

Student Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences 2024-2025

The District has the authority to discipline for student conduct that is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools as provided by state law. School officials are authorized to hold students accountable for misconduct in school, on school property, and during school-sponsored activities. Students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the education of District students will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. However, no student will be confined in an unattended locked space except for emergency situations while awaiting the arrival of law enforcement officials.

Students forfeit their right to a public school education by engaging in conduct prohibited in this code of student conduct, as also reflected in Regulation 2610; Regulation 1300; Regulation 1301; and/or state or federal law. Disciplinary consequences include, but are not limited to, withdrawal of school privileges (e.g., athletics, intramurals, student clubs and activities, school social events); the reassignment of the student to another school; removal for up to ten (10) school days by building principals; extension of suspensions for a total of 180 days by the Superintendent; and longer-term suspension and expulsion from school by the Board of Education. See also Board Policy 2610: *Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences*; Board Policy and Regulation 2662: *Suspensions*; and Board Policy and Regulation 2663: *Expulsion*. Any time a student engages in misconduct that results in a documented disciplinary consequence established in this code and issued by an administrator, a reasonable effort will be made by such administrator or designee to either contact the parent, guardian by written notice or by direct telephone contact.

Removal of any student who is a student with a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is subject to state and federal procedural due process rights. See Board Policy and Regulation 2672: *Discipline of Students with Disabilities*. The District will make reasonable modifications to its code of conduct and discipline policies, practices, and procedures for students with disabilities as are necessary to ensure compliance with state and federal law.

The District will provide annual in-service training to all employees concerning the District's discipline regulations and their implementation. Annual training will also include, but will not be limited to, approved methods of dealing with school violence, discipline of students with disabilities, and the requirements of student confidentiality. See Board Policy 2600: *Discipline*.

All students attending school in District schools will be expected to accept the obligation and responsibility to attend school on a regular basis and to comply with the District's code of student conduct set forth here and in Regulation 2610. Those students who choose not to fulfill their responsibilities at school will be held accountable for their conduct. Consequences for individual acts of misconduct are calculated to discipline the student, deter future misconduct, and provide a safe and positive environment in which students can learn. Students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the educational environment of district students to the extent allowed by law, will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. See Board Policy 2610: *Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences* and Board Regulation 2610: *Behavioral Expectations*.

This code of student conduct is intended to be illustrative but not an exclusive listing of acts of misconduct and the consequences for each. Misconduct that is not specifically listed in this code may be deemed to warrant discipline up to and including expulsion following the provision of all due process procedures. In addition, the disciplinary consequence listed for each offense may be increased or decreased by the Administration or the Board of Education due to mitigating or aggravating circumstances.

For certain violations of this discipline code, the applicable teacher (or other certified staff members) may use reasonable discretion in determining whether the appropriate consequence or intervention can be facilitated by the teacher or staff member or whether the circumstances warrant a major referral being submitted to school administration for disposition. Factors to be considered include without limitation the severity of the violation, grade level of the student, a student's prior behavior and violation history, disruption to the school environment, and any other background information that the teacher/staff member may have that would indicate that a teacher-managed response would be appropriate.

Copies of this code of student conduct will be provided to each student at the beginning of each school year. Copies will also be available for public inspection during normal business hours in the Superintendent's office.

When a student is suspended out of school, the student will qualify to make up missed assignments and receive credit in all situations. The principal or assistant principal, with input from appropriate teachers, will monitor the expected date for make-up work to be completed.

1. **Academic Dishonesty.** Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated in schools. It is unfair to those who complete work appropriately, but more importantly; it prevents teachers from truly assessing a student's knowledge and capabilities. Disciplinary action for academic dishonesty is in response to the ethical violation, but should also seek to assess students' knowledge of the subject. With this in mind, the following guidelines will apply to cases of cheating, stealing answers, plagiarizing, and other forms of academic dishonesty in any form.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	<p>Student Conference and/or loss of school privilege</p> <p>*Opportunity to complete the assignment or an alternative assignment for full points with disciplinary consequence assigned</p>	<p>Student Conference</p> <p>*Opportunity to complete the assignment or an alternative assignment for reduced credit earning up to 70 percent of the assigned points possible</p>	<p>Student Conference</p> <p>*Opportunity to complete the assignment or an alternative assignment for reduced credit earning up to 60 percent of the assigned points possible</p>
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	<p>Loss of school privilege or up to 2 days ISS</p> <p>*Opportunity to complete the assignment or an alternative assignment for full points with disciplinary consequence assigned</p>	<p>Loss of school privilege, detention, or up to 2 days of ISS</p> <p>*Opportunity to complete the assignment or an alternative assignment for reduced credit earning up to 60 percent of the assigned points possible</p> <p>*Future offenses will result in full loss of credit</p>	<p>Up to 2 days of ISS</p> <p>*Opportunity to complete the assignment or an alternative assignment for reduced credit earning up to 50 percent of the assigned points possible</p> <p>*Future offenses will result in full loss of credit</p>

