REGULATION
R5600.2.dr
Fisher Middle School Behavioral Guide

BOARD OF EDUCATION

EWING TOWNSHIP

Good behavior and citizenship contribute greatly to how well our school operates from day to day. It is our expectation that our students will behave in a **safe** manner, take **ownership** of their actions, strive to **achieve**, and demonstrate **respect** in all settings (SOAR).

The policies outlined below reflect the most common circumstances in the usual operation of our school which demand some kind of disciplinary action. The administrator/dean of students involved will follow closely those parts of the policies which he/she can, but may have to use personal judgment in the ultimate disposition of a particular incident. All of the offenses described will be thoroughly investigated and the offender will receive Due Process prior to any action by an administrator/dean of students. This means that in all disciplinary situations, students will be given oral or written notice of all charges against him/her. If the charges are denied, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have will be provided and the student will have the opportunity to present his/her position. Ordinarily, this process will be implemented before suspension.

It should also be noted that this is a **"Guide"** and is not expected to cover all disciplinary situations which may occur. All disciplinary consequences are subject to administrative discretion. All school rules are in effect during the school day, on the student's journey to and/or from school, and at bus stops.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN THIS REGULATION

I. Adjudication Terms

General After School Detention:
Administratively assigned detention held after school. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Infraction
A notification provided to the student and/or the parent for the purposes of letting the student know the rule not followed and the proper expectation for behavior within FMS.

Teacher Detentions:
These detentions will be imposed by and conducted by a teacher. Transportation is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

In School Suspension (ISS)
Throughout the policies described below are references to "in-school suspension" (ISS). ISS is a supervised in-house school program to which a student may be assigned while still ensuring that they participate in the academic community. Students may not participate in sports or activities while suspended.

Out of School Suspension (OSS)
The reader will also note the use of "out-of-school suspension" (OSS) in the guide. When assigned to OSS, the student may not attend school for the designated time. Students assigned to OSS may not be

present in the school or on the school grounds without the approval of the Principal or his or her designee. Students may not participate in sports or activities while suspended. Students involved in serious infractions may be suspended longer than 10 days with approval of the Superintendent of Schools, until the next Board of Education meeting, at which time the Board will make a final determination.

Alternative Learning Program (ALP)
At the discretion of administration, students on five (5) to ten (10) day out of school suspensions may be assigned to ALP (Alternative Learning Program) for a portion of the suspension.

Reinstatement Conference
A mandatory meeting held with school administration, student, parents and possibly Superintendent or/and the Assistant Superintendent. The purpose is to determine the student's impending return to the team setting.

II. Violation Terms

Abusive/Inappropriate/Profane Language
Language used in an abusive/offensive manner which may disrupt, demean or criticize a person or persons.

Academic Dishonesty
Cheating on examinations/assignments, plagiarizing and falsifying information as in accordance with Board Policy 5701 (Plagiarism).

Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco
Use, possession, or distribution of alcohol/drugs/tobacco (or drug analog/lookalike) as in accordance with BOARD POLICY 5530/5533. Students will be required to participate in the school's counseling and prevention program.

Assault
Physically attacking a non-retaliating individual that could cause physical injury.

Causing any Emergency Situation
This includes false fire alarms/emergency phone calls, bomb threats, and other terroristic acts which are against the law and will be handled in accordance with local and state statutes.

Combustibles
Use/possession/distribution of fireworks, explosive articles, incendiary substances. It is against the law and will be handled in accordance with local and state statutes, and Board Policy 5131.7.

Cutting an Assigned Area – Out of Bounds
Failure to report to an assigned area.

Dating Violence
Any form or pattern of physically, emotionally, verbally, or sexually abusive behavior done with the intent to threaten or control a current or former dating partner. Ref: Board Policy 5519

Defiance of Authority/Blatant Insubordination/Disrespect
Willful disobedience of a directive issued by a staff member and/or refusal to follow directions, talking back, and socially rude interactions.

Dress Code
Refer to Board Policy 5511 Dress and Grooming and the FMS agenda

Electronic Devices
Includes but not limited to cell phones, headphones, earbuds, laser pointers, electronic games, music devices, are not allowed to be used/active during school hours and must be kept out of sight during the school day.

Excessive Infractions
The accumulation of 4 or more infractions, resulting in an Office Discipline Referral (ODR)

Fighting
Physical combat between two or more students involving blows exchanged by both parties. Students who engage in a fight, physical assault, punching, kicking or any other deliberate action which could result in an injury while under the jurisdiction of the school district are considered to have participated in a fight.

Forgery
Falsifying information to misrepresent facts as expressed by teachers, staff, or parents.

Gang Affiliation
Information regarding pupils identified as having gang affiliations will be shared with local law enforcement in accordance with Board Policy 5512.02.

Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying (HIB)
Any gesture, written, verbal or physical act that has the effect of insulting or demeaning any pupil or group of pupils in such a way as to cause substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school. Ref. Board Policy 5512

Horseplay/Nuisance Behavior
This behavior includes but is not limited to running, yelling, play fighting, banging or kicking lockers and could result in lunch detention, parent conference or assignment to ISS.

Inappropriate Behavior
Behaviors that interfere with class/school operations and fails to comply with SOAR expectations (**S**oar **O**wnership **A**chievement **R**espect).

Major School Disruption
Any behavior which, after investigation and conference, is considered by the Administration to be a major school disruption; including but not limited to, verbal confrontations, arguing, inciting a fight/riot, or posturing to fight.

Property Damage/Misuse
Intentionally damaging or attempting to damage any school/bus/personal property in any way. The student and or parents/guardians shall be financially liable for repairs, cleaning, and/or replacements.

School Bus Misbehavior
Any behavior that is deemed unsafe/inappropriate set forth in the guidelines provided by the Ewing Public Schools transportation department.

Scuffle
Physical confrontation when no blows are exchanged.

Sexually Inappropriate Behavior
Sexual harassment, sexually explicit images/writings/actions/comments are deemed sexually inappropriate. Any consensual/nonconsensual sexual activity may constitute sexual assault and dealt with as both a criminal and school matter.

Socially Inappropriate Behavior
Any behavior that is considered a judgment upon another race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, etc. In addition, any behavior contrary to the established school culture and norms is considered socially inappropriate behavior.

Technology Violation
Inappropriate use of the internet and email as per Ewing Public Schools Technology Code of Conduct-Acceptable Use Policy.

Theft
Taking, stealing or unauthorized use of another's property or school property.

Threat
Any action or activity, including but not limited to, verbal/non-verbal or written threat that causes fear or threatens the well-being of a person, their family, or their property.

Truancy/Leaving School Grounds
Any absence from school which has not been authorized by parents/guardians and/or the proper school authorities.

Weapons
A weapon is defined as any instrument which is capable of inflicting injury or death to someone.

Examples of items which would be considered weapons include, but are not limited to the following:

- Firearms (loaded or unloaded): BB guns, air guns, and facsimiles of firearms.
- Knives: pocket knives, switch blades, box cutters, screwdrivers, razor blades and facsimiles of knives.
- Mace or any device capable of emitting a harmful or noxious gas, vapor or liquid.
- Pipes

DISCIPLINARY OUTCOMES

I. Abusive/Inappropriate/Profane Language
- a. General Use
  - i. First Offence - Conference with student
  - ii. Second Offence - Infraction
- b. Directed towards Student — Possible Consequences:
  - i. First offense — May include up to General Detention
  - ii. Second offense — May include up to 1 day ISS
  - iii. Successive Offense — May include up to 1 day OSS

II. Academic Dishonesty

A pupil found guilty of academic dishonesty may be subjected to a full range of penalties including, but not limited to, reprimand and loss of credit for all of the work that is plagiarized. (Board Policy 5701)

III. Alcohol/Drugs/Tobacco — Possible Consequences:
- i. Any Offense — Parent Notification, SAC Referral, Possible Police Notification, Superintendent Notification for possible expulsion
- ii. Use Confirmed — 1st Offense: May include up to 3 days ISS/OSS; 2nd Offense May include up to 5 days ISS/OSS; 3rd Offense May include up to 10days ISS/OSS
- iii. Possession — 1st Offense: May include up to 3 days OSS; 2nd Offense: May include up to 5 days OSS; 3rd Offense May include up to 10 days OSS
- iv. Distribution/Intent to Distribute — May include up to 10 days OSS

IV. Assault (Hitting a non-retaliating student) — Possible Consequences:
- i. Any Offense — May include up to 10 days OSS, Parent Conference, Police Notification, & Referral to Superintendent

V. Causing any emergency situation — Possible Consequences:
- i. Any Offense — May include up to 10 days OSS, Parent Conference, Police Notification, & Referral to Superintendent, may be subjected to legal action

VI.	Combustibles	Possible Consequences:
	i. First Offense	May include up to 3 days OSS, Parent & Police Notification
	ii. Second Offense	May include up to 5 days OSS, Parent Conference, Police Notification
	iii. Successive Offense	May include up to 10 days OSS, Parent Conference, Police Notification, & Referral to Superintendent
VII.	Cutting an Assigned Area	Possible Consequences:
	i. First Offense	May include up to 1 day ISS, possible revocation of hall pass privilege
	ii. Second Offense	May include up to 3 days ISS, Pass privilege revoked
	iii. Successive Offense	Becomes Defiance of Authority (see IX)
VIII.	Dating Violence	Parent Notification, referral to Guidance or Social Worker, possible police notification, possible initiation of "Stay Away" agreement. Consequences may include admonishment, extended timeout, ISS, OSS, or expulsion
IX.	Defiance of Authority/Blatant Insubordination/Disrespect	Possible Consequences:
	i. First Offense	May include up to 3 OSS & Parent Conference
	ii. Second Offense	May include up to 5 OSS & Parent conference, Referral to superintendent
	iii. Successive Offense	Suspension for minimum of up to 5 days OSS and referral to superintendent
X.	Dress Code	Possible Consequences:
	i. First Offense	Verbal/written warning & remediation of violation
	ii. Second Offense	General Detention, Parent Notification
	iii. Successive Offense	May include up to 1 Day ISS - Successive Offensives Becomes Defiance of Authority (see IX)
XI.	Electronic Devices	

