Code: JFC
Adopted: June 24, 2006
Revised: December 18, 2024

Student Conduct and Discipline

The mission of the Mineral County School District is to provide the best possible education for the children in Mineral County through a variety of quality programs and services, a professional staff, staff training and cooperation with the community.

The Board expects student conduct to contribute to a productive learning climate. Students shall comply with the district's policies, administrative regulations, school and classroom written rules, pursue the prescribed course of study, submit to the lawful authority of teachers and school officials and conduct themselves in an orderly manner during the school day and during school-sponsored activities. This includes conduct off the school grounds that materially and substantially disrupts school activities, or causes school officials to reasonably believe that it will do so.

Each student in Mineral County School District should:

1. Maintain a positive learning attitude in the classroom.
2. Cooperate with fellow students, teachers, and staff members in making MCSD a positive place to be.
3. Use good judgment in making decisions concerning personal behavior.
4. Maintain a safe and clean environment in which to learn.
5. Engage in behavior that enhances everyone's self-esteem and school spirit.
6. Respect the rights and property of others.
7. Understand and respect for the law, Board policies, administrative regulations, and school and classroom rules.

In order to work and function as a school community, it is necessary to have a clear set of guidelines and expectations. These guidelines and expectations are intended to promote a positive learning atmosphere by creating a safe and secure environment where students can learn and teachers can teach. These guidelines must be consistent with Nevada Revised Statutes and Federal law.

In the school community, the teachers are the first line of opportunity for encouraging positive student behavior. In fact, part of a teacher's job is to foster appropriate student behavior. Teachers are accountable for setting rules and expectations and to remedy poor student behavior that takes place in the classrooms through the use of restorative justice practices. Teachers are also responsible for helping monitor student behavior school wide and at school activities.

In the classroom, a teacher must provide an effective system of classroom management by establishing his or her own set of fair classroom rules with applicable consequences. The teacher must ensure that the students know the rules and expectations and understand the consequences for breaking these rules. This set of rules will help establish the authority of the teacher in the classroom.

Monitoring school wide behavior of students is the responsibility of the school administrator with help from his or her staff. The principal of each school has the authority to establish a clear set of school wide rules and expectations which deal with student conduct, and are consistent

with Nevada Revised Statutes and Federal Law. All students must be aware of both required conduct and prohibited conduct as described under the principal's rules of student conduct. These rules are applicable during school hours, on any school property during or after school hours, at any school function, and on any school-sponsored transportation. This includes conduct off the school grounds that materially and substantially disrupts school activities, or causes school officials to reasonably believe that it will do so.

Every student has the right to pursue his or her educational development, and every teacher has the right to offer instructions without undue interruption. When a student chooses to interfere with the rights of others or to violate the rules and expectations for behavior of M.C.S.D., he or she can expect to be disciplined for his or her misconduct.

Discipline in the District is based upon a philosophy designed to produce behavioral changes that will enable students to develop the self-discipline necessary to function successfully in their educational and social environments. Assembly Bill (AB) 330 and Assembly Bill (AB) 285, enacted by the 2023 Legislature, made changes to discipline laws for all students, including requirements for suspensions, expulsions, permanent expulsion, Temporary Alternative Placement, the appeal process for students, and requirements for districts and schools to write and implement a Progressive Discipline Plan that incorporates restorative justice practices.

Normally, discipline will be administered progressively, in combination with restorative practices which are intended to prevent a recurrence of negative behavior by helping students take responsibility for their actions, repair any harm, and collectively find solutions to restore relationships, with severity increasing if unacceptable behaviors continue. Behaviors considered severe by the administration may result in severe disciplinary action or even recommendation for expulsion with the first occurrence. The administration is responsible for selecting an appropriate disciplinary action. Said action will be administered fairly, with respect to each individual, without bias, and in a positive manner.

Careful attention will be given to each situation to ensure each student's right of due process, and every action must be in compliance with State and Federal law including the Individuals with Disabilities Act. Parents/Guardians will be informed of every formal disciplinary action.

No student shall be deprived of the right to an education in the public schools of this District without notice of the charges against him or her, an explanation of the evidence and an opportunity for hearing, which will be informal or formal, depending upon the length of exclusion being imposed or proposed. However, a student who is found to be in possession of a firearm or commits battery with the intent to result in bodily injury of an employee of the school as provided in NRS 392.466 must be removed from the school immediately upon being given an explanation of the reasons for his or her removal and pending proceedings, to be conducted as soon as practicable after removal, for the student's suspension, expulsion, or permanent expulsion with guidelines.

School administrators shall maintain safe and secure learning and working environments. School administrators and teachers will communicate in writing to all students and parents the expectations of appropriate school conduct. All student behavior will be guided based on these principles.

School administrators, teachers, and other staff members will not subject themselves to abuse, annoyance or interruptions of their normal functions by violations of the stated standards. Staff members will hold students accountable for their conduct on or in close proximity to school grounds, and at such other times and places as the law allows (e.g., at school- sponsored events). Disruption of the delivery of instruction will not be tolerated.

It shall be the policy of the Board of Trustees that the Superintendent shall develop and implement administrative guidelines and procedures to establish a basic discipline procedure for all schools in the District. For all functions where a "designee" may be assigned to fulfill requirements under NRS 392, the Board of Trustees designates the Superintendent as its designee.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s): NRS 392.4601 to 392.472
Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).
Ferguson v. Phoenix Talent School District #4, 172 Or App 389 (2001), No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, P.L. 107-110, Title IX, Section 9532.