

## **NOTIFICATION CONCERNING DISCIPLINARY POLICIES**

The following Board of Education policies govern the establishment of rules and regulations concerning student discipline.

### **[Policy 5600 - Student Discipline](#)**

The School Board acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning and that an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment, which is in part, reflected in the behavior of students. The Board believes that the best discipline is self-imposed and students should learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and the consequences of their actions. The Board shall require each student of this Corporation to adhere to the Code of Conduct promulgated by the administration and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. Such rules shall require that students:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior;
- B. respect the person and property of others;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;
- E. obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

Data regarding disciplinary actions(s) shall not be entered on a student's permanent record. The Superintendent shall promulgate administrative guidelines for student conduct which carry out the purposes of this policy and;

- A. are not arbitrary but bear a reasonable relationship to the need to maintain a school environment conducive to learning;
- B. do not discriminate among students;
- C. do not demean students;
- D. do not violate any individual rights constitutionally guaranteed to students.

The Superintendent shall designate sanctions for the infractions of rules which shall:

- A. relate in kind and degree to the infraction;
- B. help the student learn to take responsibility for his/her actions;

C. be directed, where possible, to ameliorate any harm which may have been caused by the student's misconduct.

The Superintendent shall publish to all students and their parents the rules of this Corporation regarding student conduct, the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules, and the due-process procedures that will be followed in administering the Code of Conduct. A student who has been disorderly on a school vehicle may be excluded from transportation services in accordance with Board policies on transportation. The principal shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to Corporation administrative guidelines and the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Teachers and other employees of this Board having authority over students shall have the authority to take such means as may be necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of this Board. No student is to be detained after the close of the regular school day unless the student's parent has been contacted and informed that the student will be detained.

#### **Policy 5610 - Suspension and Expulsion of Non-handicapped Students**

The School Board recognizes that removal from the educational programs of the Corporation, whether by suspension or expulsion, is the most severe sanction that can be imposed on a student in this Corporation and one that cannot be imposed without due process since removal deprives a child of the right to an education. For purposes of this policy, suspension and expulsion shall be as defined in the Indiana Code. The Superintendent is authorized to suspend or expel a student when circumstances warrant and proper guidelines have been followed. S/he shall report all such cases to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles in accordance with law and the Bureau's guidelines.

#### **Policy 5610.02 - In-School Suspension**

In-school suspension will only be offered at the discretion of the principal for offenses found in the Student Code of Conduct. Such an alternative will be dependent upon the financial ability to support such a program and subject to the approval of the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

#### **Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights**

The School Board recognizes the importance of safeguarding a student's constitutional rights, particularly when subject to the Corporation's disciplinary procedures. The Superintendent shall establish administrative guidelines to ensure that all members of the staff follow due process procedures when dealing with students. In addition, a statement of due process rights is to be placed in all student handbooks in a manner that will facilitate understanding by students and their parents.

### Policy 5630 - Corporal Punishment

While recognizing that students may require disciplinary action in various forms, the School Board cannot condone the use of unreasonable force and fear as an appropriate procedure in student discipline. Professional staff should not find it necessary to resort to physical force or violence to compel obedience. If all other means fail, staff members may always resort to removal of the student from the classroom or school through suspension or expulsion procedures. Professional staff as well as support staff may, within the scope of their employment, use and apply reasonable force and restraint to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon or within the control of the student, to act in self-defense, or to protect persons or property. When an employee inflicts unnecessary, unreasonable, irrational, or inappropriate force upon a student, s/he may be subject to discipline by this Board and criminal assault charges as well. Corporal punishment shall not be permitted. If any employee threatens to inflict, inflicts, or causes to inflict unnecessary, unreasonable, or inappropriate force upon a student, s/he may be subject to discipline by this School Board and possibly criminal assault charges or be reported to authorities for child abuse. This prohibition applies as well to volunteers and those with whom the Corporation contracts for services. Copies of all policies are available from the Board of Education office.