

Students

Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that:

1. Ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff;
2. Maintain a positive, weapons-free, and drug-free learning environment;
3. Keep school property and the property of others secure;
4. Address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and
5. Teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent self-disciplined citizens in the school community.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in *prohibited student conduct*, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours and at any other time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials including without limitation, electronic cigarettes.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages (the Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon prior request of an adult supervisor, for use in culinary course work or the use of containers or packaging as props for theater). Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, soliciting, selling, or offering for sale:
 - a. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law* and such use or possession is pursuant to Board Policy 7:270, *Administering Medicine to Students*).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.

- d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law* and such use or possession is pursuant to Board Policy 7:270, *Administering Medicine to Students*.
- e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- f. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
- g. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- h. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law* and such use or possession is pursuant to Board Policy 7:270, *Administering Medicine to Students*.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance or drug or in possession of any drug paraphernalia are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, drug or paraphernalia, as applicable, in their possession.

- 4. Using, possessing, controlling, transferring, or selling a weapon as that term is defined in the *Weapons* section of this policy, or violating the *Weapons* section of this policy.
- 5. Using or possessing an electronic device out of compliance with this section or Administrative procedure 6:235-AP4. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Unless otherwise permitted under this policy, Administrative procedure 6:235-AP4 or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off or silenced and out-of-sight during the regular school day. Permission for electronic devices is allowed if:
 - a. The supervising teacher grants permission;
 - b. Use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP);

- c. It is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals;
or
 - d. The electronic device is a cellular phone, which may be used respectfully (1) in the hallways and during passing periods, and (2) in the cafeteria and student activities center/office during lunch periods. Cell phones must always be kept on vibrate or silent.
6. Using a mobile internet device (MID) out of compliance with Board policy 6:235-AP4.
 7. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
 8. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
 9. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, using a writing service and/or generative artificial intelligence technology in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
 10. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or any urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying and bullying using a school computer or a school computer network or other comparable conduct.
 11. Engaging in hate speech or any verbal, non-verbal, or physical acts aimed at a person's actual or perceived race, color, appearance, national origin, military status, unfavorable discharge status from military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic.
 12. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the non-disruptive expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference.
 13. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy, 7:185 *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
 14. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
 15. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
 16. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.
 17. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy on truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
18. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society by:
 - a. Being a member;
 - b. Promising to join;
 - c. Pledging to become a member; or
 - d. Soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.

19. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
20. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
21. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of their duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
22. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
23. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term *possession* includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations where the item is:

1. On the student's person;
2. Contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, automobile;
3. In a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or
4. Any other location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent(s)/guardian(s) of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

Disciplinary Measures

1. School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following: Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or a designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.

7. After-school or Saturday detention provided the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) have been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or a designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhance community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent(s)/guardian(s) the choice.
9. Social Probation, meaning suspension from participation in or attendance at school activities outside of school hours, including but not limited to: athletic contests, musical/dramatic performances, school club events, ceremonial events such as homecoming, prom and commencement. Additionally, school-based privileges can be revoked for any period of time based on severity of infraction, including: parking pass, attendance at assemblies, field trips and other similar privileges.
10. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
11. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy, 7:220, *Bus Conduct*.
12. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7:200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended will also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
13. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled shall also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
14. Notifying juvenile authorizes or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), *look-alikes*, alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Corporal Punishment Prohibited

Corporal punishment is prohibited. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Neither isolated time out, time out, nor physical restraint shall be used to discipline or punish a student. These methods are only authorized for use as permitted in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.33, State Board of Education rules (23 Ill.Admin.Code §§ 1.280, 1.285), and the District's procedure(s).

Weapons

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year but not more than two (2) calendar years.

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 9211), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012 (720 ILCS 5/24-1).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including *look alikes* of any firearm as defined above, lock, stick, pencil, and pen.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that they:

1. Observe any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds, however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under their supervision;
2. Observe or have reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident; or
3. Observe a battery committed against any staff member.

Upon receiving such a report, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, Ill. State Police (ISP), and any involved student's parent(s)/guardian(s). "*School grounds*" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under their charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, or expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, which is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Directors of Instruction or Dean of Students is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to ten (10) consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed.

The Board of Education may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of ten (10) days for safety reasons, and may expel students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct for up to two calendar years or for a shorter period as determined by the Board, provided the appropriate procedures are followed.

Student Handbook

The Superintendent, with input from the parent-teacher advisory committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District disciplinary policies and rules, shall be posted online within fifteen (15) days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

Incorporated

by Reference: 7:190-AP4 (Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint)

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. § 7971, Pro-Children Act of 2004.

20 U.S.C. §7961 et seq., Gun-Free Schools Act.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-20.28, 5/10-20.36, 5/10-21.7, 5/10-21.10, 5/10-22.6, 5/10-27.1A, 5/10-27.1B, 5/22-33, 5/24-24, 5/26-12, 5/27-23.7, and 5/31-3..

105 ILCS 110/3.10, Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

410 ILCS 647, Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.

430 ILCS 66, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

23 Ill. Admin. Code §§ 1.280. 1.285.

CROSS REF.: 2:150 (Committees), 2:240 (Board Policy Development), 5:230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6:110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School), 7:70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7:130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7:140 (Search and Seizure), 7:150 (Agency and Police Interrogation), 7:160 (Student Appearance), 7:170 (Vandalism), 7:180 (Preventing Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7:185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7:200 (Suspension Procedures), 7:210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7:220 (Bus Conduct), 7:230 (Misconduct by Student with Disabilities), 7:240 (Code of Conduct for Participants in Extracurricular Activities), 7:270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7:310 (Restrictions on Publications and Written or Electronic Material School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites), 8:30 (Visitors To and Conduct on School Property)

ADOPTED: July 9, 2024