



**GOVERNING BOARD AGENDA ITEM
AMPHITHEATER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10**

DATE OF MEETING: April 10, 2012

TITLE: Review of Proposed Revisions to the 2012-2013 Student Code of Conduct

BACKGROUND: State law mandates that each school district Governing Board establish rules for student behavior, to include consequences deemed appropriate. The Student Code of Conduct is the mechanism through which the District communicates its expectations for student behavior and the consequences for violating those rules. A student's failure or refusal to comply with the rules of the district and/or his school will subject the student to disciplinary action.

An effective Code must explain expectations for behavior so that all members of the school community can fully understand them; it must also provide fair and consistent guidelines for consequences to be applied when behavioral incidents do occur to help ensure schools are safe places for students, staff, and the public.

The Code's 2012-2013 version has been drafted to be as conversational as possible. It is important to recognize, however, that any code of conduct must comply with certain legal mandates for public schools and must be very clear about expectations, to include precise definitions where required. In that regard, this Code contains definitions directed for use by the State of Arizona Department of Education.

Beginning in 2010-2011, the Code of Conduct was prepared in two formats - one for elementary schools and one for middle schools and high schools. The elementary code contains a more simplified section and graphics for younger readers. Two years later we continue that tradition as it was very well received by parents and educators.

One additional violation was added to this year's Code of Conduct based on student (mis)behaviors: Indecent Exposure or Public Sexual Indecency. The definition of drugs has also been expanded to reflect the use of synthetic marijuana.

RECOMMENDATION: This Board item is presented to permit the Board to study proposed revisions to the Code of Conduct for the 2012-2013 school year.

INITIATED BY:

Todd A. Jaeger, Associate to the Superintendent

Date: April 3, 2012

Vicki Balentine, Ph.D., Superintendent