

2026 – 2027

CODE OF CONDUCT



**CENTRAL DAUPHIN
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

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Introduction and Statement of Purpose

The Central Dauphin School District is dedicated to fostering a safe, respectful, and academically focused environment. This Student Code of Conduct outlines the rights and responsibilities of students, as well as behaviors that support or disrupt the educational setting. While comprehensive, this Code is intended as a guiding framework and may not address every possible scenario.

The Code of Conduct is distributed annually and may be revised during the school year. Any updates will be communicated and posted on the district website.

School Board Philosophy on Student Discipline

The Central Dauphin Board of School Directors affirms that effective student discipline begins with education. The district prioritizes teaching appropriate behavior and intervenes with disciplinary measures when necessary. Expectations are applied consistently and fairly, with consideration of individual student needs and circumstances. Harassment, discrimination, and other forms of improper conduct are strictly prohibited. Students are encouraged to report concerns to a teacher, school administrator, counselor, or the Superintendent's Office, and may access a formal complaint and appeal process.

Access to School Board Policies

Board policies, including those referenced in the Student Code of Conduct, are available online.

To access policies:

1. Visit the Central Dauphin School District website: www.cdschools.org
2. Select **SCHOOL BOARD / OUR DISTRICT** from the top menu
3. Click **Policies - School Board**

Direct Link:

[Central Dauphin School Board Policies](#)

Families without internet access may contact their school office or the Administration Building to request printed copies of specific policies.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

In accordance with PA School Code §§ 12.2–12.3 and CDSB Board Policies 218 & 204

All students enrolled in the Central Dauphin School District are expected to act in a manner that supports a safe, respectful, and productive learning environment. These responsibilities apply to all school settings, including in-person instruction, online learning, school buses, and school-sponsored activities. Conduct that disrupts the educational mission or compromises the safety of others on or off campus may result in disciplinary action.

Students are expected to:

- Attend school regularly and follow all district attendance policies
- Participate actively and put forth effort in classroom learning
- Follow school rules and all applicable laws
- Support a positive school climate that promotes respect, safety, and learning
- Respect the rights and dignity of peers, staff, and others in the school community
- Be familiar with and follow all behavior expectations, including those in the Student Code of Conduct
- Comply with all rules unless officially changed in writing
- Report concerns related to the health, safety, or welfare of the school community
- Cooperate with school staff in maintaining a safe and orderly school environment
- Be punctual for class and school-related events
- Complete missed work due to absences, in accordance with school procedures
- Engage fully in assigned courses and strive for academic success
- Respect the learning of others by avoiding disruptions
- Use school property responsibly, including facilities, equipment, and materials

Fulfilling these responsibilities helps ensure a safe, supportive, and high-quality educational experience for all.

Attendance

Pursuant to PA School Code §13-1326–1333 and CDSB Board Policy 204

Right to Attend

All students who meet Pennsylvania age and residency requirements are entitled to attend school in the Central Dauphin School District. This right is upheld when students comply with school policies and state-mandated attendance laws.

Compulsory Attendance

Compulsory school attendance begins at the age of 6, or when a child enters public school kindergarten and continues until the age of 18 or high school graduation. A child who has attained the age of 6 on or before September 1 must enroll and attend school or begin a home school program that year. Regular attendance supports academic success, continuity of instruction, and eligibility for credit. Excessive absences, whether excused or unlawful, may negatively impact a student's academic record and promotion.

Excused vs. Unexcused Absences

Notification to the school is requested and encouraged for each absence. Absences are considered excused when a written parent/guardian note is submitted within three (3) school days following the absence and the reason aligns with state or district-approved categories, including:

- Illness or medical appointments
- Quarantine
- Death of a family member
- Observance of religious holidays
- Appointments including court hearings, county agencies and/or juvenile probation
- Pre-approved educational trips (see below)
- Other urgent reasons as deemed appropriate by the administration

At the Secondary Level, college visits and job interviews may be considered an excused absence provided a prior written parent/guardian request is approved by building principal or designee. The request should state the reason for the visit, the name of the college representative or potential employer, date and time of the appointment and how and by whom the student will be transported.

Absences will be marked unexcused/unlawful if:

- No written excuse is received within 3 days
- The reason provided is not recognized under district policy
- A student exceeds 10 cumulative days without a doctor's note

A maximum of ten (10) cumulative lawful absences verified by parental notification may be permitted during a school year. After a student has accumulated a number of absences that exceeds the ten (10) absences for the current school year, the district shall require the student to submit a doctor's note for each subsequent absence within three (3) school days, or that day will be recorded as unlawful/unexcused. The building principal may apply discretion in "unusual or extenuating circumstances". A doctor's note shall be required for absences due to illness, for three (3) consecutive days.

Discipline and Attendance Violations

- An Official Notice of unlawful absences letter is issued after 3 unlawful absences.
- Continued unlawful absences may result in citations, fines, and court involvement.

Interventions may include parent meetings, counseling referrals, discipline, loss of privileges, and referral to a Student Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC).

Tardiness and Early Dismissal

Tardiness is the late arrival (signed-in) to school without proper cause on or before 10:30 AM for secondary or 11:45 AM for elementary. Arrival after this time will result in a half day unexcused absence. Students who leave for an early dismissal before 10:30 AM secondary or 11:45 for elementary will be recorded as a half day absence.

Tardiness

Students are expected to arrive on time. A student is tardy if not in the homeroom/classroom when the bell rings signaling the beginning of school class session. When a student is tardy to school, they must report to the office before going to homeroom or class.

At both the secondary and elementary levels, unexcused tardy time is considered unlawful absence time from school. Therefore, accumulated tardy time may be pursued in Truancy Court under compulsory education violations.

Early Dismissals

Written notice from the parent/guardian is required to permit early dismissal. A written excuse is required upon the return of the student. This excuse may be provided by the physician/dentist or the parent/ guardian. If a student has been placed on doctor's notice, a parent note will not be accepted.

Early dismissals are only excused for:

- Physician/dental visits (with a note upon return)
- Approved college visits/job interviews (secondary only)
- Emergency circumstances approved by administration

Dismissals for other reasons may be considered unexcused unless pre-approved.

Educational Trips and Activities

Students may take part in up to five (5) days of pre-approved educational trips/activities per school year. Trips must not conflict with state assessment dates. To request approval, complete the Educational Trip Request Form available on the district website or from the school office. The form must be submitted to the school in advance and approved by the building principal.

Religious Observances

Students may be excused for the observance of major religious holidays. A written request must be submitted by the parent/guardian to the school office prior to the date of the absence.

Leaving School Grounds

Students are not permitted to leave campus during the school day without prior approval from the principal or school nurse. Unauthorized departure will result in discipline.

Truancy

Pursuant to PA School Code 24 P.S. § 13-1327 and 22 Pa. Code § 11.41

A child is "truant" if the child is subject to compulsory school laws and has incurred three or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year. A child is "habitually truant" if the child is subject to compulsory school laws and has incurred six or more school days of unexcused absences during the current school year. Habitual truancy negatively impacts a child's school performance and increases the likelihood of juvenile delinquency. Schools are responsible for enforcing compulsory attendance laws.

The school must notify, in writing, the person in parental relation to the child within 10 school days of the child's third unexcused absence. The parental notice must contain a description of the consequences that will follow if the child becomes habitually truant, must be in the parent's preferred language, and may include the offer of a School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC). If the child continues to incur additional unexcused absences after the school or nonpublic school has issued the notice, the school must, if not already offered, offer the student and parent a SAIC.