2. **Alcohol.** Possession, use, consumption and/or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or substances represented to be an alcoholic beverage while at school, on school district property, on a school bus, or at a school activity whether on or off of school property.* See also Distribution of Alcohol in Section 10 below.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
	<p>*Students who use, are in possession of, or are under the influence of drugs, a controlled substance, or alcohol will be invited to participate in the Substance Abuse Intervention Program, which, if successfully completed, may lead to a reduction in disciplinary consequences or possibly the full elimination of disciplinary consequences. Students who decline this option or who fail to complete the Program will be disciplined per this code of student conduct.</p>		
First and Subsequent Offense	<p>Conference with principal, loss of school privilege, up to 3 days ISS, notice to law enforcement or up to 10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to</p>	<p>10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement</p>	<p>10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement</p>

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3. **Arson.** Intentionally causing or attempting to cause a fire or explosion.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First and Subsequent Offense	Conference with principal, loss of school privilege, up to 10 days OSS, restitution, and notice to law enforcement **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS, restitution, and notice to law enforcement **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS, restitution, and notice to law enforcement **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

4. **Assault of Student or Staff Member.** A physical attack, either provoked or unprovoked, which may or may not cause personal injury, to another student, staff member, or anyone on school property.

Assault of Students and Other Non-Staff Member Individuals

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Up to 5 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	5-10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense	Up to 5 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Third and Subsequent Offense	Up to 5 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

Assault of Staff Members

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Up to 5 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense	Up to 5 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Third and Subsequent Offense	Up to 5 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

5. **Automobile/Vehicle Misuse**. Discourteous or unsafe driving on school district property, or at a school activity whether on or off of school property, unregistered parking, failure to move vehicle at the request of school officials, failure to follow directions given by school officials or failure to follow established rules for parking or driving on school property.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	N/A	N/A	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, and/or loss of parking privilege

6. **Bullying/Cyberbullying**. "Bullying" means intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting of such acts. "Cyberbullying" means bullying as defined in this subsection through the transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager. See also Board Policy 2655: *Bullying*, which is included in this code below.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Loss of school privilege, conference with teacher, parent contact, conference	Loss of school privilege, detention, conference with teacher, parent contact,	Loss of school privilege, detention, conference with teacher, parent contact,

	with principal, ISS, up to 10 days OSS, and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	conference with principal, ISS, up to 10 days OSS, and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	conference with principal, ISS, up to 10 days OSS, and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

7. **Dangerous Behavior.** Behavior by the student that is a threat to the safety of the student and/or others.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

8. **Disrespectful Conduct or Speech.** Verbal, written, pictorial or symbolic language, action, or gesture that is rude, defiant, vulgar, insubordinate, or obscene, OR verbal, written, pictorial, or symbolic language or gesture that is considered inappropriate in educational settings.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of privilege(s), ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	Principal/student conference, loss of privilege(s), detention, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	Principal/student conference, loss of privilege(s), detention, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent
Discriminatory/insensitive/demeaning verbal, written, pictorial, or symbolic language or gesture (based on a protected class - race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, and genetic information) that is directed at or is about someone carries a <u>minimum</u> discipline consequence of:			
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	ISS and principal/student conference,	3 days OSS and principal/student conference	5 days OSS and principal/student conference
<i>*First Offense and/or Subsequent Offense still carries the potential of up to 10 days OSS and possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent, as outlined above.</i>			

9. **Disruptive Behavior.** Conduct that is considered inappropriate for the school setting and/or has the effect of disturbing education, the school environment, or the safety of another person.

**Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to, engaging in behavior that encourages, provokes, or incites physical altercations, violence, or fighting among students, whether by direct or indirect means, including but not limited to, surrounding students who are fighting, recording fights or other altercations on cell phones or other electronic devices for the purpose of distributing same to students (e.g., posting a video of a fight on the internet or social media or sending such a video via text message or other messaging application), and failing to seek help from staff members when a fight or other physical altercation ensues in their presence.*

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, or up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

10. **Drugs/Controlled Substance.**

Possession, Use, Consumption, Being Under the Influence, Possession of Paraphernalia of a controlled substance or substance represented to be a controlled substance while at school, on school district property, on a school bus, or at a school activity whether on or off of school property.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
	*Students who use, are in possession of, or are under the influence of drugs, a controlled substance, or alcohol will be invited to participate in the Substance Abuse Intervention Program, which, if successfully completed, may lead to a reduction in disciplinary consequences or possibly the full elimination of disciplinary consequences. Students who decline this option or who fail to complete the Program will be disciplined per this code of student conduct.		
First and Subsequent Offense	Conference with principal, loss of school privilege, up to 3 days ISS or up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement

Sale or Transfer or Intent to Sell or Transfer of a controlled substance or substance represented to be a controlled substance while at school, on school district property, on a school bus, or at a school activity whether on or off of school property.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	Conference with principal, loss of school privilege, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement

11. **Electronic Cigarettes/E-cig.** Possession or use of electronic cigarettes/vaping devices, electronic cigarette/vaping paraphernalia, and similar objects used in conjunction with electronic cigarettes/vaping or items that resemble electronic cigarettes/vaping products.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
	*Students who have possession and/or are under the influence of tobacco/nicotine will be expected to participate in the Tobacco/Nicotine Intervention Class at a designated location within the school building for one school day. Students who decline this option will be disciplined per the Student Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences.		
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 2 days ISS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials	2 days of ISS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	ISS and may include notice to law enforcement officials	Up to 3 days ISS, up to 3 days OSS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 3 days OSS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials

12. **Electronics: Improper Possession or Use; Cell Phones.** Possession and use of any electronics by students during the school day is strongly discouraged and is governed by the following rules.

