

Great Falls School District

STUDENTS

3310

Student Discipline

The Board grants authority to a teacher or principal to hold a student to strict accountability for disorderly conduct in a school building, on property owned or leased by a school district, on a school bus, on the way to or from school, during intermission or recess, or at any school-sponsored activity or event.

Disciplinary action may be taken against any student guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to instances set forth below:

- Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco products, and alternative nicotine and vapor products as defined in § 16-11-302, MCA.
- Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages, including powdered alcohol. Students who may be under the influence of alcohol will not be permitted to attend school functions and will be treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
- Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling drug paraphernalia, illegal drugs, marijuana, controlled substances, or any substance which is represented to be or looks like a narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, alcoholic beverage, stimulant, depressant, or intoxicant of any kind, including such substances that contain chemicals which produce the same effect of illegal substances including but not limited to Spice and K2. Students who may be under the influence of such substances will not be permitted to attend school functions and will be treated as though they had drugs in their possession.
- Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a weapon in violation of the “Possession of Weapons other than Firearms” section in Policy 3311.
- Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring any object that reasonably could be considered or used as a weapon as referred to in Policy 3311.
- Disobeying directives from staff members or school officials or disobeying rules, violating state or federal law, or not honoring regulations governing student conduct.
- Using violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, or other comparable conduct toward anyone or urging other students to engage in such conduct unless such force is determined, following investigation, to be for self-defense or defense of others as defined by law.
- Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person’s property.
- Engaging in any activity that constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function or any other disruptive activity.
- Unexcused absenteeism. Truancy statutes and Board policy will be utilized for chronic and habitual truants.

- Intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, hazing or bullying; or retaliation against any person who alleged misconduct under Policy 3225 or 3226 or participated in an investigation into alleged misconduct under Policy 3225 or 3226.
- Defaces or damages any school building, school grounds, furniture, equipment, or book belonging to the District.
- Forging any signature or making any false entry or attempting to authorize any document used or intended to be used in connection with the operation of a school.
- Records or causes to be recorded a conversation by use of a hidden electronic or mechanical device which may include any combination of audio or video that reproduces a human conversation without the knowledge of all parties to the conversation.
- Engaging in academic misconduct which may include but is not limited to: cheating, unauthorized sharing of exam responses or graded assignment work; plagiarism, accessing websites or electronic resources without authorization to complete assigned coursework, and any other act designed to give unfair academic advantage to the student.

These grounds stated above for disciplinary action apply whenever a student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including but not limited to the circumstances set forth below:

- On school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any other time when school is being used by a school group.
- Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school.
- Travel to and from school or a school activity, function, or event.
- Anywhere conduct may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation or bullying of a staff member or student, or an interference with school purposes or an educational function.

Exceptions: A student may not be subject to a disciplinary action for declining to: (a) identify the student's pronouns; or (b) address a person by using a name other than the person's legal name or a derivative of the person's legal name or by using a pronoun or a title that is inconsistent with the person's sex.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures include but are not limited to:

- Expulsion
- Suspension
- Detention, including Saturday School
- School Based Restitution
- Clean-up duty
- Loss of student privileges
- Loss of bus privileges
- Notification to juvenile authorities and/or police

- Restitution for damages to school property
- Completion of a District-approved chemical awareness class
- Completion of a District-approved tobacco education group

No District employee or person engaged by the District may inflict or cause to be inflicted corporal punishment on a student. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force. District personnel are permitted to use reasonable force to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons or for the purpose of self-defense.

Non-Disciplinary Measures

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to assign a student to non-disciplinary offsite instruction pending the results of an investigation or for reasons related to the safety or well-being of students and staff. During the period of non-disciplinary offsite instruction, the student will be permitted to complete all assigned schoolwork for full credit. The assignment of non-disciplinary offsite instruction does not preclude the Superintendent or designee from disciplining a student who has, after investigation, been found to have violated a District policy, rule, or handbook provision.

Delegation of Authority

District employees and other individuals designated or hired by the District, when students are under their charge, are authorized to impose disciplinary measures, other than suspension, or expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, which is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Staff may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

Cross References:

Policy 2158	Family Engagement Policy
Policy 1770	Uniform Complaint Procedure
Policy 3231	Searches and Seizure
Policy 3225	Sexual Harassment/Intimidation of Students
Policy 3226	Hazing/harassment/Intimidation/Bullying
Policy 3300	Corrective Actions and Punishment
Policy 3310P	Student Threat Assessment
Policy 3310P2	Academic Honesty and Responsible Use of Resources
Policy 3311	Firearms and Weapons
Policy 3630	Cell Phone and Other Electronic Equipment
Policy 4410	Relations with Law Enforcement and Child Protective Agencies
Policy 8123	Bus Driver Training and Responsibilities
Policy 8225	Tobacco Free Policy

Legal References:

§ 16-11-302(1)(7), MCA	Definitions
§ 16-2-108, MCA	Limitations of Marijuana Regulation Act
§ 20-3-324, MCA	Powers and Duties

1	§ 20-4-302, MCA	Discipline and Punishment of Pupils – Definition of Corporal
2		Punishment – Penalty – Defense
3	§ 20-5-202, MCA	Suspension and Expulsion
4	§ 20-7-118, MCA	Offsite Provision of Educational Services
5	§ 20-9-205, MCA	Self-Defense in Schools
6	§ 40-6-701, MCA	Interference with Fundamental Parental Rights Restricted
7	§ 45-5-624, MCA	Possession of Intoxicating Substance
8	§ 45-5-637, MCA	Possession or Consumption of Tobacco Products, Alternative
9		Nicotine Products, or Vapor Products by Persons under 18 Years
10		of Age is Prohibited – Unlawful attempt to Purchase – Penalties
11	§ 45-8-213, MCA	Privacy in Communications
12	§ 45-8-361, MCA	Possession or Allowing Possession of Weapon in School Building
13		– Exceptions – Penalties – Seizure and Forfeiture or Return
14		Authorized – Definitions
15	§ 49-2-307, MCA	Discrimination in Education
16	10.16.3346, ARM	Aversive Treatment Procedures
17	20.U.S.C. § 1232g. et. seq.	Family Education Rights and Privacy Act
18	20 U.S.C. 1232h	Protection of Pupil Rights
19	29 U.S.C. § 701	Rehabilitation Act of 1973
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