School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC)

If a student continues to incur additional unexcused absences after the school has issued the notice of the student's third unexcused absence, the school will send the parent or guardian an invitation to attend a SAIC. During the conference, the reasons for the student's absences are examined to improve attendance, with or without additional services.

Participants invited to the conference must include, but are not limited to:

1. The student
2. The student's parent or guardian
3. Other individuals as identified by the parent or guardian who may serve as a resource
4. Appropriate school personnel
5. Recommended service providers

Active participation by the student and family is an integral component of this conference and the school will make every attempt to conduct the SAIC with the parent or guardian present to assist in identifying and resolving the root causes of truancy. The outcome of the SAIC will be documented in a written School Attendance Improvement Plan (SAIP).

Subsequent Unlawful Absences

When the SAIP is in place, if a child is subsequently, unlawfully absent, at any point within the school year, an official notice of the unexcused absence should be sent to the person in parental relation. The purpose of this correspondence is to inform the person in parental relation that the SAIP has been violated, and that further action will be initiated.

Truancy Citations

If a habitually truant child is under age 15, the school must refer the child to either (1) a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program or (2) the county children and youth agency for services or possible disposition as a dependent child. A school-based or community-based attendance program is a program designed to improve school attendance by seeking to identify and address the underlying reasons for a child's absences. Additionally, the school may, but is not required to, file a truancy citation against the person in parental relation to the child.

If a habitually truant child is 15 years of age and older, the school must either (1) refer the child to a school-based or community-based attendance improvement program or (2) file a citation against the student or person in parental relation to the child. If a habitually truant child 15 or older incurs additional absences after a school refers the child to a school or community-based improvement program or the child refuses to participate in an attendance improvement program, the school may refer the child to the county children and youth agency for possible disposition as a dependent child.

When referring a habitually truant child of any age to the county children and youth agency or filing a citation, the school must provide verification that a SAIC was held.

A person convicted of a violation of compulsory attendance laws may be: (1) sentenced to pay a fine, (2) sentenced to perform community service, or (3) required to complete an appropriate course or program designed to improve school attendance. The judge imposing

the sentence has discretion to make an informed decision regarding the appropriate sentence.

The Public School Code of 1949, Section 1333 was amended on November 12, 2025 to include new procedures for students who are truant. Specifically, the legislation states: “A child who is habitually truant may not transfer, during the school year to a cyber charter school unless a judge determines that the transfer is in the best interest of the child”

The Pennsylvania Department of Education specifies that a student is considered habitually truant if they have 6 or more unexcused absences. Therefore, if a student has received 6 or more unexcused absences during the school year, they will not be permitted to enroll in a Cyber Charter School.

Freedom of Expression

In accordance with Pa. Code §12.9, and CDSB Board Policy 220

The Central Dauphin School District respects students’ right to express their opinions under the First Amendment and Pennsylvania law. However, student expression in school is subject to reasonable limitations to maintain a safe, orderly, and respectful learning environment.

Students may express themselves verbally, in writing, or symbolically, provided the expression does not:

- Materially or substantially disrupt school operations or the learning environment
- Include vulgar, lewd, profane, obscene, or sexually explicit content
- Promote illegal conduct
- Harass, threaten, or demean others based on race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation, or other protected categories
- Violate another person’s legal rights, including defamation

These guidelines apply on school property, on school buses, at school events, and in any school-sponsored or school-related setting.

Dress and Appearance

In accordance with PA School Code § 12.11

The Central Dauphin School District expects students to dress in a way that promotes a safe, respectful, and focused learning environment. While students have the right to express themselves through personal appearance, that right may be limited when clothing is disruptive, inappropriate, or poses a health or safety risk.

General Guidelines

- Clothing must be clean, appropriate for school, and free of health hazards.
- Attire must not interfere with instruction or school operations.

- Special clothing may be required for physical education, labs, extracurriculars, or activities involving safety concerns.

Students may not wear clothing or accessories that include:

- References to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, weapons, gangs, violence, or any sexually explicit, discriminatory, or profane content
- Hats, hoods, scarves, head coverings, or sunglasses, unless required for religious or medical reasons
- Outerwear (such as coats or jackets) worn indoors
- Tank tops, crop tops, or shirts that do not fully cover the chest, back, and underarms
- Shorts, skirts, or dresses that do not extend to mid-thigh
- Clothing with holes or rips that expose undergarments or private areas
- Pajamas, slippers, or exposed undergarments
- Spiked jewelry or heavy chains
- Footwear with wheels

Enforcement and Exceptions

- Exceptions may be granted for documented religious or medical reasons.
- Students in violation will be required to change immediately. If needed, parents may be contacted to bring appropriate clothing.
- Repeated violations will result in progressive disciplinary action, in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

Off-Campus Internet Conduct

In accordance with PA School Code § 12.9 and CDSB Board Policies 218 & 815

While students have the right to free expression, that right is not unlimited, especially when off-campus internet activity impacts the school environment.

Off-campus internet conduct refers to any online behavior (e.g., posts, messages, videos, images, comments, or shares) that occurs outside of school property, school activities, buses, or travel to and from school.

Although this activity occurs outside of school, disciplinary action may be taken if the conduct:

- Substantially disrupts school operations or learning
- Threatens harm to any member of the school community
- Harasses, intimidates, or targets others based on race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, or ethnicity
- Includes lewd, obscene, or vulgar content
- Encourages illegal activity
- Violates another person's rights (e.g., libel or defamation)

Consequences may include:

- Detention or loss of privileges
- Exclusion from school-sponsored activities
- In-school or out-of-school suspension
- Recommendation for expulsion, depending on the severity and impact

Discipline may apply even if the student is not the original author of the content but contributes to or shares harmful material.

Extracurricular Activities and Interscholastic Athletics

In accordance with PA School Code, PIAA regulations, and CDSB Board Policies 122 & 123

Review [CDSB Student Athlete Rules and Regulations](#) for more information.

Participation in extracurricular activities and interscholastic athletics is a privilege, not a right. To maintain eligibility, students must demonstrate satisfactory academic progress, good attendance, and adherence to school rules and conduct standards.

Attendance

1. A pupil who has been absent twenty (20) or more days during a semester shall not be eligible to participate.
2. A pupil absent from school on the day of a contest is not eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity that day. A pupil must arrive at school by 10:30 a.m. to be considered in attendance and to be eligible. Exceptions may be granted by the principal or Athletic Director.
3. A pupil not in attendance on Friday will not participate in weekend activities.

Discipline

1. A student-athlete who is given detention may participate in extracurricular activity to include practice and playing in games/matches/meets.
2. A student-athlete who is given ISS (In-School Suspension) may participate in practice; however, no games/matches/meets the calendar day(s) assigned to ISS.
3. A student-athlete who is given OSS (Out-of-School Suspension) may not participate in any extracurricular activity to include practice and playing in games/matches/meets the calendar day (s) assigned to OSS.
4. Additional discipline may be applied at the coaches' discretion.

Hazing

The Central Dauphin School District believes that students must be protected from hazing and/or initiation ceremonies. All verbal, written, or physical conduct, which harasses, humiliates, persecutes students, or disrupts or interferes with any student's curricular or extracurricular experiences, shall not be tolerated.

1. Any student who is found, after investigation, to have engaged in the hazing, or the filing of false charges shall be subject to disciplinary actions up to and including expulsion.
2. Any student who witnessed or has knowledge of hazing activities and fails to report such actions shall also be subject to appropriate disciplinary actions.

