and/or discipline. When choosing between different disciplinary strategies, staff shall consider the effect of each option on the student's health, well-being, and opportunity to learn. Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies. (cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)  
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment) (cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

The Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent shall provide professional development as necessary to assist staff in developing the skills needed to effectively and equitably implement the disciplinary strategies adopted for district schools, including, but not limited to, knowledge of school and classroom management skills and their consistent application, effective accountability and positive behavior intervention and support techniques, and the tools to form strong, cooperative relationships with parents/guardians. (cf. 4131 - Staff Development)  
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development) (cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

District goals for improving school climate, based on suspension and expulsion rates, surveys of students, staff, and parents/guardians regarding their sense of school safety and connectedness to the school community, and other local measures, shall be included in the district's local control and accountability plan, as required by law. (cf. 0460 - Local Control and Accountability Plan)  
(cf. 3100 - Budget)

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent may report to the Board regarding disciplinary strategies used in district schools in the immediately preceding school year and their effect on student learning.

**SECTION 5000  
STUDENTS**

**BOARD POLICY  
BP 5144**

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32289 School safety plans  
35146 Closed sessions  
35291 Rules  
35291.5-35291.7 School-adopted discipline rules  
37223 Weekend classes  
44807.5 Restriction from recess  
48900-48926 Suspension and expulsion  
48980-48985 Notification of parent/guardian  
49005-49006.4 Seclusion and restraint  
49330-49335 Injurious objects  
49550-49564.5 Meals for needy students  
52060-52077 Local control and accountability plan

CIVIL CODE

1714.1 Parental liability for child's misconduct

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

307 Participation in school activities until departure of bus  
353 Detention after school

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j School Lunch Program

1773 School Breakfast Program

Management Resources:

HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE

11014.5 Drug paraphernalia

11053-11058 Standards and schedules

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Recent Legislation on Discipline: AB 240, Fact Sheet, March 2015

The Case for Reducing Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions, Fact Sheet, April 2014

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014

Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011

Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity during the School Day, Fact Sheet, 2009

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAM ADVISORIES

**SECTION 5000  
STUDENTS**

**BOARD POLICY  
BP 5144**

Classroom Management: A California Resource Guide for Teachers and Administrators of Elementary and Secondary Schools, 2000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, OFFICE FOR CIVIL RIGHTS PUBLICATIONS  
Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, January 2014  
REVISION/REDESIGNATION 5/13/98 (BP 536 – Rules and Procedures Governing Student Discipline); Rev. 11/18/98; Rev. 6/10/09; REVISED/APPROVED: 8/27/14, 3/11/20

REVISED/APPROVED: 1/15/2025