

STUDENTS: CONDUCT

Positive Behavior

I. PURPOSE

TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS THAT TEACH POSITIVE SKILLS AND PROMOTE BEHAVIORS SUPPORTIVE OF ACADEMIC SUCCESS. [Positive behavior in school is extremely important to the maintenance of safe and orderly learning environments for all students. Without positive behavior in school, students will not reach expected achievement standards.]

II. DEFINITIONS

THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS APPLY TO THIS RULE:

- A. *Discipline* – [Discipline is] teaching students how to make good choices by using good decision-making skills and known consequences when students choose to behave inappropriately. [Students shall be taught that there are behavior limits within the law and that the goal is for them to become good law-abiding citizens.]
- B. DISCIPLINARY RESPONSES - CONSEQUENCES THAT INCLUDE SUSPENSION, ASSIGNMENT TO ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS, OR EXPULSION.
- C. *INTERVENTIONS* - SUPPORTS IDENTIFIED TO ASSIST IN THE CHANGING OF BEHAVIORS.

III. STANDARDS

- A. The goal in the discipline process is to [continue to] maintain safe, orderly, and nurturing learning environments that are conducive to positive learning experiences in all schools so that all students will reach expected achievement standards.
- B. DISCIPLINARY RESPONSES SHALL [The] focus ON PREVENTION AND/OR MODIFICATION OF [is to prevent and/or modify] unacceptable student behavior with support services and appropriate interventions.

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- C. Parent[s]/guardian[s] support shall be solicited to help students behave appropriately and succeed academically. The discipline process shall be proactive with the emphasis on teamwork.

- D. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS SHALL TAKE APPROPRIATE DISCIPLINARY ACTION AS OUTLINED IN SUPERINTENDENT’S RULE 5550, *DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR*. [The following interventions, and supports, are recommended to teach students how to behave and to encourage students to behave appropriately in school:
 - 1. Student/teacher conferences
 - 2. Appropriate student placement in classes
 - 3. Teacher/parent/student conferences
 - 4. Teacher/student/school counselor conferences
 - 5. Peer mediation program
 - 6. Conflict resolution program
 - 7. Mentoring program
 - 8. Student support team interventions
 - 9. Functional behavior assessments
 - 10. Individual student behavior plans

The following discipline consequences are recommended when interventions and supports do not result in positive student behavior:

- 1. Administrative referrals for discipline
- 2. In-school suspensions
- 3. Suspensions from school up to ten days
- 4. Suspensions to pupil personnel workers for support
- 5. Suspensions to the superintendent’s designees
- 6. Alternative program assignments
- 7. Expulsions and alternative program placements]

III. IMPLEMENTATION

- A. EACH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL WILL CREATE AND IMPLEMENT A SCHOOLWIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR PLAN THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:
 - 1. HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS;
 - 2. HIGH IMPACT ACTIONS LEADING TO PROGRESS OF ALL STUDENT GROUPS;

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3. ALIGNMENT WITH TARGETS AND GOALS;
4. PARENT/GUARDIAN AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT;
5. RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS/STAFF;
6. DATA ANALYSIS FOR DECISION MAKING;
7. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS;
8. FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS;
9. COMMUNICATION OF PLANNING PROCESSES, PLAN, AND RESULTS; AND
10. CULTURAL COMPETENCIES.

LEGAL REFERENCES: *ANNOTATED CODE OF MARYLAND, EDUCATION ARTICLE §7-305, SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION. COMAR 13A.08.01.11, DISCIPLINARY ACTION*

RELATED POLICIES: BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5000, *STUDENTS*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5500, *CONDUCT*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5120, *ATTENDANCE AND EXCUSES*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5520, *STUDENT DRESS CODE*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5540, *ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES, INTOXICANTS, PRESCRIPTION AND NONPRESCRIPTION DRUGS*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5550, *DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5551, *GANG ACTIVITY AND SIMILAR DESTRUCTIVE OR ILLEGAL BEHAVIOR*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5560, *SUSPENSION, ASSIGNMENT TO ALTERNATIVE PROGRAMS, OR EXPULSION*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5561, *SCHOOL USE OF REPORTABLE OFFENSES*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5580, *BULLYING, HARASSMENT, OR INTIMIDATION*
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 5600, *STUDENTS'*

RULE 5510

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY, 5590, *STUDENTS'*
EXPRESSIONS
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6202,
TELECOMMUNICATION ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC
INFORMATION, SERVICES, AND NETWORKS
BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY 6701,
EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Rule
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Superintendent of Schools