

Guidelines

Code of Student Conduct Policy 5500

This code of classroom conduct applies to all students in grades K-12.

1. Removal Procedures

- a. A teacher may remove a student from class for dangerous, disruptive or unruly behavior or behavior that interferes with the ability of the teacher to exercise his/her assigned duties. Examples of such behavior may include, but not necessarily be limited to the following:
 - Taunting, baiting, intimidation, provoking an altercation or confrontation, threatening to use violence or encouraging others to use violence, force, coercion, threats or disruptive means.
 - Repeated classroom interruptions, behavior intended to undermine instruction, confronting staff argumentatively, excessive noise or talking or refusing to follow directions or orders given by the teacher.
 - Throwing objects in any educational setting.
 - Use of profanity.
 - Possession or use of a weapon or other items that might cause bodily harm to persons in the classroom
 - Being under the influence of alcohol or other controlled substances or controlled substance analogs, or otherwise in violation of district student alcohol and other drug policies.
 - Behavior that interferes with a person's work or school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive classroom environment.
 - Fighting or provoking a fight.
 - Pushing or striking a student or staff member.
 - Bomb threats.
 - Dressing or grooming in a manner that presents a danger to health or safety, or causes interference with work or creates classroom disorder.
 - Theft of or willful damage to school property and/or personal property.

- Behavior or discussions that may constitute sexual or other harassment.
 - Possession of personal property prohibited by school rules and otherwise disruptive to the teaching and learning of others.
 - Disruption and intimidation caused by a gang or group symbols or gestures, and/or posturing to provoke altercations or confrontations.
- b. Students identified as requiring special education services under the IDEA or an accommodation plan under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act may, in general, be temporarily removed from class under the same terms and conditions as non-disabled students.

Generally speaking, no removals from class may be made for a student with disabilities under the IDEA or Section 504 which constitute a change in placement. For purposes of this policy, a “change in placement” means a suspension of more than 10 consecutive school days or a series of short-term suspensions which accumulate to greater than 10 school days and which constitute a pattern of exclusion from school. This ten (10) day limit applies to out of school suspensions as well as days of removal from class.

- c. When a student is removed from class, the teacher shall send the student to the building principal or designee and inform him/her of the reason for the student’s removal from class. A written explanation of the reasons shall be given to the principal or designee prior to the teacher’s departure from school that day.
- d. When a student is removed from class, the teacher shall contact the parent/guardian as soon as possible and inform him/her of the reason for the student’s removal from class. The teacher will also follow up this conversation by sending a written explanation of this situation to the parent/guardian of the student who was removed from class and copied to the principal.
- e. The principal or designee shall inform the student of the reason(s) for the removal from class and shall allow the student the opportunity to present his/her version of the situation. The principal or designee shall then determine the appropriate educational placement for the student who has been removed from a class by a teacher.

2. Placement Procedures

- a. The building principal/designee shall place a student who has been removed from a class by a teacher in one of the following educational settings:
- The class from which the student was removed if, after weighing the interests of the removed student, the other students in the class and the teacher, the

principal/designee determines that re-admission to the class is the best or only alternative.

- Another class in the school or another appropriate place in the school as determined by the principal/designee.
 - Another instructional setting.
 - An alternative education program approved by the Board of Education. State law defines this as an instructional program approved by the school board that utilizes successful alternative or adaptive school structures and teaching techniques and that is incorporated into existing, traditional classrooms or regularly scheduled curricular programs or that is offered in place of regularly scheduled curricular programs.
- b. Some different rules and considerations apply for students identified as requiring special education services under the IDEA or an accommodation plan under Section 504. In particular, changes in placement for such students are made by the student's IEP team or Section 504 team, subject to stringent procedural safeguards. It is highly advisable that all IEP teams and 504 teams address these issues and this Code, at least annually, setting forth the consensus of the IEP team or 504 team regarding behavioral expectations and consequences.
- c. The principal/designee may consult with other appropriate school personnel when making or evaluating placement decisions under this policy. A student's parent/guardian may also be consulted regarding student placement decisions when determined by the principal or designee to be in the best interests of the persons involved or when consultation is required by law.

When making placement decisions, the building principal or designee shall consider the following factors:

- The reason the student was removed from class (severity of the offense).
- The type of placement options available for the student in that particular school and any limitations on such placements (costs, space availability, location).
- The estimated length of time of placements.
- The student's individual needs and interests.
- Whether the student has been removed from a teacher's class before (repeat offender).

- The relationship of the placement to any disciplinary action (e.g., if student suspension from school is required as a result of the student's conduct).
 - Whether or not the placement is applicable before and/or after the suspension.
- d. The parent/guardian of a student shall be notified of a student's placement. This notification shall include the reasons for the student's removal from class and the placement decision involving the student. The notice shall be given as soon as practicable after the student's removal from a class and placement determination.

If the student removed from a class is also subject to disciplinary action for the particular classroom conduct (i.e., suspension or expulsion), the student's parent/guardian shall also be notified of the disciplinary action in accordance with legal and policy requirements.

- e. All placement decisions shall be made consistent with established Board policies and in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.

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