School Dances

Students who wish to attend dances must attend the school in which the dance is held or accompany a student who attends Central Dauphin School District. Any exception to this will be administered by the building principal.

Investigation of Suspected Wrongdoing

In accordance with PA School Code 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.3, 12.9, 12.14; 24 P.S. § 13-1317.2; and CDSD Board Policies 225 & 226

When a student is suspected of violating the Student Code of Conduct or any school rule, the Central Dauphin School District may conduct an investigation to determine what occurred. Investigations are conducted by school administrators or designees and are consistent with applicable legal and constitutional protections.

Investigative methods may include but are not limited to:

- Interviews with students or witnesses. Parent does not need to be present during student interviews conducted by administrator (in loco parentis).
- Collection of written statements
- Review of video surveillance
- Use of technology
- Collaboration with law enforcement, if necessary

Evidence gathered during an investigation may be shared with police as appropriate.

Student Searches

School officials may search a student or their belongings including backpacks, purses, and vehicles if there are reasonable suspicion to believe the search will uncover evidence of a school rule or law violation. The scope of the search must be appropriate to the situation and not overly intrusive based on the student's age, gender, and the nature of the offense.

- Parent does not need to be present during student searches conducted by administrator (in loco parentis).
- Students will be notified and allowed to be present during searches, when practical.
- If safety is at risk, searches may occur without prior notice.
- Tools like metal detectors or breathalyzers may be used during random safety checks.
- Consent to search is required for parking privileges on school property (see Vehicle Searches below).

Locker Searches

Student lockers remain the property of the Central Dauphin School District and may be searched at any time. Students have no expectation of privacy in school lockers.

- Lockers may be searched without prior notice if there is reasonable belief of a threat to safety.
- Periodic, random searches (with or without canines) may occur to maintain school safety.
- Illegal or dangerous items found may be seized and used in disciplinary or legal actions.

Vehicle Searches

As a condition for receiving a student parking permit, students and parents must consent to random vehicle searches on school property.

- Searches may be conducted with law enforcement and drug-detection dogs.
- Any prohibited or illegal materials found will be addressed through school discipline and may be reported to police.

Confidential Student Communication

Information shared by a student in confidence may be disclosed to school officials or parents if it involves the health, safety, or welfare of the student or others. Use of confidential communication in legal matters is governed by applicable state and federal law.

Evidence Handling

Any physical evidence collected during an investigation must be:

- Handled by as few people as possible
- Properly documented, including the chain of custody
- Tagged and securely stored
- Transferred to police when appropriate, with documentation

Surveillance and Canine Searches

- The Central Dauphin School District may use surveillance cameras in schools, on buses, and on school grounds to monitor safety and behavior.
- Video recordings may be reviewed and used in investigations.
- Trained canines may be used in unannounced searches of lockers, vehicles, buildings, and grounds to detect contraband

School Police Officers and Law Enforcement Involvement

In accordance with 24 P.S. § 13-1317.2; 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.3, 12.9, and 12.14; the Pennsylvania Safe Schools Act; and Central Dauphin School District Board Policies 225 and 226

The Central Dauphin School District maintains a Department of Safety and Security, which includes district-employed school police officers and security personnel dedicated to maintaining safe and secure learning environments across all district schools and facilities. The district may also collaborate with local municipal law enforcement agencies when circumstances require additional assistance or when incidents may involve violations of criminal law.

School administrators retain primary responsibility for enforcing school discipline and investigating violations of the Student Code of Conduct. School police officers and local law enforcement may be involved when behavior may constitute criminal activity, presents a threat to the safety of students or staff, or requires law enforcement authority.

Student Interviewing by Law Enforcement

When school police officers or local law enforcement seek to interview a student during the school day, the following procedures will apply whenever possible:

- A parent/guardian must be notified and must provide consent prior to any questioning of a student under the age of 18 unless an emergency exists involving an immediate threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the student or others
- A school administrator will be present during the interview unless the parent/guardian is in attendance and waives this condition.
- Police may assist if a student becomes uncooperative, or a situation escalates.
- Any materials or physical evidence collected during a school investigation may be turned over to law enforcement, with proper documentation of the transfer and chain of custody.

Law enforcement officers maintain authority over criminal investigations and may proceed in accordance with applicable laws and procedures.

Emergency Situations

In situations involving an immediate threat to safety, school administrators or safety personnel may contact school police officers or local law enforcement without prior notice to parents. Law enforcement officers may take appropriate action to protect the safety of students, staff, and visitors.

Discipline and Intervention

In accordance with PA School Code (24 P.S. § 13-1317, § 13-1318, 22 P.S. § 12.5–§ 12.9), IDEA, and CDSB Board Policies 218, 113.1, and 103

Purpose of Discipline

The goal of school discipline is to:

- Address violations in a fair and proportionate manner
- Maintain a safe and respectful learning environment
- Teach students appropriate behavior
- Prevent future incidents
- Protect the rights and well-being of all students and staff

Disciplinary decisions are made by school staff based on:

- The seriousness of the behavior
- The student's age and developmental level
- The student's disciplinary history
- The impact on the school community
- Any relevant circumstances (mitigating or aggravating)

All decisions will be made without bias, and shall not be influenced by a student's race, sex, nationality, religion, disability, academic performance, or extracurricular status.

Fair and Consistent Practices

While the District aims for consistency in disciplinary actions for similar offenses, it also recognizes the importance of flexibility based on each student's unique situation. Staff members may use discretion to adjust disciplinary responses when appropriate, within the guidelines of the Student Code of Conduct.

Prohibited Practices

- Discipline should never include physical punishment, humiliation, or actions that harm student dignity. Corporal punishment is strictly prohibited under PA School Code §12.5 and CDSB Policy 218.

Multi-Tiered Systems of Support

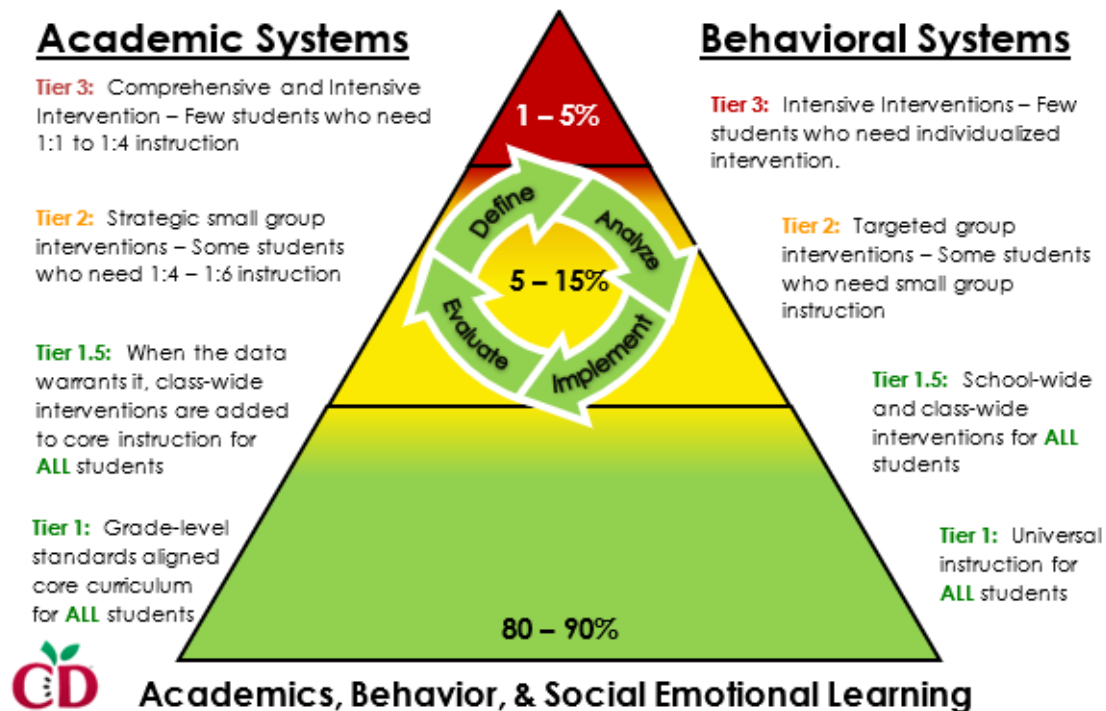
The Central Dauphin School District is committed to supporting all students in developing the skills necessary to succeed in school and life. As part of this commitment, the district implements a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) which is a proactive, data-driven framework that provides academic, behavioral, and social-emotional interventions based on individual student needs.

