

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

It is the policy of the Monterey County Board of Education (County Board) that student behavior and discipline be maintained in such a manner as to provide a positive learning environment for all students in programs operated by the Office. The County Board acknowledges that management of student behavior is an integral part of education, and that inappropriate behavior presents serious problems in implementation of an educational program.

The County Board desires to prepare youth for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The County Board perceives that good planning, a good understanding of each child, and parent involvement can minimize the need for discipline. Teachers shall use positive conflict resolution techniques and avoid unnecessary confrontations. When misconduct occurs, staff shall make every effort to identify and correct the causes of the student's behavior.

County Board policies and regulations shall delineate acceptable student conduct and provide the basis for sound disciplinary practices. Each school under the control of the Monterey County Superintendent of Schools shall develop disciplinary plans and procedures in accordance with law to meet the school/program's needs.

Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension, and expulsion, shall be imposed only when required or permitted by law or when other means of correction have been documented to have failed. (Education Code (EC) 48900.5)

Discipline plans and procedures will take into account the special needs of students found in programs operated by the Office.

School personnel and volunteers shall not allow any disciplinary action taken against a student to result in the denial or delay of a school meal. (EC 49557.5)

Seclusion and behavioral restraint are prohibited as a means of discipline and shall not be used to correct student behavior except as permitted pursuant to Education Code 49005.4 and in accordance with MCOE regulations. (EC 49005.2)

In order to maintain safe and orderly environments, the County Board shall give employees all reasonable support with respect to student discipline. If a disciplinary strategy is ineffective, another strategy shall be employed. Continually disruptive students may be assigned to alternative programs or removed from school.

Regardless of specific procedures, it is the intent of the County Board that the rights of all pupils be protected, including the right of pupils to have an environment conducive to learning.

MCOE goals for improving school climate, based on suspension and expulsion rates, surveys of students, staff, and parents/guardians regarding their sense of school safety and connectedness to the school community, and other local measures, shall be included in the MCOE's local control and accountability plan, as required by law.

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the MCOE's nondiscrimination policies.

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

35146	<i>Closed sessions</i>
35291	<i>Rules</i>
35291.5-35291-7	<i>School-adopted discipline rules</i>
37223	<i>Weekend classes</i>
44807.5	<i>Restriction from recess</i>
48900-48926	<i>Suspension and expulsion</i>
48980-48985	<i>Notification of parent/guardian</i>
49330-49335	<i>Injurious objects</i>

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

307	<i>Participation in school activities until departure of bus</i>
353	<i>Detention after school</i>

Adopted: 07/14/99, 03/16/22