

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV A

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025 Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Action Item Future Action Required: Yes If Yes, Month: August

Subject: 25-26 Student Code of Conduct Approval

Background Information:

The Student Code of Conduct is reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Trustees. In legislative years, updates are made to align with newly enacted state laws. The 2025–2026 version includes significant revisions due to legislative changes, primarily driven by the following bills:

- **HB 6:** Major reforms to student discipline procedures
- **HB 1481:** Prohibition of personal communication device use during the school day
- **SB 326:** Requirement to address antisemitism in student behavior policies
- **SB 569:** Mandates consideration of virtual/hybrid education as an alternative to expulsion

Key Updates Include:

- **In-School Suspension (ISS):**
No maximum cap on ISS days; however, administrators must review each case every 10 school days to assess continued appropriateness.
- **Personal Communication Devices:**
Use of personal devices during the instructional day is prohibited. Districts must establish disciplinary consequences and make exceptions for medical, IEP, or Section 504 needs.
- **Antisemitism:**
Added as a general conduct violation. The district must use the state-defined standard to determine if conduct is motivated by antisemitism.
- **Artificial Intelligence Use:**
Misuse of AI (e.g., for cheating or prohibited conduct) is now classified as academic dishonesty.
- **Mandatory Expulsion for Title 5 Felonies:**
Expulsion is now required for Title 5 felony offenses, even when committed off campus.
- **Assault of a School Employee:**
Assault against school personnel is now a mandatory expellable offense.
- **Virtual Expulsion Option:**
Districts now have the authority to establish virtual programs for students who are expelled.

Attached is the final version of the 2025–2026 Student Code of Conduct. The highlighted sections indicate our recommended optional items for your review.

Also attached are the dress and grooming guideline recommendations

Attached Supporting Documents:

Board Slides of Presentation

Annotated Version/Redline of Student Code of Conduct

Dress and Grooming 2025 - 2026

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

We recommend approval of the 25-26 Student Code of Conduct

Contact Person:

Alison Camp