MTSS promotes:

- Early identification of behavioral concerns
- Preventative and targeted interventions
- Consistent expectations across classrooms and schools
- A supportive climate that fosters student growth and achievement

Through MTSS, students receive the help they need based on their individual needs. This includes schoolwide supports for all students (Tier 1), targeted small group support for students who need extra help (Tier 2), and individualized support for students with more intensive needs (Tier 3). The goal is to teach positive behavior and provide support for all students.

CDSD Multi-Tiered Systems of Support



Watson, 2023

Level 1 Offenses

In accordance with PA School Code §§ 12.3, 12.14 and CDSB Board Policies 218, 237, 249, and 815

Level One offenses are minor behavioral violations that may disrupt the classroom or school environment but do not pose an immediate threat to safety or property. These behaviors are typically addressed by the classroom teacher or staff member through corrective strategies, redirection, and communication with the student and family. In some cases, support personnel such as counselors or administrators may be consulted.

Examples of Level One offenses include, but are not limited to:

- Tardiness to class
- Improper conduct
- Disruptive behavior that interferes with teaching or learning
- Public displays of affection not appropriate for the school setting
- Throwing objects in a non-supervised setting that could cause injury or damage
- Dress code violations

Response to Level One Offenses include, but are not limited to:

These incidents are typically managed with classroom-level interventions, which may include:

- Verbal warning or redirection
- Reteaching expectations
- Parent contact
- Loss of classroom privileges
- Reflection activity
- Consultation with school counselor

Repeated or unresolved Level One behaviors may be documented and addressed through additional supports or progression to higher-level interventions, following the district's discipline procedures and MTSS framework.

Level 2 Offenses

In accordance with PA School Code §§ 12.3, 12.14 and CDSB Board Policies 218, 237, 249, and 815

Level Two offenses are more serious or repeated behaviors that disrupt the school's learning environment. These behaviors often result from the continuation of unresolved Level One infractions or reflect greater severity in nature. While they may not directly endanger others, they require administrative intervention and documented corrective action.

Examples of Level Two offenses include, but are not limited to:

- Purposeful actions that pose a risk to health or safety
- Purposeful use of an item that causes a significant distraction or disturbance
- Use of Electronic and Personal Communication Devices
- Verbal or physical confrontations that do not rise to Level 3
- Repeated Level One behavior that is unresponsive to prior interventions
- Cutting class or skipping assigned periods
- Failing to serve an assigned disciplinary consequence
- Use of inappropriate, abusive, or offensive language/gestures
- Minor theft, forgery, or attempts to steal
- Violation of the District's Acceptable Use Policy

Response to Level Two Offenses include, but are not limited to:

Discipline is assigned based on the severity of the incident and is at the discretion of the building administrator. Responses will be consistent with PA School Code and CDSB Board Policies, with consideration for individual student needs and prior interventions through MTSS and may include:

- Referral to counselor, social worker, Student Assistance Program, or MTSS team
- Behavior support plan or contract
- Parent/guardian contact or conference
- Home/school communication plan
- Temporary classroom removal
- Administrative referral
- Referral to outside agency supports
- Restitution: clean, repair, or replace damaged property
- Revocation of privileges (e.g., recess, assemblies, special projects)
- Loss of credit for assignments involving scholastic dishonesty
- Detention
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Use of approved safety interventions (e.g., physical redirection, room clear procedures), when behavior poses danger to self or others (Policy 113.1)

Level 3 Offenses

In accordance with PA School Code §§ 12.3, 12.14 and CDSB Board Policies 218, 222, 227, 218.1, 218.2, 815

Level 3 offenses include serious violations that pose a moderate to significant threat to individuals, school operations, or property. These actions often reflect ongoing defiance of school authority, repeated disruptive behavior, or criminal activity. Administrative intervention is required, and law enforcement may be contacted depending on the severity of the offense.

Examples of Level 3 offenses include, but are not limited to:

- Repeated or unmodified Level 2 behavior
- Threatening or intimidating others, including staff
- Fighting or assault
- Gang activity or symbolism
- Vandalism
- Gambling
- Possession, use, or transfer of tobacco, vaping devices
- Possession, use, or distribution of inappropriate or explicit content
- Sexual activity or misconduct on school grounds, transportation, or events
- Use or possession of drugs, alcohol, or paraphernalia
- Possession or transfer of weapons or look-alike weapons
- Terroristic threats or actions
- Robbery, extortion, blackmail, coercion
- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Repeated or severe improper conduct

Response to Level 3 Offenses include, but are not limited to:

Discipline is assigned based on the severity of the incident and is at the discretion of the building administrator. Responses will be consistent with PA School Code and CDSB Board Policies, with consideration for individual student needs and prior interventions through MTSS and may include:

- Referral to counselor, social worker, Student Assistance Program, or MTSS team
- Behavior intervention plan or contract
- Parent/guardian contact or conference
- Detention or loss of privileges (recess, assemblies, events, extracurriculars)
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral to outside support services or agencies
- Restitution (clean, repair, or replace property)
- Safety interventions: physical redirection, removal, or room clear when behavior poses danger (Policy 113.1)
- Referral to law enforcement (as appropriate)
- Referral to Alternative Education Program (AEDY)
- Recommendation to the Board for expulsion

Disciplinary Procedures

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 12.6, § 12.8, and CDSB Board Policies 218, 233, 113.1

The Central Dauphin School District follows clearly defined disciplinary procedures that uphold the rights of students and comply with Pennsylvania law. Discipline is implemented in a fair, consistent, and developmentally appropriate manner to support a safe and respectful learning environment. The procedures outlined below apply to the various types of disciplinary action used in the district. These disciplinary procedures are designed to

protect students' rights while maintaining a safe, orderly, and supportive school environment. When a student with an identified disability is involved, additional safeguards under Board Policy 113.1 and IDEA/Section 504 are followed to ensure compliance with federal and state regulations.

In-School Suspension (ISS)

- Prior to the start of the ISS, the student will be informed of the reason for the suspension and given an opportunity to respond.
- Written notice will be provided to the parent/guardian.
- If the ISS extends beyond three consecutive school days, the student and their parent/guardian will be offered an informal hearing before the end of the third day.
- The informal hearing provides an opportunity to review the incident, discuss the student's behavior, and identify steps for improvement.
- Students are provided with class assignments and are expected to complete academic work during the ISS period.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)

- Before the suspension, the student will be informed of the reason and given a chance to respond. Prior notice may be waived if the student poses an immediate threat to the school community.
- Written notice will be provided to the parent/guardian.
- If the OSS is longer than three days, an informal hearing will be held to give the student and parent/guardian an opportunity to discuss the incident and offer any relevant information.
- Students have the right to make up missed work and assignments during the suspension period, in accordance with school procedures.