Definitions. The following definitions apply to Section 12, Electronics: Improper Possession or Use:

- The terms “*electronics*” or “*electronic devices*” mean any electronic components, devices, or equipment, including but not limited to cell phones, tablets, laptops, smartwatches, video game systems, headphones, speakers, and cameras.
- “*School day*” is defined as the time period that begins when a student enters the school building at the start of the day and ends when the student leaves the school building following the final class or dismissal. The term encompasses all instructional time, scheduled breaks such as passing periods and lunch periods, and other activities occurring within the school building during these hours. It does not include time spent on school grounds before entering or after leaving the school building, during school-sponsored activities outside of these regular designated hours, or traveling by bus to or from school.

- “*Class time*” is defined as any period during the school day when instruction, either within a teacher’s regular classroom or in an alternative instructional setting, is being delivered, or when academic activities supervised by school personnel are taking place. Class time does not include breaks, lunch periods, passing periods between classes, travel time on school buses.

General Rules Applicable to all Students. The following rules relating to possession and use of electronic devices apply to all students regardless of level:

- *Creation of Digital Images, Videos, and Audio Recordings.* Students are prohibited from creating digital images, videos, and audio recordings that disrupt the educational environment, pose the potential to disrupt the educational environment, or are of the type prohibited elsewhere in this code of student conduct. See, e.g., Disruptive Behavior (prohibiting, among other things, the recording of fights or other altercations on any electronic device).
- *Laser Pointers.* Laser pointers are not allowed at any time. Possession of a laser pointer will result in a consequence.
- *Wireless Headphones.* Students may not use wireless headphones during class time and wireless headphones may not be visible or audible during class time.
- *Tracking Devices.* The use of tracking devices, such as AirTags, for unauthorized tracking of students, staff, other individuals, or property is strictly prohibited. Misuse of such tracking devices will result in a consequence.
- *Responsibility for Electronic Devices.* Students, who bring electronic items to school, do so at their own risk and are responsible to secure the item from damage, theft, or loss.
- *Confiscation of Electronic Devices.* If a student brings an electronic device to school and it is visible, audible, or in the possession of or being used by a student during an unauthorized time, that student is subject to the consequences set out in the table below and the student may have his or her electronic device confiscated by an administrator. In the event an electronic device is confiscated, the building administrator will notify the student’s parent(s) and return the confiscated electronic device to the student at the end of the school day on which it was confiscated.
- *Exceptions for Assistive Technology.* Restrictions on electronic devices in this section do not apply to assistive technology devices that are required by a student with disabilities as part of his or her Individualized Education Program (“IEP”), related services, or supplementary aids and services. Exceptions also apply to accommodations required under a Section 504 plan. Assistive technology devices required by students as established by their IEP or Section 504 plans may be used during the school day, including during class time, as necessary to facilitate their learning and participation, in accordance with their IEP or Section 504 plan.

Elementary and Middle Schools. The following rules relating to possession and use of electronic devices apply to elementary and middle school students:

- *During the School Day:*
 - Students may not use cell phones for any purpose during the school day. Cell phones may not be visible or audible during the school day. Cell phones, however, may be stored in backpacks during the school day if they are placed in silent mode or turned off.
 - Electronic devices other than cell phones may be used during the school day, provided such electronic devices do not disrupt the learning environment. Use of electronic devices other than cell phones that disrupt the learning environment are prohibited.
- *Outside of the School Day:*
 - Electronic devices, including cell phones, may be used on the way to and from the school on the bus, and at school before and after the school day.

High Schools. The following rules relating to possession and use of electronic devices apply to high school students:

- *During Class Time:*
 - Students may not use cell phones for any purpose during class time. Cell phones may not be visible or audible during class time. Cell phones, however, may be stored in backpacks during class time if they are placed in silent mode or turned off.

- Electronic devices other than administration-approved devices that are used for instructional or educational purposes are prohibited.
- *Outside of Class Time:*
 - Electronic devices, including cell phones, may be used on the way to and from the school on the bus.
 - Electronic devices, including cell phones, may be used outside of class time, including assigned lunch periods and in the passing time between classes.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	The student may be assigned loss of school privilege and/or ISS.	The student may be assigned a detention and/or ISS.	The student may be assigned a detention and/or ISS.
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS

13. **Extortion.** Verbal threats or physical conduct designed to obtain money or other valuables.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, ISS, up to 10 days OSS, and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, up to 10 days OSS, and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent

14. **False Alarms.** Tampering with emergency equipment, setting off false alarms, making false reports.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