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	Confiscation
ii. Second Offense	Confiscation & Parent Notification
iii. Successive	Successive Offensives Becomes Defiance of Authority (see IX)

XII. Excessive Infractions

	Possible Consequences:
i. 3 infractions	May include up to After School Detention - 1 day
ii. next infraction	May include up to Referral to Dean of Students/Assistant Principal for a Consequence
iii. continual infractions	Becomes Inappropriate Behavior

XIII. Fighting

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 10 days OSS, Parent Conference, Possible Police notification, & Referral to Superintendent
ii. Second Offense	(Middle School Career) May include up to 10 days OSS, Parent Conference, Possible Police Notification, & Referral to Superintendent

XIV. Forgery

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 1 day ISS & Parent Notification & possible loss of student privileges
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 2 days ISS, Parent Notification, Loss of student privileges
iii. Successive Offense	Becomes Defiance of Authority (see IX)

XV. Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	Parent/Guidance/Possible Police Notification & Implementation of Remedial Measures; May include up to 1 or more days of ISS
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 2 or more days ISS/OSS, supportive student intervention plans & Possible Police Notification

iii. Successive Offense	May include up to 3 or more days ISS/OSS and Behavior Intervention Plan Implemented with team input & Possible Police Notification

XVI. Horseplay/Nuisance Behavior

i. Any Offense	Infraction, and/or 1 or more days Lunch detention/after school detention/ ISS, Parent Notification

XVII. Inappropriate Behavior

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 1 day ISS & parent conference
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 2 days ISS & parent conference
iii. Third Offense	May include up to 2 days OSS & parent conference
iv. Successive	May include up to 3-5 Days OSS & parent conference

XVIII. Major School Disruption

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 3 days ISS & Parent conference
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 3 days OSS & parent conference
iii. Successive	May include up to 5 days OSS & Parent conference, & Referral to Superintendent

XIX. Property Damage/Misuse

a. Minor Damage that can be cleaned or easily repaired by the students, this will be done along with possible suspension (Bus, ISS/OSS). Parent notification required.
b. Major Damage that cannot be cleaned or easily repaired by student. May include up to 3 days OSS with restitution made. Parent conference and Police notification required.
c. Parents/guardians may be liable for applicable cost of repair for damage incurred by their student.

XX. School Bus Misbehavior

a. These penalties may include a range from parent contact through bus and or school suspension.

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	Possible Verbal/Written Warning or 5 days Bus suspension & parent notification

ii. Second Offense	May include up to 10 days Bus Suspension & Parent Notification
iii. Third Offense	Up to 20 days Bus suspension
iv. Successive Offense	Revocation of Bus Privileges

XXI. Scuffle

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 3 days OSS, Parent Notification
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 5 days OSS, Parent conference
iii. Successive	(Middle School Career) May include up to 10 day OSS, Parent Conference, referral to superintendent

XXII. Sexually Inappropriate/Socially Inappropriate Behavior

a. After investigation, any behavior which falls in either of these categories will result in up to 10 day OSS based upon the severity of the incident. Parent notification/conference, Police notification, & referral to Superintendent, and possible referral to Board of Education are required.

XXIII. Technology violation

a. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges and other disciplinary actions.

XXIV. Theft

	Possible Consequences:
i. First offense	May include up to 3 days ISS/OSS & parent conference, possible Police notification
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 5 days ISS/OSS, parent conference, possible Police notification

XXV. Threat

a. Directed towards Student

	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 3 ISS/OSS, parent conference, Police Notification
ii. Second offense	May include up to 3 - 5 OSS, parent conference, Police Notification
iii. Successive Offense	May include up to 10 days OSS parent conference, Police Notification, superintendent referral

b. Directed towards school personnel

Possible Consequences:

i. First offense	May include up to 5 days OSS, parent conference, Police Notification, & Referral to Superintendent
ii. Successive Offense	May include up to 10 days OSS parent conference, Police Notification, superintendent referral
XXVI. Truancy	
	Possible Consequences:
i. First Offense	May include up to 1 day ISS, parent/attendance officer/Police notification
ii. Second Offense	May include up to 2 days ISS parent/attendance officer/Police notification
iii. Successive Offense	May include up to 3 days ISS, Referral to I&RS, conference with Juvenile authorities, Police/Attendance officer notification
XXVII. Weapons	
i.	Any Offense 10 days OSS, Parent conference, & Referral to Superintendent for long term suspension or expulsion, Police notification with charges filled.

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