Expulsion and Formal Hearings

- Expulsion is the exclusion from school for more than ten (10) consecutive school days and may include permanent removal.
- Only the Board of School Directors has the authority to expel a student. A formal hearing must occur before an expulsion is imposed.
- The hearing may be conducted by the full Board, a committee, or a hearing officer. A majority vote of the full Board is required for expulsion.
- Parents/Guardians have the right to request a waiver meeting in lieu of a formal board hearing

Due Process Protections During Formal Hearings:

- Written notice of the charges is sent to the parent/guardian by mail.
- Advance notice is provided for the date, time, and location of the hearing.
- The hearing is held privately unless the student/parent requests a public hearing.

- The student has the right to legal representation.
- The student is entitled to receive the names of witnesses and access to their statements.
- The student may cross-examine witnesses and present testimony and evidence in their defense.
- A formal record (transcript or audio) is kept, and a copy can be obtained at the student's expense.
- The proceedings must be conducted promptly to ensure resolution without undue delay.

Alternative Education for Disruptive Youth Program (AEDY)

- Placement in an AEDY program will follow the district's referral procedures, and decisions will be made based on behavioral history, student needs, and legal requirements.
- Students and families will be informed of the placement decision, supports available, and conditions for returning to the regular school setting.

Disciplinary Procedures for Students with Disabilities

In accordance with CDSB Board Policy 113.1, IDEA, and Chapter 14

General Overview

The Central Dauphin School District complies with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Pennsylvania Chapter 14 regulations, and Board Policy 113.1 when considering disciplinary action for students with disabilities. Before any disciplinary removal (in-school or out-of-school suspension), the district must ensure students continue to receive a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE).

Tiered Process Prior to Removal

Before any suspension, administrators must:

1. Collaborate with the Special Education Administrator.
2. Determine the total number of accumulated removal days.
3. Review recent IEP revisions and the Positive Behavior Support Plan (PBSP).
4. Confirm the student's disability category.
5. Ensure the IEP is being implemented, and FAPE is being provided.

School teams are expected to implement appropriate supports and interventions before removal.

Suspensions and Change of Placement

- Students with disabilities may be suspended for up to 10 consecutive or 15 cumulative days per year without it constituting a change of placement.
- More than 10 consecutive or 15 cumulative days, or a pattern of removals, constitutes a change in placement and requires a Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) within 10 school days of the decision to discipline.

Manifestation Determination Review

Required when removal is considered a change in placement. The IEP Team must answer:

- Was the conduct caused by or substantially related to the student's disability?
- Was the conduct the direct result of the district's failure to implement the IEP?

If "Yes" to either:

- The conduct is a manifestation of the disability.
- The district must conduct or review a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) and revise the PBSP if needed.
- The student may not be disciplined in the same way as a non-disabled peer.

If "No" to both:

- The student may be disciplined similarly to non-disabled peers but must continue receiving FAPE.

Students with disabilities, including those with intellectual disabilities, may be placed in an interim alternative educational setting for up to 45 school days, regardless of whether the behavior is a manifestation of their disability, if they carry or possess a weapon at school or a school function, knowingly use or sell illegal drugs, or inflict serious bodily injury on another person. The interim alternative educational setting must allow the student to continue participating in the general curriculum, make progress toward their IEP goals, and receive services and supports designed to address and prevent the recurrence of the behavior

Students Not Yet Identified

Students not yet identified under IDEA may still be entitled to protections if:

- The district had knowledge of the disability before the incident.
- A referral or request for evaluation was made during the disciplinary period .

Students with Section 504 Plans

A 504 Team must conduct a manifestation determination for removals that constitute a change in placement. If the behavior is:

- A manifestation of the disability, the 504 Plan must be reviewed/revised.
- Not a manifestation, the student may be disciplined like nondisabled peers.

Gifted Students

Students only identified as gifted (not dually identified) are not entitled to IDEA protections. Discipline is the same as for general education students per PA Chapter 16.

Violations of Behavior Expectations

Any behavior that disrupts the learning environment and puts the student or others at risk is unacceptable. All efforts will be made to ensure a positive learning environment in which students are expected to be Responsible, Respectful, and Safe. Any violation of the standards will be subject to interventions and discipline.

Bullying and Cyberbullying

In accordance with PA School Code § 13-1303.1-A and CDSB Board Policy 249

The Central Dauphin School District is committed to maintaining a safe, positive, and respectful educational environment that is free from bullying and harassment. Bullying can negatively impact student learning, school safety, and the overall school climate.

Bullying is defined as any intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act, or a series of acts, that is:

- Directed at another student or students.
- Severe, persistent, or pervasive; and
- Occurs in a school setting or outside of school and has the effect of doing any of the following:
 - Substantially interfering with a student's education.
 - Creating a threatening or hostile environment.
 - Substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.
 - Physically harming a student or placing them in reasonable fear of harm.
 - Damaging, extorting, or taking a student's personal or academic property.
 - Systematically excluding a student from peer activities.
 - Spreading false information or encouraging others to isolate a student socially.

An imbalance of physical, social, or emotional power is often present, favoring the aggressor and making it difficult for the targeted student to defend themselves.

Cyberbullying refers to bullying that occurs through electronic communication. It includes, but is not limited to:

- Sending or posting harassing, threatening, or inappropriate messages, images, or videos via email, text message, social media, or other digital platforms.
- Using online platforms to intimidate, demean, or spread false information about a student or staff member.
- Creating or contributing to hostile online environments that impact the school community.

All forms of cyberbullying are strictly prohibited. Disciplinary action will be taken when such conduct causes substantial disruption to the school environment or infringes on the rights of others.

Discrimination and Title IX Sexual Harassment

In accordance with PA School Code, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and CDSB Board Policy 103

The Central Dauphin School District is committed to providing a safe, respectful, and inclusive learning environment for all students. Discrimination and harassment based on legally protected characteristics are not tolerated in any school setting or school-sponsored activity.

Discrimination occurs when an individual is treated unfairly or unequally based on a protected classification, including:

- Race or color
- Age or gender
- Religion or creed
- National origin or ancestry
- Disability or handicap
- Sexual orientation
- Marital or family status
- Pregnancy

Title IX Sexual Harassment refers to specific types of sexual misconduct under federal law that includes:

- Quid pro quo harassment (e.g., a school employee conditioning benefit on sexual conduct).
- Unwelcome conduct that is so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a student equal access to education.
- Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as defined by federal law.

Harassment is a form of discrimination and includes unwelcome verbal, written, graphic, electronic, or physical behavior based on a protected classification. Examples include:

- Name-calling, slurs, or offensive jokes
- Intimidation, threats, or physical aggression
- Derogatory pictures, memes, or gestures
- Ridicule, mockery, or exclusion from peer activities

Harassment becomes a violation when it is:

- Severe, persistent, or pervasive, and
- Would make a reasonable person feel intimidated, threatened, or unable to fully participate in school activities or access educational opportunities

District Response and Grievance Process

The district follows strict procedures to investigate and respond to reports of discrimination or harassment, as outlined in Board Policy 103 and its related attachments.