15. **Fighting.** Physically striking another in a mutual contact as differentiated from an assault. Whether a student acted in self-defense must be considered in evaluating the level of discipline assigned to a student for fighting. Self-defense only when a student has no path of escape; uses only the force necessary to prevent injury to himself, herself, or another; and when the student has acted throughout the exchange with the intention of avoiding conflict, violence, and injury to self and others. Simply receiving an initial shove or punch does not constitute self-defense. A student who uses more force as is necessary to prevent injury may be disciplined even though he or she may not have provoked

the fight. Only where sufficient evidence of self defense exists will it be considered in evaluating the level of a discipline applied to a student involved in a fight.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Loss of school privilege, up to 3 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	3-10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	5-10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent
Second Offense	Loss of school privilege, up to 3 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	5-10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	5-10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent
Third and Subsequent Offense	Loss of school privilege, up to 3 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent	10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **automatic referral for additional days to the Superintendent

16. **Harassment.** Refer to Policy and Regulation 1300 and 1301: *Equal Opportunity*, which are more fully described in this code below.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and may require notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and may require notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and may require notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and may require notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and may require notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and may require notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

17. **Inappropriate Sexual Conduct.** Physical touching of another student in the area of breasts, buttocks, or genitals; using sexually intimidating language, objects, or pictures; displaying breasts, buttocks, and genitals.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

18. **Missing from Class.** Absent or tardy from class for more than five minutes while remaining on District property without administrative approval.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 2 days ISS	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 2 days ISS
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS	Detention, up to 2 days ISS	Detention, up to 2 days ISS

19. **Possession of a Firearm.**

The possession of a firearm as defined in Board Regulation 2620, other than those referenced by the Missouri Safe Schools Act and defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921 on any school property or school bus or to any school activity whether on or off school property.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement	10 days OSS with referral for additional days to the Superintendent, notice to law enforcement

Mandatory Discipline for Certain Firearms Violations

The possession of a firearm as defined in both Board Regulation 2620 and 18 U.S.C. § 921 and as required by the Missouri Schools Act, on any school property or school bus or to any school activity whether on or off school

property will result in an automatic out-of-school suspension of one (1) calendar year from the date of the incident or be recommended for expulsion and will be referred to law enforcement. The superintendent may recommend to the Board modification of the suspension on a case by case basis. A student who has his or her automatic one (1) year suspension modified may be disciplined.

20. Possession of a Weapon.

The possession of a weapon as defined in Board Regulation 2620, other than a firearm and weapons defined by the Missouri Safe Schools Act, on any school property or school bus or to any school activity whether on or off school property.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

Mandatory Discipline for Certain Weapons (Other than Firearms) Violations

The possession of a weapon – as defined in both Board Regulation 2620 and §160.261 RSMo., other than a firearm, on any school property or school bus or to any school activity whether on or off school property will result in an automatic out-of-school suspension of one (1) calendar year from the date of the incident or be recommended for expulsion and will be referred to law enforcement. The superintendent may recommend to the Board modification of the suspension on a case by case basis. A student who has his or her automatic one (1) year suspension modified may be disciplined.

21. **Posturing/Aggressive Behavior.** The act of engaging in using gestures or physical contact, yelling, bumping, threatening body language and/or similar behaviors that are done in a manner that would reasonably be perceived by others to be aggressive.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, or up to 3 days OSS	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 5 days ISS, or up to 3 days OSS	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 5 days ISS, or up to 5 days OSS
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, or up to 5 days OSS	Up to 5 days ISS, or up to 5 days OSS	Up to 5 days ISS , or up to 5-10 days OSS

22. **Technology Misconduct.** Attempting, regardless of success, to gain unauthorized access to technology system or information; to use District technology to connect to other systems in evasion of the physical limitations of the remote system; to copy District files without authorization; to interfere with the ability of others to utilize District technology; to secure a higher level of privilege without authorization; to introduce computer “viruses,” “hacking” tools, or other disruptive/destructive programs onto or using District technology; or to evade or disable a filtering/blocking device.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, restitution, ISS, up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion and/or loss of user privilege	Principal/student conference, detention, restitution, up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion and/or loss of user privilege	Principal/student conference, detention, restitution, up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion and/or loss of user privilege
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Loss of school privilege, restitution, ISS, up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion and/or loss of user privilege	Restitution, up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion and/or loss of user privilege	Restitution, up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion and/or loss of user privilege

23. **Theft.** Nonconsensual taking or attempt to take the property of another or possession of property taken from another.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, may include restitution, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Detention, up to 3 days ISS, may include restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Detention, up to 3 days ISS, may include restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, may include restitution, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, may include restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, may include restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

24. **Threatening Language.** Use of verbal, physical, or written threats to do bodily harm to a person or personal property.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Detention, up to 3 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 3 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Loss of school privilege, ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

