

**TO: Members, Board of Education
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

FROM: Kevin M. Anderson, Ed.D.

RE: Student Performance: Middle School Discipline Update

DATE: January 25, 2011

This report summarizes discipline information from District 97 middle schools for last year and the first half of the current school year. Principals from the middle schools will also be sharing their insight into these numbers and how discipline is approached at both schools.

OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 97
Oak Park, Illinois

January 25, 2011

Student Performance: Middle School Discipline Update

Goal Statements Addressed:

- a. Oversee and lead the implementation of scientifically research based initiatives which result in a decrease in suspensions and expulsions

Strategic Plan Connections:

The Strategic Plan end results that are most closely tied to this report are:

1. (1.10) Develop a program to promote a positive classroom and school environment where children feel safe and welcome.
2. (4.8) Provide each child with the models and techniques through which to develop self-discipline.

Middle School Discipline Update

In previous Student Performance reports to the Board of Education, discipline information from all schools was shared. SWIS data was used from the elementary schools and information from SASI and PowerSchool was used in the middle schools.

In these previous reports, it was evident that very few major infractions were occurring in the elementary schools, with an average of generally less than 1 office referral per day at each building. These infractions tended to center around the lunch/playground period and usually involved minor fighting or aggression. Elementary classroom infractions tended to center on disrespect or defiance. Because this information has been fairly constant over the years and discipline incidents have typically been minor in nature, we have not shared the elementary SWIS data in this report. SWIS data are available if anyone wishes to review the building-by-building reports.

Middle Schools

The middle school discipline numbers given are generated through PowerSchool. Since we have only been using PowerSchool for the past 18 months, trend information is still in its infancy. Harla Hutchinson, data analyst for District 97, has put together information about middle school discipline in a different format this year. You will find charts below for both Out of School Suspensions (OSS) and In School Suspensions (ISS) organized by the type of infraction. Also included is a table of the types of students receiving OSS and ISS last year and this year through similar dates in mid-January.

The middle school principals will be in attendance at the January 25 Board meeting to talk about these numbers, especially relating to follow-up and how specific incidents lead to changes in procedures at the two schools. They will also highlight the use of PBIS and the anecdotal evidence showing its impact.

Number of ISS and OSS Incidents at the Middle Schools

	# of Incidents	# of students	Avg./ student	ISS	OSS	AA	White	Other
2009-2010	187	107	1.7	73.3%	26.7%	71.1%	23.0%	5.9%
2010-2011	132	87	1.5	57.6%	42.4%	62.9%	25.8%	11.4%

ISS Incidents by Category

ISS	2009-2010	2010-2011
# of Incidents	137	76
# of students	75	56
Avg./ student	1.8	1.4
Alcohol	0.0%	0.0%
Bullying	5.9%	21.8%
Disrespect	20.6%	14.1%
Drugs	0.0%	0.0%
Fighting	36.0%	29.5%
Harassment	15.4%	6.4%
Repeated Misbehavior	7.4%	9.0%
Safety	9.6%	2.6%
Serious Injury	0.0%	0.0%
School Rules	2.2%	16.7%
Theft	2.9%	0.0%
Tobacco	0.0%	0.0%
Weapons	0.0%	0.0%

OSS Incidents by Category

OSS	2009-2010	2010-2011
# of Incidents	50	56
# of students	31	31
Avg./ student	1.6	1.8
Alcohol	4.0%	0.0%
Bullying	8.0%	15.6%
Disrespect	10.0%	10.9%
Drugs	0.0%	4.7%
Fighting	28.0%	37.5%
Harassment	16.0%	4.7%
Repeated Misbehavior	10.0%	1.6%
Safety	12.0%	9.4%
Serious Injury	4.0%	3.1%
School Rules	2.0%	1.6%
Theft	0.0%	1.6%
Tobacco	4.0%	0.0%
Weapons	2.0%	9.4%

2009-2010 Student Data

2009-2010 students w/discipline	#	%
Total involved in incidents	107	
Graduated	36	33.6%
Transferred Out	6	5.6%
Special Placement	7	6.5%
Currently attending (who have)	58	54.2%
... 0 incidents in 2010-2011	46	79.3%
... 1 incident in 2010-2011	8	13.8%
... 2+ incidents in 2010-2011	4	8.7%

2010-2011 Student Data

2010-2011 students w/discipline	#	%
Total involved in incidents	*87	
New to district	8	9.2%
No longer here	4	4.6%
In D97 last year	75	86.2%
...at D97 Middle Schools	54	72.0%
...at D97 Elementary Schools	21	28.0%

* One student was expelled from District 97 for violating school safety policies.

Summary

There has been an almost 30% decrease in the number of reported discipline incidents over the first half year compared to the 2009-2010 school year (137 vs. 187). However, there has been an increase in the proportion of reported incidents for which out-of-school suspension (OSS) was the result. Last year, about one quarter (25%) of the incidents resulted in OSS, but so far this year, they account for slightly more than 40%. There has been a slight decrease in the proportion of incidents attributed to African-American students (down to 62.9% from 71.1%).

In the first half of the 2009-2010 school year, the most common reasons for discipline incidents were:

In-School: Fighting (36.0%), Disrespect (20.6%), and Harassment (15.4%)

Out-of-School: Fighting (28.0%), Harassment (16.0%), and Safety (12.0%).

In the first half of this year, the most common reasons were:

In-School: Fighting (29.5%), Bullying (21.8%), and School Rules Violations (16.7%)

Out-of-School: Fighting (37.5%), Bullying (15.6%), and Disrespect (10.9%).

Of the students who were involved in discipline incidents during the 1st half of the 2009-2010 school year, more than three-fourths have not been involved in any incidents so far this school year.

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Dr. Victoria Sharts
Julian Middle School Principal

Thomas Sindelar
Brooks Middle School Principal

Harla Hutchinson
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