If a report involves Title IX sexual harassment, the following apply:

- No disciplinary action may be taken against the accused student (respondent) until the Title IX grievance process is completed.
- A student is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct until a final determination is made.
- In emergency cases (e.g., where a student poses an immediate threat to the safety of others), interim actions or emergency removals may occur in line with due process and, when applicable, with added protections for students with disabilities.
- Disciplinary sanctions such as suspension or expulsion may only occur after a formal investigation, hearing, and written decision are completed, and appeals (if any) are resolved.

Maintaining a Safe Environment

The Central Dauphin School District is committed to educating staff and students on their rights and responsibilities under Title IX and state nondiscrimination laws. All reports of discrimination or harassment will be taken seriously and investigated promptly. Supportive measures will be offered to all parties involved to ensure access to learning continues.

Students and families can find more information or file a complaint through the district's website or by contacting the building principal or Title IX Coordinator.

Academic Integrity and Scholastic Dishonesty

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.2, 12.3, 12.4 and CDSB Board Policy 815

The Central Dauphin School District values honesty, responsibility, and academic integrity. Students are expected to complete their own work and demonstrate their learning truthfully. Scholastic dishonesty undermines the educational process and will result in academic and disciplinary consequences.

Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

- **Cheating** – Copying another student's work, using unauthorized materials or devices during an exam, collaborating without permission, or obtaining or sharing answers or test content in advance.
- **Plagiarism** – Presenting someone else's work, ideas, or writing as your own without proper citation.
- **Collusion** – Working with another person on an assignment without the teacher's permission.

- **Misuse of Artificial Intelligence (AI)** – Using AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT or other platforms) without permission, or failing to clearly acknowledge AI assistance in submitted work.

Use of Electronic and Personal Communication Devices

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code § 12.3 and Central Dauphin School District Board Policy 237

Definition

An electronic device includes but is not limited to, all non-district issued devices such as mobile telephones and smartphones, laptops and tablet computers, electronic gaming systems, pagers, E-readers, and wearable devices (i.e. smartwatches/smartglasses, earbuds, headphones).

Personal electronic device capabilities include, but are not limited to:

- Take photographs or record audio/video
- Play or edit media
- Send, receive, or store calls, texts, data, or images
- Access online applications or connect to the internet

Personal electronic devices shall include, but are not limited to, all non-district issued devices such as mobile telephones and smartphones, laptops and tablet computers, electronic gaming systems, pagers, E-readers, and wearable devices (i.e. smartwatches/smartglasses, earbuds, headphones).

Central Dauphin School District prohibits use of electronic devices by students during the school day in district buildings; on district property; on district buses and vehicles; and during the time students are under the supervision of the district. Using, recording, photographing, engaging in academic dishonesty, or any other use will result in disciplinary action.

Students may possess personal electronic devices; however, such devices must be turned “off and away” during the entirety of the school day.

The building principal may grant approval for possession and use of an electronic device by a student for the following reasons:

- Health, safety or emergency reasons, including documented medical conditions.
- An Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Service Agreement.
- English language learners using a device for translation purposes if Chromebooks or district-issued devices are not available.
- Classroom or instructional-related activities, under the supervision of the classroom teacher with principal approval.
- Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.

In accordance with board policy, the confiscated item shall not be returned until a conference has been held with a parent/guardian.

Non-compliant students will be subject to the following consequences:

- Verbal warning, parent conference, detention, In School Suspension, Out of School Suspension, and confiscation of cell phone.
- Consequences will also be given to students who are insubordinate or disregard an administrative directive to put their cell phone away or hand over their cell phone to administration.

Expectations for Students

Students are expected to follow the “Off and Away” expectation during the school day. All cell phones and headphones must remain silent and out of sight during instructional time and in school settings such as hallways, the auditorium, gymnasium, locker rooms, and bathrooms. Teachers should not permit students to keep phones on desks or visible during class. While students are not required to store their phones in lockers, they must ensure devices are kept out of use and out of view throughout the day.

Privacy and Safety

- The taking, sharing, or storing of obscene, lewd, or illegal images or content using electronic devices is strictly prohibited. This includes sexting and inappropriate digital communication.
- Violations may be reported to law enforcement and may result in criminal charges in accordance with state and federal law.

Liability Notice

The district is not responsible for lost, damaged, or misused devices brought to school by students.

Controlled Substances

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.3, 12.6, 12.7 and CDSB Board Policy 227

Students are not permitted to possess, use, sell or buy alcohol, controlled substances including illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia, in any form, including look-alike drugs, drugs, anabolic steroids, volatile solvents or inhalants, prescription or patent drugs, substances that when ingested cause a physiological effect similar to the effect of a controlled substance except those controlled substances for which permission has been granted for use, on school property, on a school bus, and when attending school-sponsored functions. If a student is suspected of being under the influence, the student shall be taken to the health room for a substance abuse assessment.

Possession and/or Under the Influence

In an instance where a student was determined to have possessed, used, or been under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance for the first time, while in school or at any school-sponsored function, the following procedures will apply:

- The staff member who believes the student may be under the influence will immediately notify the building administrator.
- The principal will escort the student to the nurse's office or other private location to complete an impairment assessment.
- If the student is found to be under the influence, the School Police Officer will be notified immediately.
- Parent/Guardian will be notified if/when adequate supportive information is collected.
- If a student is found in possession of a controlled substance and/or drug paraphernalia, the School Police Officer will confiscate the item/s. The police will then conduct an investigation, which includes questioning the student. If the student is 17 years old or younger, the student's parent or guardian must be notified and allowed to be present during the questioning conducted by the police.

- **First Offense Consequences:**

- 3- 10 day out-of-school suspension
- Parent/Guardian will be notified of the suspension in writing and by telephone. The notice shall state the reasons for the suspension and a date and time for the informal hearing.
- The school will hold a mandatory informal hearing that includes the student and their parent or guardian. During the hearing, school staff will review the incident and discuss a plan for next steps, including any disciplinary actions and supports.
- After the informal hearing, the suspension can be increased from three (3) to ten (10) days inclusive.
- The school will send a letter to the student's family detailing the consequences of the first offense, as well as the disciplinary actions that will be taken if additional offenses occur (e.g., second offense, third offense, etc.).
- Principal or designee will refer the student to the Student Assistance Program. The student must complete a drug & alcohol assessment. Support will be provided through the Student Assistance Program and/or through the MTSS Team. Parent/ Guardian involvement is expected.

- **Second Offense Consequences:**

- 3-10 day out-of-school suspension
- Parent/Guardian will be notified of the suspension in writing and by telephone. The notice shall state the reasons for the suspension and a date and time for the informal hearing.

- The school will hold a mandatory informal hearing that includes the student and their parent or guardian. During the hearing, school staff will review the incident and discuss a plan for next steps, including any disciplinary actions and supports.
 - The parent or guardian will be given the opportunity to choose between agreeing to an appropriate alternative education placement for the student or proceeding to a formal hearing before a committee of the School Board, which may include a recommendation for expulsion.
 - The school will send a letter to the student's family detailing the consequences of the second offense, as well as the disciplinary actions that will be taken if additional offenses occur (e.g., third offense, etc.).
 - Upon return from placement or expulsion, support will be provided through the Student Assistance Program and/or through the MTSS Team. Parent/Guardian involvement is expected.
- **Third Offense Consequences:**
 - Same as second offense; however, student must be referred to a formal hearing before a committee of the School Board, which may include a recommendation for expulsion.