25. **Tobacco.** Possession or use of tobacco/nicotine, tobacco products/nicotine products, items that resemble tobacco/nicotine products, cigarettes excluding electronic cigarettes, or items that resemble tobacco products.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
	*Students who have possession of tobacco/nicotine will be expected to participate in the Tobacco/Nicotine Intervention Class at a designated location within the school building for one school day. Students who decline this option will be disciplined per the Student Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences.		
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 2 days ISS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials	2 days of ISS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	ISS and may include notice to law enforcement officials	Up to 3 days ISS, up to 3 days OSS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials	Up to 5 days ISS, up to 3 days OSS, and may include notice to law enforcement officials

26. **Truancy.** Absent from class or classes and not present at school without authorization. See Board of Education Policy and Regulation 2340: *Truancy and Educational Neglect*, which are included in this code below.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 2 days ISS	Principal/student conference, detention, up to 2 days ISS

Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS	Detention, up to 2 days ISS	Detention, up to 2 days ISS
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27. **Vandalism.** Intentional damage or attempt to damage property belonging to the staff, students, or the District.

	Elementary Schools	Middle Schools	High Schools
First Offense	Principal/student conference, loss of school privilege, ISS, restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Principal/student conference, detention, ISS, restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion
Second Offense or Subsequent Offense	Restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion	Restitution, up to 10 days OSS and notice to law enforcement officials **possible referral for additional days to the Superintendent or expulsion

Tardies

Building Procedures for Middle School and High School Students who are late to school or late to class will be considered tardy. Each school will determine tardy procedures. A student will be allowed two tardies per class per quarter. Subsequent occurrences will be addressed by school staff.

Bullying

Board Policy 2655

The District is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment free of any form of bullying or intimidation. Bullying is strictly prohibited on school grounds, or school time, at a school sponsored activity or in a school related context. Bullying is the intentional action by an individual or group of individuals to inflict intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation of reporting acts of bullying.

Cyberbullying means bullying as defined above through the transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by means of an electronic device including, but limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager. The District may prohibit and discipline for cyberbullying that originates on any District campus or at a District activity if the electronic communication was made using the school's technological resources if there is a sufficient nexus to the educational environment, or if the electronic communication was made on the District's campus or at a District activity using the student's own personal technological

resources. Further, students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the education of District students will be subject to discipline.

Bullying, as defined in this policy, is strictly prohibited. Students are encouraged to report any incident of bullying which they have witnessed or incurred, by contacting their building principal. District employees are required to report any instance of bullying of which the employee has witnessed within two (2) school days of the occurrence. Employees shall report the occurrence to the building principal, who is the person the District designated to receive reports of incidents of bullying. A principal who receives a report of an incident of bullying shall initiate an investigation into the allegations within two (2) school days of receipt of the report. The principal may assign other employees to assist in the investigation, or request that the Superintendent assign an outside investigator. The investigation shall be completed within ten school days from the date of the written report of bullying unless good cause exists to extend the investigation. No employee or student who reports an act of bullying shall be subject to reprisal or retaliation for making such a report. Any person who engages in reprisal or retaliation against an employee or student who reports an act of bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Students who are found to have violated this policy will be subject to the following consequences depending on factors such as: age of student(s), degree of harm, severity of behavior, number of incidents, etc. Possible consequences to a student for a violation of this policy include: loss of privileges, detention, parent contact, conference with principal, ISS, OSS, expulsion and/or law enforcement contact.

The District shall give annual notice of the policy to students, parents or guardians, and staff. This policy shall also be posted on the District's web page (as a Board of Education policy) and a copy shall be placed in the District Administrative Office.

The District shall provide information and appropriate training to District staff who have significant contact with students regarding the policy. All staff with significant student contact shall be trained on the requirements of this policy on an annual basis.

The District shall provide education and information to students regarding bullying, including information regarding this policy prohibiting bullying, the harmful effects of bullying, and other applicable initiatives to address bullying, including student peer-to-peer initiatives to provide accountability and policy enforcement for those found to have engaged in bullying, reprisal, or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying. The District shall instruct its school counselors, school social workers, licensed social workers, mental health professionals, and school psychologists to educate students who are victims of bullying on techniques for students to overcome bullying's negative effects. Such techniques include but are not limited to, cultivating the student's self-worth and self-esteem; teaching the student to defend himself or herself assertively and effectively; helping the student develop social skills or encouraging the student to develop an internal focus of control. District administrators will implement programs and other initiatives to address bullying, to respond to such conduct in a manner that does not stigmatize the victim, and to make resources or referrals available to victims of bullying.

District employees are required to report any instance of bullying of which the employee has first-hand knowledge. Moreover, the District will provide training for employees relative to enforcement of this policy.

Corporal Punishment: Prohibited ***Board Policy 2670***

No person employed by or volunteering for the School District shall administer or cause to be administered corporal punishment upon a student attending District schools.

A staff member may, however, use reasonable restraint against a student without advance notice to the principal, if it is essential for self defense, the preservation of order, or for the protection of other persons or the property of the School District.

Although corporal punishment is prohibited, the use of reasonable force for a District employee to protect persons or property is not abuse within the meaning of Chapter 210, RSMO.

