

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Effective discipline, which requires respect for the rights of others, is necessary if all students are to attain a quality education. The Board delegates to school officials the authority to enforce District policies, regulations, and school rules governing student conduct.

A complete statement governing or describing all the relationships and processes involved in student discipline would be very extensive; however, the most important part of such a statement would be the relationship of the teacher and the principal in matters of discipline. Teachers must feel free to consult and work closely with the building principal in dealing with any problem with which the teacher might need guidance. This working relationship is one key to desirable discipline and a quality instructional environment.

The Board also believes that the teacher-student relationship in the classroom, halls, and on school property is important and should be one of mutual respect at all times. The teacher will be recognized as the person in authority at all times in the classroom, halls, buildings, school grounds, and at school-related events.

Each case of unsatisfactory behavior by a student will be handled individually. The classroom teacher may take the steps which he/she believes are justified in each case. If the student does not respond to these measures, the teacher will then refer the student to the principal.

In terms of the relationship of the teacher and principal in discipline matters, the Board expects that, whenever a discipline problem appears to extend beyond the classroom, the teacher will discuss the problem with the principal. The teacher(s) and the principal will work together in attempting to control or correct the problem.

A student's failure to comply with the requirements for student conduct outlined in the student handbooks may result in the student's being placed under discipline. Placing a student under discipline will be defined as social probation, and the student may lose all rights to participate in school-related social events or extracurricular activities for a period of time determined by the principal. Depending on the seriousness of the offense committed by the student, suspension or expulsion may also result. Discipline will always be administered in a reasonable manner.

If several methods of discipline have been used in an effort to solve a problem and it appears necessary, in the judgment of the principal and superintendent, to discipline or withdraw privileges from a large group, this action may be taken; however, any punishment technique involving an entire class or large group, and possibly the punishment of students who are innocent, will be used only as a last resort.

The Board may require a parent/guardian of a student who is suspended or expelled from school as a result of being truant or habitually absent from school to attend a parental education or training program. If the parent/guardian fails to attend the program, he/she will be charged with a misdemeanor of the fourth degree, punishable by a maximum fine of \$250 and imprisonment of up to 30 days.

The Board is most hopeful that teachers, parents, and Board members can work together to promote the best educational interests of the students in this District.

[Adoption date: June 19, 1997]

LEGAL REFS: ORC 3313.20, 3313.66; 3313.661
 ORC 3319.41

CROSS REF: JFC, Student Conduct