

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

It is essential that the district maintain a classroom environment that allows teachers to communicate effectively with all students in the class and allows all students in the class to learn. To assist district staff in maintaining the necessary classroom environment, the Board of Education has created a discipline code that addresses the consequences, including suspension or expulsion, for students whose conduct is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools or impairs the morale or good conduct of other students. The Board authorizes the immediate removal of a student upon a finding by a principal or superintendent that the student poses a threat of harm to self or others, as evidenced by the prior conduct of such student. Any such removal will be subject to the appropriate due process procedures and in accordance with law.

These policies, regulations and procedures will apply to all students in attendance in district instructional and support programs as well as at school-sponsored activities. All district staff are required to enforce these policies, regulations and procedures in a manner that is fair and developmentally appropriate and that considers the student and the individual circumstances involved.

Off-campus misconduct that adversely affects the educational climate will also be subject to these policies, regulations and procedures. Students who have been charged, convicted or pled guilty in a court of general jurisdiction for commission of a felony may be suspended in accordance with law.

Building principals are responsible for the development of additional regulations and procedures regarding student conduct needed to maintain proper behavior in schools under their supervision.

Teachers have the authority and responsibility to make and enforce necessary rules for the internal governance in the classroom, subject to review by the building principal. The Board expects each teacher to maintain a satisfactory standard of conduct in the classroom.

School personnel will counsel and assist parents and students in disciplinary situations and may encourage the use of other professional assistance.

All employees of the district shall annually receive instruction related to the specific contents of the district's discipline policy and any interpretations necessary to implement the provisions of the policy in the course of their duties including, but not limited to, approved methods of dealing with acts of school violence, disciplining students with disabilities, and instruction in the necessity and requirements for confidentiality. The administration shall emphasize, as part of the in-service training program for administrators, counselors and teachers, training in current alternative disciplinary techniques and strategies.

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The comprehensive discipline policy of the district is composed of this policy and includes, but is not limited to, the following policies and regulations: JG-R, JGA, JGB, JGD, JGE and JGF. A copy of the district's comprehensive discipline policy will be provided to every student and parent or guardian of every student at the beginning of each school year and will be available in the superintendent's office during normal business hours.

Release of Information

If the superintendent believes that an incident which has occurred or situation which exists in a school is such that a general feeling of concern or insecurity is present, or may develop, among students and/or parents, notice shall be provided to parents giving appropriate information about the incident or situation and the action taken by school personnel. In cases which may be of concern to individuals, persons who inquire about an incident or situation in the schools will be given appropriate information and informed of the action taken by school personnel.

Information shall not be revealed which would violate any state or federal law or which would violate or threaten to violate the legal rights of individuals.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 10/14/1996

Revised: 07/11/2003

Cross Refs: AC, Prohibition Against Discrimination and Harassment
AH, Tobacco-Free District
ECD, Traffic and Parking Controls
EGAAA, Reproduction of Copyrighted Materials
GBH, Staff/Student Relations

Legal Refs: §§ 160.261, 167.161,.171, 171.011, RSMo.
Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, P.L. 107-110
Beussink v. Woodland R-IV School District, 30 F.Supp.2d 1175 (E.D. Mo. 1998)

Columbia School District No. 93, Columbia, Missouri