Firearms and Weapons in School

Board Policy 2620

The District recognizes firearm and weapon possession as a potential threat to the health, safety and security of students, employees, and other persons. The District will not tolerate the presence of firearms or weapons on the premises of our schools. This prohibition includes possession of firearms and weapons on school playgrounds, school parking lots, school buses, and at school activities, whether on or off school property. The District complies with the provisions of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 and other applicable federal and state law.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit the District from permitting a Civil War reenactor to bring a Civil War era weapon to school for educational purposes so long as the weapon is not loaded.

Students who violate this policy will be suspended for no less than one (1) year and are subject to permanent expulsion. However, the Superintendent may recommend to the Board a modification of the suspension on a case by case basis. Students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Act and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act are entitled to the protections of those laws.

This policy will be annually submitted to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education together with a report of disciplinary action taken for possession of a "firearm" or "weapon" as defined in *Regulation 2620*.

Board Regulation 2620

Definition of Firearm

The term firearm includes, but is not limited to, such items as:

1. Any item which is a loaded or unloaded weapon, weapon frame, or weapon barrel and which is designed to, or may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by action of an explosive, or
2. Any item which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has a barrel with a bore of at least one half inch in diameter, or
3. Any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, such as: bombs; grenades; rockets with a propellant charge of greater than four ounces; and other similar devices as recognized under federal law, or
4. Any combination of parts either designed to or intended for use in converting any device into a device as described in paragraphs above.

Definition of Weapons

The term *weapon* shall mean a "firearm" as defined above, and shall also include the items listed below, which are defined as "weapons" in section 571.010, RSMo.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Blackjack | 8. Machine Gun |
| 2. Concealable firearm | 9. Knuckles |
| 3. Explosive weapon | 10. Projectile weapon |
| 4. Firearm | 11. Rifle |
| 5. Firearm silencer | 12. Shotgun |
| 6. Gas gun | 13. Spring Gun |
| 7. Knife | 14. Switchblade knife |

Other weapons include:

1. Mace spray
2. Any knife, regardless of blade length
3. Items customarily used, or which can be used, to inflict injury upon another person or property.

Students Who Bring Firearms or Weapons to School

The District will take the following action upon determining that a student has brought a firearm or weapon to school:

1. The District will refer the student to the appropriate criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system, and
2. The District will suspend the student from school for a period of not less than one year (365 days) from the date of the infraction, and may, at its discretion, expel the student from school permanently. This suspension provision

may be modified on a case-by-case basis upon recommendation of the Superintendent if the Superintendent determines that circumstances justify such a modification.

3. The District may, at its discretion, provide a student suspended under this Regulation with educational services in an alternative setting.

Applicability of Regulation to Students with Disabilities

If the student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act carries or possesses a weapon, as defined by 18 U.S.C. 930(g) (2), to or at school, on school premises, or to or at a school function under the District's authority, school administrators may remove that student to an interim alternative educational setting for not more than 45 school days without regard to whether the behavior is determined to be a manifestation of the student's disability. If a school administrator removes a student with an IDEA disability to an interim alternative educational placement, the District must convene the student's multidisciplinary and/or IEP team to conduct a manifestation determination within the statutory time frame and the student's IEP team must determine the interim alternative educational placement and the services that the student will be provided in order to receive a free appropriate public education and access to the general curriculum.

Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation

The District is committed to maintaining a workplace and educational environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services, activities and facilities. See Board of Education Policies and Regulations 1300 and 1301: *Equal Opportunity*. The District is committed to providing equal opportunity in all areas of education, recruiting, hiring, retention, promotion and contracted service. In accordance with law, the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law in its programs and activities. In addition, the District provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Further, no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination based on the above listed characteristics under a school nutrition program for which the District receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA Food and Nutrition Service).

Policy and Regulation 1300 govern the District's compliance with applicable anti-discrimination laws, outside of sexual harassment under Title IX the Education Amendments of 1972 and its implementing regulations ("Title IX"). Policy 1301 governs the District's compliance with Title IX as related to sexual harassment and retaliation. Sexual harassment as protected by law is prohibited in this District. The District also prohibits retaliation against a person who files a complaint of sexual harassment or who participates in an investigation of allegations of sexual harassment under Regulation 1301.

For information regarding how to report a claim of discrimination, harassment, or retaliation, see Board of Education Policies and Regulation 1300 and 1301. Policy and Regulation 1300 shall govern all complaints and concerns by parents, patrons, employees, or students of the District related to discrimination, harassment, or retaliation on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law. Policy and Regulation 1301 shall govern all complaints and concerns by parents, patrons, employees, or students of the District related to sexual harassment under Title IX. Policies and Regulations 1300 and 1301 are accessible through the District's website and may be requested through the District's Central Office.

Misconduct Not Occurring on School Property or at a School-Sponsored Activity

Board Policy 2655

The District reserves the right to suspend and/or expel any student who engages in misconduct that may occur off school property or that does not occur at a school-sponsored activity when such conduct has a direct relationship (1) to the health, safety or security of students or staff and/or (2) to good order and discipline in the schools. Off-campus conduct for which a student may be suspended or expelled includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Conduct that would be prohibited if the student were on school property or at a school sponsored event.
2. Conduct in which another student or student(s) in the District was the actual or intended victim.
3. Conduct in which the immediate family of another student or student(s) in the District was the actual or intended victim.
4. Conduct in which an employee in the District or a Board member was the actual or intended victim.
5. Conduct in which the immediate family of an employee in the District or the immediate family member of a Board member was the actual or intended victim.

