

Executive Summary

Prepared for Board of Trustees Meeting November 10, 2009

Annual Discipline Report

Board Goal(s) In the pursuit of excellence, the district will:

- develop a culture where learning is our first priority.
- promote and nourish a safe learning and working environment which is supportive, cooperative, and ensures open communication.
- motivate and prepare students to embrace their full responsibilities as active citizens of their community, nation, and world.

Purpose of Update

This update is to inform the Board of Trustees of the information reported to the Texas Education Agency through PEIMS regarding disciplinary actions taken during the 2007-2008 school year. TEA requires reporting of every disciplinary action that removes a student from the regular classroom or educational placement for periods of one school day or more. Typically, this includes any action involving in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), or expulsion from school. There are also requirements for reporting specific types of behavior for analysis by the Safe and Drug Free Schools Division of TEA, which administers state and federal grant money. This data has been compared with the previous five years and will be the basis for future efforts to improve discipline within our schools.

Objectives

- Provide trustees with a broad picture of discipline patterns district-wide
- Establish baseline data for future planning and evaluation of campus and district discipline programs

Operational Impact

Included in this report is Exhibit A, Student Disciplinary History for 2005-2009, Exhibit B, a spread sheet including the percentage of time DISD students are removed from the regular instructional setting to a disciplinary instructional setting, and Exhibit C, a breakdown of the offenses (reason codes). The majority of offenses fall under the violation of the student code of conduct.

Results

Please see Exhibit B for the five year history of students placed in ISS, Suspension, DAEP or JJAEP. These actions are required for reporting to TEA through PEIMS because these actions require the students to miss instructional time, as well as for the purposes of meeting the criteria established by the TEA to designate a campus as “persistently dangerous”. No campuses came close to the criteria established by TEA to designate them as “persistently dangerous”. A campus must average three or more mandatory expulsions per year over three consecutive years per one thousand students. There were 0 mandatory expulsions in DISD for 2008-2009.

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Analysis

Each year, the Campus Leadership Teams for each campus must use the discipline reports from the previous year as one of the needs assessment for the campus. Each DISD campus will evaluate the discipline assignments for the campus to look for trends, determine staff development needs, etc. In addition, the District Leadership team will also establish goals by evaluating district data. Campuses continue to be charged with researching alternatives to placing students in discipline settings that takes them out of instructional time. Possible alternatives to ISS include extended school day tutorial sessions, Saturday school offerings, etc. In addition, campuses are evaluating the method in which ISS functions by including a core content teacher each class period to instruct these students in the content they may be missing during their discipline assignment.