



# Proposed 2026 - 2027 Code of Conduct

## Study Session

Tassi Call

Associate Superintendent for Elementary Education

Matt Munger

Associate Superintendent for Secondary Education



# Reason for the Student Code of Conduct

A clear and specific Student Code of Conduct is an essential element in developing and maintaining a successful academic environment as well as ensuring schools are safe spaces for students, staff, and the public.

As the expectations for student achievement increase, a Student Code of Conduct becomes increasingly important as a central element in the creation of the safe and caring environment necessary for student success. To be effective, a Code must:

- Explain expectations for behavior so that all members of the school community can fully understand them
- Provide fair and consistent guidelines for consequences to be applied when behavioral incidents do occur





# Input on SY2026-27 Code of Conduct



ARS § 15-843: The Governing Board, in consultation with the teachers and parents of the school district, shall “prescribe rules for the discipline, suspension and expulsion of pupils.”



- Associate Superintendents
- District Administrators who work with student discipline
- Principals
- Assistant Principals
- Superintendent’s Advisory Councils
- Staff members who work with student discipline





# Code of Conduct

## Aggression and Hostility (Pg. 18 )

Prohibited Behavior	Consequences	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<b>Aggression and Hostility</b>		
<b>1A. Provocation</b> Use of any form of communication (verbal or written) or gestures, including exhibiting gang signs, that may cause others to fight or engage in other <u>hostilities</u> ; challenging someone to fight.	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension
<b>1B. Minor Aggressive Act</b> Inappropriate physical contact (non-sexual) which does not cause serious injury.	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension
<b>1C. Fighting</b> Mutual participation by two or more students in an incident involving physical violence, where there is no major injury.	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension Expulsion

### 1B. **Minor Aggressive Act**

Inappropriate physical contact (non-sexual) which does not cause serious injury.

School Level Actions  
Short-term Suspension

School Level Actions  
Short-term Suspension  
Long-term Suspension

Examples of **MINOR AGGRESSIVE ACT** include, but are not limited to, spitting, tripping, hitting, poking, pulling, or pushing.

A verbal confrontation alone does not constitute **FIGHTING**. Students should avoid fighting at all times. If provoked, the first response should be to walk away.

"Mutual participation" for **FIGHTING** may exist if physical violence continues longer than reasonably necessary.

Self-defense is NOT a defense if excessive force is used during an altercation to defend.

# Code of Conduct

## Assault (Pg. 19)

Prohibited Behavior	Consequences	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<b>Aggression and Hostility</b>		
<b>1D. Assault</b> Causing any physical injury to another person; making another person reasonably fearful of physical injury; knowingly touching another person with the intent to hurt, insult or provoke that person.  <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion
<b>1E. Aggravated Assault</b> Committing assault which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Causes serious physical injury to another; or</li> <li>Involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument; or</li> <li>Is inflicted upon someone 15 years or younger by someone 18 years old or older; or</li> <li>Is an assault of a police officer; or</li> <li>Is an assault of a school employee.</li> </ul> <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b>	School Level Actions Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion

Prohibited Behavior	Consequences	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<b>Aggression and Hostility</b>		
<b>1D. Assault</b> <del>Causing any physical injury to another person;</del> Making another person reasonably fearful of physical injury; <del>knowingly touching another person with the intent to hurt,</del> knowingly insulting another person with the intent to provoke that person.  <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion
<b>1E. Assault w/ Injury</b> Causing any physical injury to another person; <del>making another person reasonably fearful of physical injury;</del> knowingly touching another person with the intent to hurt, <del>insult or provoke that person.</del>  <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension	School Level Actions <del>Short-term Suspension</del> <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion
<b>1EF. Aggravated Assault</b> Committing assault which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument; or</li> <li>Is inflicted upon someone 15 years or younger by someone 18 years old or older; or</li> <li>Is an assault of a police officer; or</li> <li>Is an assault of a school employee.</li> </ul> <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b>	School Level Actions Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion
<b>1EG. Aggravated Assault w/ Serious Bodily Injury</b> Committing assault which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Causes serious physical injury to another; or</li> <li>Involves a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument; or</li> <li>Is inflicted upon someone 15 years or younger by someone 18 years old or older; or</li> <li>Is an assault of a police officer; or</li> <li>Is an assault of a school employee.</li> </ul> <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b>	School Level Actions Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion

Impact on State reporting and coding.