Purchasing Controlled Substances

In an instance where a student has purchased any controlled substances on school property or at any school-sponsored function, the following procedures will apply:

- Investigation will be conducted by the principal or an authorized delegate.
- Any controlled substances in plain sight will be confiscated by the School Police Officer. Personal and/or locker searches may be conducted as per district policy.
- Parent/Guardian will be notified as soon as adequate supportive information is collected.
- **Consequences:**
 - 3-10 day out-of-school suspension
 - Parent/Guardian will be notified of the suspension in writing and by telephone. The notice shall state the reasons for the suspension and a date and time for the informal hearing.
 - The school will hold a mandatory informal hearing that includes the student and their parent or guardian. During the hearing, school staff will review the incident and discuss a plan for next steps, including any disciplinary actions and supports.
 - The parent or guardian will be given the opportunity to choose between agreeing to an appropriate alternative education placement for the student or proceeding to a formal hearing before a committee of the School Board, which may include a recommendation for expulsion.

- Upon return from placement or expulsion, support will be provided through the Student Assistance Program and/or through the MTSS Team. Parent/Guardian involvement is expected.

Selling/Distributing Controlled Substances

When it is determined a student has sold or distributed a controlled substance while in school or at any school-sponsored function, the following procedures will apply:

- All controlled substances will be confiscated by the School Police Officer.
- Parent/Guardian will be notified
- **Consequences:**
 - Same as purchasing; however, the student must be referred to a formal hearing before a committee of the School Board, which may include a recommendation for expulsion.

Tobacco and Vaping Products

In accordance with 22 Pa. Code §§ 12.3, 12.6 and CDSB Board Policy 222

The Central Dauphin School District is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all students and staff. The use and possession of tobacco and vaping products are strictly prohibited in school buildings, on school grounds, in school vehicles, and at any school-sponsored activity. Any student who violates this policy may be subject to building level discipline and, if necessary, law enforcement involvement.

Definition of Tobacco Products

Tobacco products include, but are not limited to:

- Lighted or unlighted cigarettes
- Electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), vape pens, and similar devices
- Cigars or pipes
- Chewing tobacco, snuff, dip
- Smokeless tobacco in any form
- Any product containing nicotine not approved for use by the FDA as a cessation aid

These items are considered prohibited substances under district policy and state law. Possession, use, or transfer of these products by students is a violation of school policy and may also be considered a summary offense under Pennsylvania law. Students are not permitted to possess or use any tobacco or vaping product on school property, in school vehicles, or at school-sponsored events, or transfer, sell, or distribute tobacco or vaping products to other students.

Fighting

In accordance with PA School Code § 12.2, § 12.3, § 12.6 and CDSB Board Policy 218

Fighting is defined as a mutual physical altercation between two or more individuals that involves hitting, punching, kicking, or other forms of physical contact intended to harm.

While distinct from unprovoked assault, fighting is also considered a serious disciplinary violation and may result in:

- Suspension (in-school or out-of-school)
- Referral to law enforcement, depending on severity
- Referral to appropriate supports
- Parent/guardian notification and disciplinary conference

The Central Dauphin School District promotes conflict resolution and expects students to seek adult support to resolve disputes peacefully.

Assault

In accordance with PA School Code § 12.2, § 12.3, § 12.6 and CDSB Board Policy 218

Assault is defined as the intentional act of inflicting, attempting to inflict, or threatening to inflict bodily injury upon another individual. This includes physical contact intended to cause harm, whether or not injury occurs.

Students who engage in assault may face:

- Immediate removal from class or school setting
- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral to law enforcement
- Recommendation for expulsion through a formal Board hearing

Assault is considered a serious violation of the Code of Student Conduct and may result in criminal charges under Pennsylvania law.

Gang Activity or Symbolism

In accordance with PA School Code § 12.2, § 12.3, § 12.6 and CDSB Board Policy 218

The Central Dauphin School District strictly prohibits all forms of gang activity or symbolism on school property, in school vehicles, and at school-sponsored events. A “gang” is defined as any group of individuals that:

- Promotes or is involved in illegal, violent, or disruptive activities
- Threatens the safety of others or the school environment
- Interferes with school operations or educational objectives

Prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- Displaying hand signs, symbols, graffiti, or gestures associated with gang affiliation
- Wearing or displaying gang-related apparel, colors, jewelry, or grooming styles that suggest affiliation
- Participating in gang-related initiations, intimidation, or hazing
- Engaging in group behavior that encourages violence or disrupts the educational environment

Consequences for gang-related activity may include:

- Out-of-school suspension
- Referral to law enforcement
- Recommendation for expulsion through a formal hearing
- Loss of privileges and exclusion from extracurricular activities

Students and families are encouraged to report suspected gang-related behaviors to school staff or administration. The district partners with law enforcement and community agencies to maintain a safe and inclusive school climate.

Weapons

In accordance with PA School Code § 12.2, § 12.3; PA Crimes Code Title 18 § 912; and CDSD Board Policy 218.1

The Central Dauphin School District strictly prohibits the possession, handling, transportation, use, manufacturing, distribution, or transfer of any weapon or ammunition by students in any of the following locations or circumstances:

- In school buildings or on school property
- On school buses or transportation vehicles
- At any school-sponsored activity or event, whether held on or off school grounds
- While traveling to or from school or school activities

Definition of Weapon

A weapon includes, but is not limited to:

- Firearms (loaded or unloaded), including starter pistols
- Knives of any size, cutting tools, and sharp instruments
- Electric stun devices, Tasers
- OC/pepper spray or mace
- Explosive, incendiary, or destructive devices
- Nun chucks, clubs, chains, and spiked accessories
- Look-alike or replica weapons, including toy guns and water pistols
- Any item represented or threatened to be used as a weapon

Consequences for Violations

- **Mandatory Expulsion:** Any student found in possession of a weapon or who brings a weapon to school, school property, or a school-sponsored event shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year, in compliance with the Gun-Free Schools Act.
- **Superintendent Discretion:** The Superintendent may modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.
- **Referral to Law Enforcement:** All violations involving firearms or dangerous weapons will be referred to law enforcement or the juvenile justice system.

Duty to Report

- Students who become aware of a weapon on school property or during school-related activities are required to report the information immediately to a school administrator, staff member, or law enforcement officer.

Safe2Say Something Program

In accordance with 24 P.S. § 1303-D of the Pennsylvania Public School Code

The Central Dauphin School District participates in the Safe2Say Something program, a statewide anonymous reporting system mandated by Pennsylvania law to help prevent school violence and ensure student safety.

Purpose and Procedures

- The program allows students, staff, and community members to anonymously report concerns related to threats, bullying, mental health crises, weapons, and other school safety issues.
- Reports submitted through Safe2Say are received by the Pennsylvania Office of the Attorney General, reviewed by the crisis center, and then sent to the District's designated team and local law enforcement, if necessary.
- The District follows a standardized response protocol to investigate and address reports in coordination with county dispatch centers and public safety partners.

How to Report

Anyone can submit an anonymous tip 24/7 using one of the following methods:

- Call **1-844-SAF2SAY (723-2729)**
- Submit a tip online at www.safe2saypa.org
- Use the **Safe2Say Something mobile app**, available on Apple and Android devices

Students are encouraged to speak up if they see or hear something concerning. The Safe2Say program is a key part of CDSD's broader commitment to proactive safety and security efforts across all schools.

Threat Assessment Procedures

In accordance with CDSB Board Policy 218.2 and 24 P.S. § 1302-E of the PA School Code

The Central Dauphin School District has established building-level Threat Assessment Teams to identify, assess, and respond to potential threats in order to maintain a safe learning environment. These procedures align with state law and are designed to intervene early and provide appropriate supports to students who may pose a risk to themselves or others.

