

**STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE**

**POLICY STATEMENT**

- A. Proper and desirable attitudes toward the principal, the teachers, the school, and other pupils, should be fostered by giving the pupils opportunities to demonstrate self-control, self-discipline, cooperation, a sense of responsibility, and respect for human dignity.
- B. Beginning August 1, 1999, a teacher or administrator may remove a pupil from the teacher's class if the pupil violates the code of classroom conduct or is dangerous, unruly or disruptive or exhibits behavior that interferes with the ability of the teacher to teach effectively, as specified in the code of classroom conduct. Any such removal is subject to federal law procedural safeguards for children with disabilities.
- C. The teacher shall send the removed pupil to the school principal or his or her designee and notify the principal or designee immediately of the reasons. In addition, the teacher shall provide the principal or designee within 24 hours after the pupil's removal from the class a written explanation of the reasons for the removal.
- D. The school principal or designee shall place the pupil in one of the following:
  - 1. An alternative education program as defined by law.
  - 2. Another class in the school or another appropriate place in the school, as determined by the school principal or designee.
  - 3. Another instructional setting.
  - 4. The class from which the pupil was removed if, after weighing the interests of the removed pupil, the other pupils in the class and the teacher, the school principal or designee determines that readmission to the class is the best or only alternative.
- E. Removal of a pupil from class under this law does not prohibit the teacher who removed the pupil or the School Board, District Administrator, school principal or their designee from disciplining the pupil.
- F. When such case shall arise for dismissal because of disciplinary problems, the following procedure shall be followed.

**POLICY PROCEDURE**

- A. The school district administrator or any principal or teacher designated may make rules, with the consent of the school board, and may suspend a pupil for not more than five school days or, if a notice of expulsion hearing has been sent under next paragraph, for not more than a total of fifteen consecutive school days for noncompliance (ten days for children with disabilities) with such rules or school board rules, or for conduct by the pupil while at school or under the supervision of a school authority which endangers the property, health, or safety of others.

- B. Prior to any suspension, the pupil shall be advised of the reason for the proposed suspension. The pupil may be suspended if it is determined that he/she is guilty of noncompliance with such rule, or of the conduct charged, and that his/her suspension is reasonably justified. The parent or guardian of a suspended minor pupil shall be given prompt notice of the suspension and the reason therefor. The suspended pupil or his/her parent or guardian may, within five school days following the commencement of the suspension, have a conference with the school district administrator or his/her designee who shall be someone other than a principal or teacher in the suspended pupil's school. If the school district administrator or his/her designee finds that the pupil was suspended unfairly or unjustly, or that the suspension was inappropriate given the nature of the alleged offense, or that the pupil suffered undue consequences or penalties as a result of the suspension, reference to the suspension on the pupil's school record shall be expunged. Such finding shall be made within 15 days of said conference.
- C. The school board may expel a pupil from school whenever it finds him/her guilty of repeated refusal or neglect to obey the rules, or finds that he/she engaged in conduct while at school or while under the suspension of a school authority which endangers the property, health, or safety of others, and is satisfied that the interest of the school demands his/her expulsion.
- D. Prior to such expulsion, the school board shall hold a hearing thereon. Not less than five days' written notice of the hearing shall be sent to the pupil and, if the pupil is a minor, to his/her parent or guardian, specifying the particulars of the alleged refusal, neglect or conduct, stating the time and place of the hearing and stating that the hearing may result in pupil's expulsion. The pupil and, if the pupil is a minor, his parent or guardian may be represented at the hearing by counsel. The school board shall keep written minutes of the hearing. Upon the ordering by the school board of the expulsion of a pupil, the school district clerk shall mail a copy of the order to the pupil and, if the pupil is a minor, to his parent or guardian. The expelled pupil or, if the pupil is a minor, his parent or guardian may appeal the expulsion to the state superintendent. An appeal from the decision of the state superintendent may be taken within 30 days to the circuit court of the county in which the school is located.
- E. It is the policy of the Board of Education that Corporal Punishment defined as Striking a Child be prohibited. However, if an occasion should arise where, in self defense or in protecting other people or property of the School District, it becomes necessary for a staff member to physically restrain a student, the incident shall be immediately reported to the building principal or immediate supervisor.
- F. School personnel must inform students of the rules and guidelines that will govern their behavior.
- G. Every teacher is a disciplinarian during every hour of the day in every part of the school building. Students who remain after school for extra-curricular activities are under the supervision of the teacher assigned to the activity. The teacher must remain at school until every student is out of the building. The teacher will always be held responsible for the conduct of the group. Students must be supervised at all times.
- H. All student functions must be chaperoned by the advisors of the group.

LEGAL REFERENCE:

CROSS-REFERENCE: