



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Student Discipline
Code	218
Status	Second Reading
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Purpose

The Board acknowledges that student conduct is closely related to learning. An effective instructional program requires a safe and orderly school environment.

Definition

Corporal punishment - a form of physical discipline intended to cause pain and fear, in which a student is spanked, paddled or hit on any part of the body with a hand or instrument.

Authority

The Board shall establish fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations regarding the conduct of all students in the school district ~~during the time they are under the supervision of the school or at any time while on school property, while present at school-sponsored activities, and while traveling to or from school and school-sponsored activities.~~ [1][2][3][4][5]

The Board shall adopt a Code of Student Conduct to govern student discipline, and students shall not be subject to disciplinary action because of race, gender, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or handicap/disability. [1][2][4][5][6][7]

Each student must adhere to Board policies and the Code of Student Conduct governing student discipline.

Suspensions, expulsions, and other discipline shall be carried out in accordance with Board Policy.[8]

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the district shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations and the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[5][9][10][11][12][13]

On-Campus and Off-Campus Activities

This policy and the Code of Student Conduct apply to the behavior of students at all times when students are "on campus," defined as being under the supervision of the school, on school property, present at school-sponsored activities, and when traveling to or from school and school-sponsored activities or at other times while riding in school-provided transportation. This policy and the Code of Student Conduct also apply to student behavior that occurs "off campus" at other times and places~~shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct in any of the following circumstances exist:~~

1. The conduct involves, threatens or makes more likely violence, use of force or other serious harm directed at students, staff or the school environment;~~The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation.~~
2. The conduct interferes with or threatens to interfere with the rights of students or school staff or the safe and orderly operation of the schools and their programs;~~The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.[14][15]~~
3. The conduct materially and substantially disrupts or interferes with the school environment or the educational process, such as school activities, school work, discipline, safety and order on school property or at school functions;~~Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.~~
4. The proximity, timing or motive for the conduct in question or other factors pertaining to the conduct otherwise establish a direct connection to attendance at school, to the school community, or to a school-sponsored activity. This would include, for example, but not be limited to, conduct that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if it occurred in school that is committed in furtherance of a plan made or agreed to in school, or acts of vandalism directed at the property of school staff because of their status as school staff.~~The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, for example, a transaction conducted outside of school pursuant to an agreement made in school, that would violate the Code of Student Conduct if conducted in school.~~
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

~~There is otherwise a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.~~

Code of Student Conduct

The rules and Code of Student Conduct shall require that:

1. Student responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work and homework, and conformance to school rules and regulations. Most of all, students are responsible to share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living.
2. No student has the right to interfere with the education of fellow students. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of teachers, students, administrators, and all others who are involved in the educational process.
3. Students should express their ideas and opinions in a respectful manner.
4. It is the responsibility of the students to conform to the following:

- a. Be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and conduct themselves in accordance with them. Students should assume that, until a rule is waived, altered, or repealed in writing, it is in effect.
- b. Volunteer information in matters relating to the health, safety, and welfare of the school community and the protection of school property.
- c. Dress and groom to meet standards of safety and health, and not to cause substantial disruption to the educational processes.
- d. Assist the school staff in operating a safe school for the students enrolled therein.
- e. Comply with Commonwealth and local laws.
- f. Exercise proper care when using public facilities and equipment.
- g. Attend school daily and be on time at all classes and other school functions.
- h. Make up work when absent from school.
- i. Pursue and attempt to complete satisfactorily the courses of study prescribed by local school authorities.
- j. Report accurately in student media.
- k. Refrain from using obscene language in student media or on school premises.

Any student disciplined by an employee of this Board shall have the right to notice of the infraction and a hearing before the building principal prior to being disciplined, and may appeal the determination thereof to the Superintendent.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that reasonable rules and necessary regulations **are developed to** carry out the purposes of this policy.

The Superintendent or designee shall designate sanctions for the infractions of rules which shall:

1. Relate in kind and degree to the infraction.
2. Help the student learn to accept responsibility for his/her actions.
3. Be directed, where possible, to ameliorating any harm which may have been caused by the student's misconduct.
4. Hold parents/guardians accountable for the actions of their sons or daughters or wards.

The Superintendent or designee shall publish and provide to all students, staff, parents/guardians the rules of this district regarding the Code of Student Conduct, the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules, and a listing of students' rights and responsibilities. The Code of Student Conduct shall be adopted by the Board. A copy of such shall be made available in each school library and school office **and on the district's website.** [1][7]

The Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board the methods of discipline imposed by this district and the incidence of student misconduct in such degree of specificity as shall be required by the Board.

The building principal shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to **Board policies, administrative the rules and regulations, of the Superintendent** and to the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.[\[16\]](#)[\[17\]](#)

Teaching staff members and other employees of this Board having authority over students shall have the authority to take such reasonable actions as may be necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of this Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others, **in accordance with Board policy, administrative regulations, the Code of Student Conduct, and school rules.**[\[16\]](#)

Guidelines

Specific Forms of Discipline

Corporal Punishment -

The Board prohibits the use of corporal punishment to discipline students for violations of district policies, rules or regulations.[\[18\]](#)

Reasonable force may be used by teachers and school authorities under any of the following circumstances: to quell a disturbance, obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, for the purpose of self-defense, and for the protection of persons or property.[\[18\]](#)

Detention -

Students may be assigned a detention for various school violations on a day and time determined by the principal with notification to the parents/guardians. Students are required to be involved in work or study activities during this time.

Saturday morning detention may be assigned to those students who are chronic offenders and fail to meet discipline responsibilities.

In-School Suspension Instructional Class -

In-school suspension may be assigned for various school violations. The setting will provide a very strict, controlled, and quiet learning atmosphere for the duration of a student's suspension. Students cannot be involved in extracurricular activities as a spectator or participant on days when they are in suspension.

Referral to Law Enforcement and Reporting Requirements

For reporting purposes, the term **incident** shall mean an instance involving an act of violence; the possession of a weapon; the possession, use, or sale of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia as defined in the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act; the possession, use, or sale of alcohol or tobacco; or conduct that constitutes an offense listed under the Safe Schools Act.[\[19\]](#)[\[20\]](#)[\[21\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report to the local police department that has jurisdiction when an offense listed in section 1303-A(b) (4.1) of the Safe Schools Act occurs on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement, and Board policies.[\[13\]](#)[\[19\]](#)[\[20\]](#)[\[22\]](#)[\[23\]](#)[\[24\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee may report to the local police department that has jurisdiction when an offense listed in section 1303-A(b) (4.2) of the Safe Schools Act occurs on school property, at any

school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement, and Board policies.

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian.[13][19][25]

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all new incidents to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form.[13][20][26][27][28][29]

When a student's behavior indicates a threat to the safety of the student, other students, school employees, school facilities, the community or others, district staff shall report the student to the threat assessment team, in accordance with applicable law and Board policy. [24 P.S. 1302-E][Pol. 236.1]

Legal

1. 22 PA Code 12.3
2. 22 PA Code 12.4
3. 24 P.S. 510
4. Pol. 103
5. Pol. 103.1
6. 22 PA Code 12.2
7. Pol. 235
8. Pol. 233
9. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq
10. 22 PA Code 10.23
11. Pol. 113.1
12. Pol. 113.2
13. Pol. 805.1
14. Pol. 122
15. Pol. 123
16. 24 P.S. 1317
17. 24 P.S. 1318
18. 22 PA Code 12.5
19. 22 PA Code 10.2
20. 24 P.S. 1303-A
21. 35 P.S. 780-102
22. 22 PA Code 10.21
23. 22 PA Code 10.22
24. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A
25. 22 PA Code 10.25
26. Pol. 218.1
27. Pol. 218.2
28. Pol. 222
29. Pol. 227
- 20 U.S.C. 7114
- 22 PA Code 12.1 et seq
- 22 PA Code 403.1
- 34 CFR Part 300
- Pol. 805

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