

STUDENTS

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES - STUDENT BEHAVIOR

Philosophy

Public schools, to be effective, must give all students the opportunity to learn and all teachers the opportunity to teach. Students must be taught that group living demands that individual actions be tempered and limited.

In this school system the Building Principal is held responsible for the discipline in his/her building. It is expected that high standards of conduct will be maintained, at all times, which are consistent with the emotional and social growth of the child at any given level.

The educational environment of the District shall be such that the administration and teachers shall demonstrate fair, just, and flexible attitudes and disciplinary efforts toward all District students.

In all matters relating to the discipline and conduct of the students in the schools, the teachers and other licensed educational employees stand in the relation of parents/guardians to the students. This relationship shall extend to all activities connected with the school program and may be exercised at any time for the safety and supervision of the students in the absence of their parents/guardians.

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapon-free, and drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavior skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in prohibited student conduct, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. In school buildings;
2. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours and at any other time;
3. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function, or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
4. On any mode of transportation that the District would provide while traveling to or from school or a school activity, function or event, or at a bus stop while waiting for the bus; or
5. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member, or endangers the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

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Disciplinary action may be taken against any student guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes/vaping or any non-medical inhalant devices.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
 - a. Marijuana, in any form (including medical cannabis).
 - b. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish).
 - c. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - d. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - e. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited.
 - f. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
 - g. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
 - h. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.

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- i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" as that term is defined in the Weapons section of this policy, or violating the Weapons section of this policy.
5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); (c) it is used during the student's lunch period; or (d) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
7. Disobeying directives from staff members or school officials and/or rules and regulations governing student conduct. Examples of disobeying directives include refusing a district staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
8. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, stalking, harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation or other comparable conduct toward anyone.
9. Engaging in "bullying" or "cyber-bullying" in violation of Board policy 715.02, *Bullying*.
10. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
11. Unexcused absenteeism; however, the truancy statutes and Board policy will be utilized for chronic and habitual truants.
12. Being a member of or joining or promising to join, or becoming pledged to become a member of, soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member of any public school fraternity, sorority or secret society.

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13. Involvement in gangs or gang-related activities, including the display of gang symbols, including paraphernalia.
14. Academic cheating, plagiarism, tampering with academic records, or altering/changing official school documents without authorization.
15. Engaging in any activity that constitutes an interference with school purposes or an educational function or is disruptive.
16. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure, and sexual assault. This does not include the non-disruptive: (a) expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference, or (b) display of affection during non-instructional time.
17. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 701.05, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
18. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
19. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.
20. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
21. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
22. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.

For purposes of this policy, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

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Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, but may not be limited to, the following:

1. Notification of parents(s)/guardian(s).
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. Detention or Saturday School, provided the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) have been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 710.08, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 715.04, *Suspension*. A student who has been suspended may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 715.05, *Expulsion*. A student who has been expelled may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

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The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is prohibited. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include, and licensed personnel are permitted to use, reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of property.

Weapons

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of not less than one year but not more than two calendar years:

(1) A firearm (meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012). The expulsion period under this subsection (1) may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

(2) A knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including "look alikes" of any firearm as defined above. Items such as baseball bats, pipes, bottles, locks, sticks, pencils and pens may also be considered "weapons" if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm. The expulsion requirement under this subsection (2) may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

A student who sees a weapon of any kind in school or on school property should report it to a responsible adult immediately.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

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Psychotropic or Psychostimulant Medication

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

At least once every two years, the in-service training of licensed school personnel and administrators must include training on current best practices regarding the identification and treatment of attention deficit disorder (ADD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), the application of non-averse behavioral interventions in the school environment, and the use of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication for school-age children. The Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent or his/her designee to develop an in-service training program or programs and/or to identify outside training programs which meet these requirements.

Due Process

Before receiving disciplinary action under this policy, the student shall be notified of the wrongful nature of the alleged conduct, and given the opportunity to deny or explain his or her conduct. In taking any disciplinary action under this policy, including the expulsion of students, the District shall follow procedures required by state and federal law, and Board policy.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, State Police, and any involved student's parent/guardian. "School grounds" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school as well as school property itself. In addition, it is expected that a staff member immediately notify the office of the Building Principal if the staff member observes any person in possession of a weapon on or around school grounds. Each verified incident that takes place will be reported to the Student Incident Reporting System (SIRS).

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Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school suspension, which is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed employees, and other persons (whether or not licensed) providing a related service for or with respect to a student, shall maintain discipline in the school and on school grounds, and may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel or persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or the defense of property. Teachers may remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent or designee is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed.

The School Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons and may expel students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct.

Parent-Student Handbook

The Superintendent or designee, with input from the Parent-Teacher Advisory Committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval. A parent-student handbook, including the District's disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students' parent(s)/guardian(s) within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

Aggressive Behavior

Aggressive behavior is defined as using force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, or other comparable conduct toward anyone or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Aggressive behavior includes student behavior that is commonly referred to as bullying and/or hazing. School personnel will create a supportive climate that encourages reporting of such behavior. When teachers see aggressive behavior or when it is reported to them, they are to address that behavior. This can include interventions such as redirecting toward appropriate behavior, modeling positive behavior, pursuing other consequences consistent with school policy, and/or reporting the behavior to a school administrator.

For purposes of this policy, "hazing" is meant to include any activity that physically or mentally injures any student through harassment, intimidation, or wrongful act. Disciplinary action will be taken in instances of violation of this policy.

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Any type of aggressive behavior by a student, including bullying and hazing, will be documented by the school staff to provide information needed to develop appropriate interventions. When significant evidence is collected to suggest the existence of repeated aggressive behavior, parents or guardians of the student will be notified. Interventions for repeated aggressive behavior will be school-based and/or community-based. The fact that students with aggressive tendencies receive interventions shall not preclude any other type of discipline from being imposed in accord with other provisions of this policy.

LEGAL REF.: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. § 7151 et seq
23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 1.280.
Pro-children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §6081.
410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program
410 ILCS 647/, Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act
430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.
105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-20.28, 5/10-20.36, 5/10-21.7B-SIRS,
5/10-21.10, 5/10-22.6, 5/10-27.1A, 5/10-27.1B, 5/24-24, 5/26-12, 5/27-23.7,
5/31-3, and 110/3.10.

CROSS REF.: 701.05, 705.06, 710.01, 710.03, 710.04, 710.06, 710.07, 710.08, 710.09, 710.10,
710.12, 710.16, 710.20, 710.27, 715.02, 715.04, 715.05, 715.07, 730.02 and 830.02.

Adopted: May 12, 1983
Revised: September 11, 1986
Revised: February 24, 1994
Revised: March 9, 1995
Revised: November 14, 1996
Revised: December 10, 1998
Revised: September 26, 2002
Revised: December 12, 2002
Revised: November 13, 2003
Revised: September 25, 2008
Revised: May 26, 2011
Revised: March 8, 2012
Revised: June 14, 2012
Revised: July 5, 2016
Revised: May 25, 2017
Revised: November 14, 2019