Reporting a Concern

- Any student or other individual (visitor, volunteer etc.) who becomes aware of a potential threat must report it immediately to a staff member.
- Any staff member who becomes aware of a potential threat must report it immediately to the building principal, who will activate the threat assessment process

Role of the Threat Assessment Team

- Each school's Threat Assessment Team includes administrators, counselors, school psychologists, school social workers, and other trained professionals.
- The team will follow CDSB's established procedures to assess the situation and determine the appropriate level of response and intervention.
- The process is intended to be preventive and supportive, not punitive.

Possible Actions and Supports

- If a threat is substantiated or concerning behavior is identified, the team may:
 - Notify and involve parents/guardians
 - Refer the student for mental health evaluation or support services
 - Develop a safety or behavior support plan
 - Implement disciplinary actions in accordance with board policy and due process

Threat assessments may be conducted independently or alongside disciplinary procedures, depending on the severity and nature of the behavior.

Acceptable Use of Technology and Electronic Communications

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) 22 Pa. Code § 12.2 and CDSB Board Policy 815

The Central Dauphin School District (CDSB) provides students and staff with access to its computers, internet, email, and network systems to support learning and district operations. Use of this technology is a privilege, not a right. All users are expected to act responsibly, ethically, and legally.

Technology Use Guidelines:

- Students may use district devices and networks only for educational purposes.
- Staff may use district technology for job duties and limited personal use, as long as it does not interfere with responsibilities.
- Use for commercial, political, or non-school purposes is not permitted.

Personal Devices:

Students and staff may connect personal devices (e.g., phones, laptops) to designated networks. These devices must comply with district security policies and are subject to the same monitoring and content restrictions as district-owned equipment.

Monitoring & Security:

CDSD monitors all network activity and reserves the right to review student and staff use of technology. Users should not expect privacy. The district uses filters to block inappropriate content, in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

Internet Safety Education:

Each year, students receive instruction on safe online behavior, respectful communication, and cyberbullying awareness, as required by the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act.

User Responsibilities:

- Use only your own accounts and keep passwords private.
- Respect the privacy of others and do not misuse district systems.
- All data and files created or accessed through district technology are considered district property.

Parent Notification:

- The Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) is shared during student registration, included in the Student Code of Conduct, and posted on the district website.
- Schools also provide student-friendly summaries of the policy to support family understanding.

Violations may result in loss of access, disciplinary action, or legal consequences. The district will cooperate with law enforcement as needed.

School District Limitation of Liability & Prohibited Uses

In accordance with Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and CDSD Board Policy 815

The Central Dauphin School District (CDSD) does not guarantee that its technology systems (CIS) will be free of errors, interruptions, or harmful content. The district is not liable for data loss, system errors, or the content students access online, nor is it responsible for lost or damaged personal devices or financial charges incurred through use of district systems.

Prohibited Activities Include:

Users are expected to behave legally and ethically. The following are strictly prohibited:

- Accessing or sharing obscene, harmful, or inappropriate content
- Cyberbullying, harassment, hate speech, or discriminatory communication
- Illegal activity, impersonation, copyright violations, or installing unauthorized software
- Bypassing internet filters, damaging or modifying district hardware/software
- Sharing passwords or accessing others' accounts without permission
- Using CIS systems for commercial, political, or non-school-related purposes

Security and Privacy Expectations:

- Users must protect their passwords and report any security concerns.
- Passwords must follow district requirements and be updated regularly.
- All activity on district systems may be monitored and privacy is not guaranteed.

Incidental Personal Use:

Limited personal use of CIS systems is allowed if it does not interfere with work/school duties or system performance, and it complies with all applicable policies and laws.

Website and Content Guidelines:

All electronic content published through the district's systems must follow district technology policies as posted on the CDSB website.

School Bus Conduct and Safety Expectations

In accordance with PA School Code §§ 1361–1362; PA Vehicle Code § 3345; and CDSB Board Policies 218 and 810.

Students must follow the behavioral expectations outlined in the Code of Student Conduct, as well as specific rules that apply to transportation. All rules apply while waiting at the bus stop, during loading and unloading, and while riding district transportation.

Before Boarding the Bus

- Arrive at the bus stop at least five minutes early.
- Wait safely and respectfully away from the road.
- Do not cross the street until the bus is fully stopped and red signals are flashing.
- Respect the property of others near the stop.
- Do not enter any vehicle unless it is clearly marked as a Central Dauphin School District vehicle.
- Board the bus in an orderly fashion and proceed directly to your seat. Bus drivers may assign seats at their discretion.

While on the Bus

- Follow all directions from the bus driver, who has the same authority as a classroom teacher.
- Remain seated while the bus is in motion.

- Keep hands, feet, and belongings inside the vehicle and out of the aisle.
- Use personal devices silently and without sharing content or sound.
- Loud talking, profanity, inappropriate gestures, or disruptive behavior is prohibited.
- Damaging or tampering with the bus will result in disciplinary action and may require financial restitution by the student's family.
- Do not bring prohibited items such as animals, flammable materials, weapons, controlled substances, or oversized objects.
- Be courteous to other students and the bus driver at all times.

After Leaving the Bus

- Cross the road at least 10 feet in front of the bus only after checking for traffic and receiving the driver's signal.
- Go directly home or into the school building.
- Remain alert and respectful of younger students and driver instructions.

Prohibited Conduct on the Bus

The following behaviors are examples of conduct violations that may result in progressive disciplinary action based on severity, frequency, and administrator discretion:

- Refusing to follow the driver's instructions
- Use of profanity or abusive language/gestures
- Eating or drinking
 - Water is permitted but must be in a closed, non-glass water bottle/container and kept secure at all times.
- Inappropriate use of personal electronic devices
- Loud noise, horseplay, or unsafe physical behavior
- Standing, changing seats, or blocking the aisle while the bus is moving
- Throwing items inside or out of the bus
- Possession of restricted or prohibited items (e.g., tobacco, matches/lighters, weapons, flammables)
- Physical aggression or threats toward students or the bus driver
- Vandalism of school bus property (restitution required)
- Assault, intimidation, or behavior that endangers safety
- Possession or use of drugs, alcohol, vaping devices, or look-alike substances
- Violation of District's Weapons Policy or Drug and Alcohol Policy

Disciplinary Process

- Disciplinary actions are determined based on the seriousness of the violation and may include loss of bus privileges, school suspension, referral to law enforcement, and/or formal disciplinary hearings.

- Students may be immediately removed from the bus in situations involving safety threats or criminal behavior.
- Parent/guardian conferences are required prior to the reinstatement of riding privileges after serious or repeated violations.
- Misconduct on the school bus is subject to the same disciplinary procedures as misconduct occurring on school property.

Disciplinary Responses (based on severity and administrator discretion):

- Warning; suspension of 1–3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 15, 20, 30 days; possible indefinite suspension
 - Disciplinary hearing may be required
 - Law enforcement may be contacted for criminal behavior
- Additional penalties may apply per the Code of Student Conduct
- Parent/student conference required before reinstatement of bus privileges

Video and Audio Surveillance

School buses are equipped with video/audio surveillance systems to promote safety. Footage may be reviewed by school administrators to support disciplinary investigations and appropriate responses.

Reporting and Parent Notification

Building administrators will investigate reported violations promptly, notify families of outcomes, and assign discipline consistent with CDS policy and the PA School Code. In cases involving potential criminal behavior, law enforcement will be notified.



**CENTRAL DAUPHIN
SCHOOL DISTRICT**