

STUDENT CONDUCT STANDARDS AND DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Student misconduct shall be classified as a minor, moderate, or major violation of conduct standards. Definitions of these terms and disciplinary investigation and response procedures shall be included in student handbooks.

When determining the level of a conduct violation, a teacher, principal, or other school official with disciplinary authority shall take into account the totality of circumstances associated with the misconduct, such as, but not limited to:

1. The degree to which the misconduct disrupted the educational environment.
2. The degree to which the misconduct infringed on the rights of others.
3. The frequency and proximity of the incidents of prior misconduct.
4. The degree to which the misconduct is a manifestation of an identified disability.

When a school official is unsure of how to appropriately classify a student conduct violation, s/he shall consult with the building principal or, in the case of a building principal, the Superintendent before responding to the misconduct. Neither this requirement nor the disciplinary procedure below shall supersede district policies and procedures containing emergency response and safety measures.

Investigation and Disciplinary Procedures

1. Minor conduct violations: Minor conduct violations shall be handled by the student's classroom teacher or by a school official with disciplinary authority when the student is not under the supervision of a classroom teacher. If the teacher/school official did not witness the misconduct, s/he will investigate to determine if the student was in violation of conduct standards. When the teacher/school official determines that a minor conduct standard was violated, s/he shall submit to the building principal a misconduct report, which may be placed in the student's educational record at the principal's discretion in accordance with applicable policy and law. In addition, teachers/school officials with disciplinary authority are authorized to respond to minor conduct violations by invoking one or more (if permitted by this regulation) of the following options:

Minor offenses

- a. Require the student to attend detention;
- b. Withdraw student privileges;
- c. Contact the student's parents;
- d. Develop a behavior adjustment plan;
- e. Hold a conference with the student's parent/guardian;

Options c., d., and e. are not considered disciplinary sanctions and may therefore be administered on their own or in combination with any disciplinary sanction listed above.

2. Moderate and major conduct violations: Such offenses shall be referred to the building principal for investigation and response. A teacher or school

official referring a student to the building principal as a result of a potential conduct violation shall complete a misconduct report for the principal to review. The principal shall conduct further investigation as deemed necessary and shall include his/her findings on the misconduct report. This report may be placed in the student's educational record at the principal's discretion in accordance with applicable policy and law. If a moderate or major conduct violation is substantiated, the principal is authorized to respond by invoking one or more (if permitted by this regulation) of the following options:

Moderate offenses

- a. require the student to attend detention;
- b. impose in or out of school suspension. The action shall only be taken in accordance with due process procedures contained in the district's suspension and expulsion policy;
- c. recommend alternative placement. This recommendation shall be submitted to the Superintendent for approval or denial. The Superintendent may approve such recommendations only if the student has been given notice of the charges against him/her and an opportunity to respond;
- d. refer the student to a school counselor;
- e. create a behavioral adjustment plan;
- f. hold a conference with the student's parent/guardian and classroom teacher.

Options d., e., and f. are not considered disciplinary sanctions and may therefore be administered on their own or in combination with any disciplinary sanction listed above.

Major offenses: The building principal may respond to major student conduct violations using any of the measures listed above for moderate conduct violations or may recommend more severe penalties, which may include expulsion, in accordance with district policy.

Transportation Conduct Requirements

Students shall abide by all applicable district conduct and safety policies while in district vehicles. The Superintendent or designee may develop additional, specific regulations related to conduct in school vehicles.

Transportation Conduct Violations

Students who violate any of these policies or rules may be subject to the consequences contained in applicable student discipline policies.

When the conduct of a special education student transported in a school vehicle poses a transportation safety risk or when the conduct otherwise violates policy to the extent that it compels the District to reconsider the student's transportation arrangements, prior to making a removal decision, the District shall determine the following:

1. If transportation is part of the student's Individual Education Program
2. If removal would constitute a removal from the education program as determined by the following factors:

- a. There is a significant distance between the student's home and school;
- b. There are no alternative means of public or private transportation; and
- c. The school has not made appropriate arrangements to provide for the student's education.

If criteria one or two above is applicable, the IEP Team will develop an alternative means of providing transportation to the special education student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) regulations or will treat such student's removal from school transportation as suspension from the educational program and will follow the procedure for suspension contained in the district's suspension/expulsion policy and in IDEA regulations.

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