

Student Conduct Standards and Disciplinary Procedures

Student misconduct shall be classified as a minor, moderate, or major violation of conduct standards. Definitions of these terms and disciplinary investigation and response procedures shall be included in student handbooks.

When determining the level of a conduct violation, a teacher, principal, or other school official with disciplinary authority shall take into account the totality of circumstances associated with the misconduct, such as, but not limited to:

1. The degree to which the misconduct disrupted the educational environment;
2. The degree to which the misconduct infringed on the rights of others;
3. The frequency and proximity of the incidents of prior misconduct.

When a school official is unsure of how to appropriately classify a student conduct violation, s/he shall consult with the building principal or, in the case of a building principal, the Assistant Superintendent before responding to the misconduct. Neither this requirement nor the disciplinary procedure below shall supersede district policies and procedures containing emergency response and safety measures.

Investigation and Disciplinary Procedures

Minor conduct violations: Minor conduct violations shall be handled by the student's classroom teacher or by a school official with disciplinary authority when the student is not under the supervision of a classroom teacher. If the teacher/school official did not witness the misconduct, s/he will investigate to determine if the student was in violation of conduct standards. When the teacher/school official determines that a minor conduct standard was violated, s/he shall submit to the building principal a misconduct report, which may be placed in the student's educational record at the principal's discretion in accordance with applicable policy and law. In addition, teachers/school officials with disciplinary authority are authorized to respond to minor conduct violations by invoking one or more (if permitted by this regulation) of the following options:

Minor offenses:

1. Require the student to attend detention;
2. Withdraw student privileges;
3. Contact the student's parents;
4. Develop a behavior adjustment plan;
5. Hold a conference with the student's parent/guardian;

6. Billing the student/parent for property damaged caused by the student;
7. Comply with specific disciplinary consequences listed in the policy that the student violated.

Options three through six are not considered disciplinary sanctions and may therefore be administered on their own or in combination with any disciplinary sanction listed above.

Moderate and major conduct violations: Such offenses shall be referred to the building principal for investigation and response. A teacher or school official referring a student to the building principal as a result of a potential conduct violation shall complete a misconduct report for the principal to review. The principal shall conduct further investigation as deemed necessary and shall include his/her findings on the misconduct report. This report may be placed in the student's educational record at the principal's discretion in accordance with applicable policy and law. If a moderate or major conduct violation is substantiated, the principal is authorized to respond by invoking one or more (if permitted by this regulation) of the following options:

Moderate offenses

1. Require the student to attend detention;
2. Impose in or out of school suspension. The action shall only be taken in accordance with due process procedures contained in the district's suspension and expulsion policy;
3. Recommend alternative placement. This recommendation shall be submitted to the Superintendent for approval or denial. The Superintendent may approve such recommendations only if the student has been given notice of the charges against him/her and an opportunity to respond;
4. Refer the student to a school counselor;
5. Create a behavioral adjustment plan;
6. Hold a conference with the student's parent/guardian and classroom teacher;
7. Referral to law enforcement;
8. Billing the student/parent for property damaged caused by the student;
9. Comply with specific disciplinary consequences listed in the policy that the student violated;

Options four through eight are not considered disciplinary sanctions and may therefore be administered on their own or in combination with any disciplinary sanction listed above.

Major offenses: The building principal may respond to major student conduct violations using any of the measures listed above for moderate conduct violations or may recommend more severe penalties, which may include expulsion, in accordance with district policy.

Detention

If a student is required to serve detention, his/her parent shall be notified by the school at least prior to the student serving the detention.