6. Conduct that has resulted in the filing of criminal charges or a juvenile petition when the appropriate administrator has determined by a preponderance of the evidence (i.e., more likely than not) that the student engaged in the misconduct underlying the criminal charge or juvenile petition.
7. Conduct that has resulted in a finding by the Board that a student has been charged, convicted or plead guilty in a court of general jurisdiction for the commission of a felony criminal violation of state or federal law.
8. Such other conduct that, in the judgment of the appropriate administrator demonstrates that a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process.
9. Any student who is suspended under this policy may appeal the suspension to the Board through the procedures outlined in Policy and Regulation 2671: *Student Discipline Hearings*.

Searches by School Personnel

Board Policy 2150

School lockers and desks are the property of the Board of Education and are provided for the convenience of students, and as such, are subject to periodic inspection without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The lockers and desks may be searched by school administrators or staff who have a reasonable suspicion that the lockers or desks contain drugs, alcohol, material of a disruptive nature, stolen properties, weapons, items posing a danger to the health or safety of students and school employees, or evidence of a violation of school policy. In addition, the Board of Education authorizes the use of trained dogs to sniff lockers or other school property to assist in the detection of the presence of drugs, explosives, and other contraband.

Students or student property may be searched based on reasonable suspicion of a violation of District rules, policy or state law. Reasonable suspicion must be based on facts known to the administration, credible information provided or reasonable inference drawn from such facts or information. The privacy and dignity of students shall be respected. Searches shall be carried out in the presence of adult witnesses, if such witnesses are available. Students may be asked to empty pockets, remove jackets, coats, shoes and other articles of exterior clothing for examination if reasonable under the circumstances.

No employee shall perform a strip search of any student. The exception to this would be if a school administrator reasonably believes that a student possesses a weapon, explosive, or substance that poses an imminent threat of physical harm to himself or herself or another person, and if a commissioned law enforcement officer is not immediately available. Strip searches may be conducted by, or under the authority of, a commissioned law enforcement officer.

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains the authority to conduct routine patrols of the student parking lots. The interior of a student's automobile on school premises may be searched if a school administrator has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal, unauthorized or contraband items or evidence of a violation of school policy is contained inside the vehicle.

Law enforcement officials shall be contacted if the search produces a controlled substance, drug paraphernalia, weapons, stolen goods or evidence of a crime, in any case involving a violation of law when a student refuses to allow a search, or where the search cannot safely be conducted. Parents may also be contacted.

A student who refuses to submit to a search may be appropriately disciplined by school officials.

See Board Regulation 2150 for the general procedures recommended to building administrators to investigate student behavior giving rise to "reasonable cause" or "reasonable suspicion" that a student is concealing a dangerous item or illegal substance or otherwise violating District policy or state law.

Student Conduct on Buses

Board Policy 2652

The safety of students during their transportation to and from school is a responsibility which they and their parents or guardians share with the bus drivers and school officials. Therefore, the rules of student conduct will be issued to all students at the beginning of the school year, and to new students upon enrollment. Students who fail to observe these rules will be subject to immediate disciplinary actions.

Board Regulation 2652

Students using District transportation are under the jurisdiction of the school from the time they board the bus until they are released at school or at the stop nearest their home.

1. Students must present proper identification if requested to do so.
2. The bus driver is in complete charge of the bus and students are expected to comply with his/her requests at all times.
3. Students must obey and respect the orders of District employees.
4. Students must be on time; the bus cannot wait beyond its regular schedule for those who are tardy.
5. Students must never stand in the roadway while waiting for the bus.
6. Students are permitted to converse quietly with persons sitting near them.
7. Students must be seated and are not permitted to change seats when the bus is in motion or to annoy other riders on the bus.
8. Students must not, under any circumstances, put their heads or arms out of the windows.
9. Students will be held responsible for any and all damage to the bus perpetrated by them.
10. The use of profane or abusive language will not be tolerated on the bus.
11. Smoking, striking matches or lighting cigarette lighters is not permitted on the bus.
12. Fighting on the bus shall be considered a very serious offense.
13. Students must observe directions of the driver and other District employees when leaving the bus.
14. Any damage to the bus should be reported at once to the driver.
15. Students must ride the bus to which they are assigned. Any change must be cleared with the Director of Transportation Services in advance.
16. The school bus is an extension of the school and all school rules and regulations which pertain to student conduct in the schools are applicable to student conduct on a school bus.

Truancy and Educational Neglect

Board Policy 2340

The Board of Education believes regular attendance is important to academic success. Therefore, the Board directs that problems with attendance on the part of any student be investigated and acted upon promptly.

Truancy is defined as deliberate absence from school on the part of the pupil with or without the knowledge of the parent/guardian and for which no justifiable excuse is given. When a pattern of truancy becomes evident, the principal will investigate and take such action as circumstances dictate.

