

### **Student Behavior**

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that:

1. ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff;
2. maintain a positive, weapons-free and drug-free learning environment;
3. keep school property and the property of others secure;
4. address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and
5. teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

#### When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in prohibited student conduct, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

#### Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, or nicotine pouches.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, selling, or offering for sale, alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, selling, or offering for sale:
  - a. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*).

- b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
- d. Any prescription medication when not prescribed for the student by a physician licensed practitioner, when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions or without following *Board policy 7.270* and its implementing procedures including without limitation failing to have a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" on file, failing to keep medication in the original container, giving other students medication, or taking improper doses of medication. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*.
- e. Any non-prescription medication without following *Board policy 7.270* and its implementing procedures.
- f. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- g. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
- h. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

- 4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a knife, a "*weapon*" as that term is defined in the ***Weapons*** section of this policy, or a look-alike weapon, or violating the ***Weapons*** section of this policy.
- 5. Using or possessing an electronic mobile device including but not limited to a cellular phone or watch, video or audio recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), digital or mp3 player, laptop, netbook, iPad, tablet, or other similar electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs or video in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, eavesdrop (e.g.

surreptitiously record a conversation), or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, sexting, which for purposes of this Policy is the act of creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing sexually explicit messages, images, or videos electronically, through the use of a computer or electronic mobile device. Sexting also includes creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing *indecent visual depictions*, *non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images*, and *non-consensual dissemination of sexually explicit digitized depictions*, as defined in State law.

Students are allowed to possess and use electronic mobile devices in school, provided they do not cause a disruption, and are not used, seen or heard during instructional time unless:

- a. the supervising teacher grants permission;
  - b. use of the device is provided in a student's 504 plan or individualized education program (IEP); or
  - c. it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
  7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
  8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, using a writing service and/or emerging technologies such as generative artificial intelligence technology in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
  9. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
  10. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault.
  11. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7.185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
  12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, or relocating personal or school property or another person's personal property.
  13. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
  14. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
  15. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.

16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
17. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
19. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that, interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term "*possession*" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

#### Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures may include, without limitation, any of the following:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.

2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. Detention provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration may use this option as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board Policy 7.220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board Policy 7.200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended is prohibited from being on school grounds and at school activities during the period of the suspension.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed two calendar years in accordance with Board Policy 7.210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled is prohibited from being on school grounds and at school activities during the period of expulsion.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and/or expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension and/or expulsion. In addition to the above list of disciplinary measures, juvenile authorities or other law enforcement may be notified whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

Corporal punishment is prohibited in all circumstances. *Corporal punishment* is defined as a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain upon a student in response to the student's unacceptable behavior or inappropriate language, with an aim to halt an offense, prevent its recurrence, or set an example for others. It includes slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Neither isolated time out, time out, nor physical restraint shall be used to discipline or punish a student. These methods are only authorized for use as permitted in 105 ILCS 5/10-20.33, State Board of Education rules (23 Ill. Admin. Code 1.280, 1.285), and the District's procedure(s).

Weapons

A student who uses, possesses, controls, or transfers one of the following weapons at school, on school grounds, on a school bus, at any school-sponsored activity or event, or at any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for at least one (1) calendar year but not more than two (2) calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18, of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 921), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012 (720 ILCS 5/24-1);
2. Ammunition;
3. A knife with a blade of at least 3 inches, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, billy club, brass knuckles, other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, or any object listed in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1);
4. A look-alike firearm; or
5. Any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent or designee, and the Superintendent or designee's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Students should report suspected possession or use of such items to any counselor, teacher, or administrator.

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that the staff member:

1. observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision;
2. observes, or has reason to suspect that, any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident; or
3. observes a battery committed against any staff member or is subject to a battery.

“School grounds” includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1,000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Upon receiving a report of 1, above, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. In addition, upon receiving a report on any of the above 1-3, the Building Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee and any involved student’s parent/guardian.

Upon receiving a report on any of the above 1-3, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. The Superintendent or designee shall also report these incidents to the Ill. State Board of Education through its web-based School Incident Reporting System as they occur during the year and no later than July 31 for the preceding school year.

#### Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed educational employees, and any other persons (whether or not a licensed employee) providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Associate Building Principal, or Assistant Building Principal is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons.

#### Student Handbook

The Superintendent or designee, with input from the parent-teacher advisory committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District’s disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District’s student disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students’ parents/guardians within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student’s enrollment.

Incorporated

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Reviewed: March 2025  
Amended: April 16, 2025

by Reference: 7.190-AP4 (Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint)

LEGAL REF.: 20 U.S.C. §7971, Pro-Children Act of 2004.  
20 U.S.C. §7151 et seq., Gun Free Schools Act

105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-20.28, 5/10-20.36, 5/10-21.7, 5/10-21.10,  
5/10-22.6, 5/10-27.1A, 5/10-27.1B, 5/22-33, 5/22-100, 5/24-24, 5/26-12,  
5/27-23.7 and 5/31-3.

105 ILCS 110/3.10, Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health  
Education Act.

410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

410 ILCS 647/, Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.

430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

23 Ill. Admin. Code §§1.280, 1.285.

CROSS REF.: 2.150 (Committees), 2.240 (Board Policy Development), 5.230 (Maintaining  
Student Discipline), 6.110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure  
and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 7.70  
(Attendance and Truancy), 7.130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7.140  
(Search and Seizure), 7.150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7.160 (Student  
Appearance), 7.170 (Vandalism), 7.180 (Prevention and Response to Bullying,  
Intimidation, and Harassment), 7.185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7.200  
(Suspension Procedures), 7.210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7.220 (Bus Conduct),  
7.230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7.240 (Conduct Code for  
Participants in Co-Curricular Activities), 7.270 (Administering Medicines to  
Students), 7.310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary and Junior High  
Schools), 7.315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8.30 (Visitors to  
and Conduct on School Property)