# Code of Conduct

## Annual Code of Conduct Review

### Arson (Pg. 24)

<u>Prohibited Behavior</u>	<u>Consequences</u>	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<b>Arson and Combustibles</b>		
<b>3A. Arson</b> Deliberately igniting or lighting an item on fire, or starting a fire: Damaging a structure or property by knowingly causing a fire or explosion.  <b>Must be Reported to Law Enforcement</b>	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion <b>(Mandatory)</b>	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion <b>(Mandatory)</b>

### Harassment (Pg. 25)

<u>Prohibited Behavior</u>	<u>Consequences</u>	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<b>Harassment, Threats, Bullying, and Intimidation</b>		
<b>5A. Nonsexual Harassment</b> Any form of communication or conduct, including "hate speech", that is directed at a specific person and that would cause a reasonable person to be seriously alarmed, annoyed, or harassed due to their race, color, religion/religious beliefs, creed, gender, identity, age, national origin, citizenship status, marital status, political beliefs/affiliation, disability, home language, family, social or cultural background.	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension Expulsion	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension Expulsion





# Code of Conduct



## Disruption (Pg. 29)



<u>Prohibited Behavior</u>	<u>Consequences</u>	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<b>Disruptions to the Academic Process</b>		
<b>7A. Disruption</b> Engaging in behavior which causes an interruption in a class, activity, or school <u>business</u> .  Any behavior that requires the involvement of / <u>notification to</u> law enforcement <u>personnel</u> .	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension



## Inappropriate Language or Gestures (Pg. 29)



<b>7D. Inappropriate Language or Gestures</b>  Verbal swearing, name-calling, making racial, ethnic, religious or gender slurs, exhibiting gang signs, or the use of words, <u>drawings</u> , or <u>images</u> in an offensive or demeaning <u>manner</u> .  Making gestures toward others intended to offend or annoy the other <u>person</u> .  Making gestures that communicate a hostile or sexual message.	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension	School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension
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# Code of Conduct

## Sexual Behaviors and Harassment (Pg. 32)

Prohibited Behavior	Consequences	
	1 <sup>st</sup> Incident	2 <sup>nd</sup> (or more) Incident
<p><b>Sexual Behaviors</b></p>		
<p><b>9A. Sexually Inappropriate Materials*</b></p> <p>Possession of materials containing sexually explicit depictions.</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension</p>
<p><b>9B. Inappropriate Physical Contact*</b></p> <p>An isolated incident of unwelcome contact of a sexual nature.</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension Long-term Suspension Expulsion</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension Expulsion</p>
<p><b>9C. Sexual Harassment*</b></p> <p>Unwelcome conduct or comment of a sexual nature toward another person associated with their gender/sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression which is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe; AND</li> <li>• Pervasive; AND</li> <li>• Objectively <u>offensive</u> so it interferes with another person's full participation in the educational process or any school program or activity.</li> </ul> <p>Sexual Assault, Dating Abuse/Violence and Domestic Abuse/Violence are considered Sexual Harassment.</p> <p>Comments and contact toward anyone due to their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression may be considered Sexual Harassment.</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension Expulsion</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion</p>
<p><b>9D. Sexual Harassment* With Bodily Contact</b></p> <p>Sexual Harassment (defined above) that includes unwanted physical contact of sexual or non-sexual body parts.</p> <p>Any bodily contact linked to dating abuse/violence or domestic abuse/violence.</p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion <b>(Mandatory)</b></p>	<p>School Level Actions Short-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Long-term Suspension <b>(Mandatory)</b> Expulsion <b>(Mandatory)</b></p>
<p><b>SEXUALLY INAPPROPRIATE MATERIALS</b> <u>includes</u>, but <u>is</u> not limited to, photographs, drawings, recordings, and written language.</p>		
<p><b>SEXUAL BEHAVIORS AND HARASSMENT</b> <u>requires</u> notifying the District's Title IX / EEO officer.</p>		



# Parent Handbook



Excessive absences may also affect a student's eligibility to participate in field trips, extracurricular activities, ~~and sports~~, and may result in loss of academic credit. In addition, absences can result in discipline and may be considered by a teacher in determining a student's grade or promoting a student; a student can fail a class or be retained in a grade level due to excessive absences.

Reflects the change in the District attendance policy and potential loss of credit. (Pg. 8)

All cell phones and other electronic devices (i.e. smart watches, smart glasses (META-enabled) must be turned off and placed in the student's backpack, purse, or locker (if available) while at school, with the exception of during lunch. Schools and teachers may also set additional rules and restrictions on the use of such devices.

Clarification on emerging devices that are covered by State law. (Pg. 10)

# Parent Handbook

Homeschooled/Empowerment Scholarship: A homeschooled student who was previously enrolled in a public, private, or charter school is ineligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year in which the student was enrolled in a school.

A student enrolled in an online charter school/district is not eligible to participate in interscholastic extracurricular and/or co-curricular activities.

Clarifying that private schooled students who accept an ESA are not eligible to participate in a District-funded program. (Pg. 15)