Section 210.115 RSMo.. mandates reporting to the Missouri Division of Family Services ("DFS") when there is reasonable cause to suspect that a student's nonattendance is due to the educational neglect of the parents/guardians.

Students subjected to home conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in truancy will immediately report or cause a report to be made to the building principal, or his/her designee, who will then become responsible for making a report via the Student Abuse Hotline to DFS. The building principal shall inform the Superintendent/designee that a report has been made, and keep the Superintendent apprised of the status of the case.

Regulation 2340

It is the responsibility of every parent/guardian to ensure that their child(ren) attend school regularly. When a pattern of truancy or excessive absence is identified by the school principal, the following procedures will be followed to address the concern.

Truancy

Truancy is defined as absence from school (full or partial day) without the expressed consent or knowledge of the parent/guardian. Chronic truancy is defined as unexcused absence from school for ten (10) or more days per school year.

1. When a pattern of chronic truancy is identified, parents/guardians will be notified in writing of the concern and the disciplinary action to be taken as provided in the Student Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences.
2. A personal conference with the building administrator and any other relevant school personnel (e.g., teacher, counselor, nurse) will be requested. At this conference, the administrator will assess the nature of the truancy

concern and determine if referral to: (1) available school resources; (2) Children's Division; or (3) Family Court is warranted.

3. If a parent/guardian does not participate in the school conference, the principal will determine appropriate action based on available information.
4. The Superintendent/designee will be notified of all referrals to Children's Division and Family Court using the District Incident Report.

Excessive Absence

Excessive absence is defined as any absence from school for ten (10) or more days per school year. Parents/guardians are to verify all student absences either by phone contact with the school office or by written note. Unverified absence will be considered truancy.

1. Parents/guardians will be notified at least three times a year or more often in writing of the school's concern about their child's attendance. The principal will consider the age, grade and circumstances creating the absence in determining the content of the parental notice.
2. If the school is notified that a significant health concern is preventing the child from attending school, doctor verification may be requested. Homebound educational services will be offered to the child when an extended or intermittent illness of ten (10) or more days is anticipated pending completion of a homebound application by the child's physician. (*Board of Education Policy 6275*)
3. If it is determined that a child's excessive absence is not due to significant health concerns, and the child has been absent for fifteen (15) or more days, a personal conference with the building administrator and any other relevant school personnel (e.g., teacher, counselor, nurse) may be requested. At this conference, the administrator will assess the nature of the concerns contributing to the child's absence from school. If educational neglect is suspected, referral to the Children's Division and/or the Family Court will be made. Referrals should be made in writing directly to the District's assigned Juvenile Officer and should include the nature of the action requested (formal or informal Court intervention) and the facts supporting the referral. Referral to other available school resources will be considered.
4. If a parent/guardian does not participate in the conference, the administrator will determine appropriate action based on available information.
5. The Superintendent/designee will be notified of all referrals to the Children's Division and Family Court using the District Incident Report.

School personnel have been notified by the Eleventh Circuit Family Court Judge that a referral from the school will result in the parent/guardian and child being summoned to appear before the Court.

School officials may be called to Court to testify about the student's absences. Parents/guardians may be charged with educational neglect for failing to ensure regular school attendance by their child.

Additional Information

Additional information related to student conduct and discipline is available in Board of Education Policies and Regulations, which are available on the District's website. The majority of such Policies and Regulations pertaining to student discipline can be found in the 2000 series of the Policies and Regulations, and include but are not limited to, the following:

- Searches by School Personnel (*Policy and Regulation 2150*)
- Interviews, Interrogations and Removal from School (*Policy 2160*)
- Student Attendance (*Policy and Regulation 2310, Policy 2315*)
- Truancy and Educational Neglect (*Policy and Regulation 2340*)
- Discipline (*Policy 2600*)
- Misconduct and Behavioral Expectations (*Policy 2610*)
- Behavioral Expectations (*Regulation 2610*)
- Closed Campus (*Policy 2630*)
- Student Use of Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs (*Policy 2640*)
- Student Vehicle Use (*Policy 2650*)
- Student Dress (*Policy 2651*)
- Student Conduct on Buses (*Policy and Regulation 2652*)
- Student Participation in Secret Organizations and Gangs (*Policy and Regulation 2653*)
- Student Use and Care of School Property (*Policy 2654*)

- Detention and/or In-School Suspension (*Policy 2660*)
- In-School Suspension (*Policy 2661*)
- Suspension (*Policy and Regulation 2662*)
- Expulsion (*Policy and Regulation 2663*)
- Enrollment or Return Following Suspension and/or Expulsion (*Policy and Regulation 2664*)
- Misconduct Not Occurring on School Property or at a School-Sponsored Activity (*Policy 2665*)
- Corporal Punishment Prohibited (*Policy 2670*)
- Student Discipline Hearings (*Policy and Regulation 2671*)
- Discipline of Students with Disabilities (*Policy and Regulation 2672*)
- Reporting of Violent Behavior (*Policy and Regulation 2673*)

Revised June 20, 2024