

TO: Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Felicia Starks Turner, Director of Administrative Services

RE: Student Performance: Middle School Discipline Update

DATE: January 23, 2014

This report summarizes student discipline data for the District 97 middle schools over a four year period, including the first half of the current school year. The data shows positive trends regarding the overall number of suspensions as well as shifts in the ethnic distribution of the students suspended. Principals from the middle schools, Mr. Todd Fitzgerald and Mr. Mike Michowski will share their insight into these shifts and the multiple strategies and initiatives that have led to these shifts.

OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 97
Oak Park, Illinois

January 23, 2014

Student Performance: Middle School Discipline Update

Middle School Discipline Update

This report focuses on middle school discipline. In general, there are fewer major infractions occurring in the elementary schools. These infractions tend to center around the lunch/playground period and usually involved minor fighting or aggression. Elementary classroom infractions continue to center on disrespect or defiance. Because this pattern has been fairly constant over the years and discipline incidents have typically been minor in nature, elementary student discipline data will not be shared in this report.

Middle Schools

The middle school discipline numbers given below are generated through the incident management feature of PowerSchool. Since we have been using Power School for three and a half years, trend information is available for that time period. Meg Ross, Manager, Student Information Systems, has put together information about middle school discipline for this report. You will find charts below for both Out of School Suspensions (OSS) and In School Suspensions (ISS) organized by the type of infraction. Also included are tables with information about the type of suspension (OSS & ISS) and ethnicity.

The middle school principals will be in attendance at the January 28th Board meeting to talk about these numbers, and share their insights into what has led to some significant positive trends.

Summary

During the first half of the 2013-2014 school there has been a decline in both the number of suspensions and the number of students suspended as compared to the previous three years. Only 2% of the middle school student body has been involved in an incident that resulted in a suspension as opposed to 5% the three previous years. The decrease in the number of discipline incidents resulting in suspension over the first half the current school year as compared to the first half of the 2012-2013 school year is also significant (45 vs.106).

This year has also shown a decrease in students having multiple suspensions. This year 33 of the 39 students suspended were only suspended once. The average number of incidents per suspended student is 1.15 this year compared to 1.53 in 2010-2011.

There has been a slight shift in the percent of incidents for which out-of-school suspension (OSS) was the result. Last year, about 39% percent of the total suspensions were Out of School Suspensions, so far this year

31% of the suspensions have been Out of School (see Appendix A). There has also been a shift in types of behavior resulting in both in school and out of school suspensions, although Fighting/Aggression continues to be the primary reason for suspension.

In the first half of the 2012-2013 school year, the most common reasons for suspension were:

In-School: Fighting/Aggression (47.7%), Defiance/Disrespect & Theft/Forgery both (12.3%),

Out-of-School: Fighting/Aggression (51.2%), and Theft/Forgery (17.1%)

(See Appendices C and D)

In the first half of this school year, the most common reasons for suspension were:

In-School: Fighting/Aggression (38.7%), Harassment/Bullying and Skip Class/Truancy both (16.1%),

Out-of-School: Fighting/Aggression and Use/Possession of Tobacco both (21.4%), and

Abusive/Inappropriate Language Profanity (14.3%)

(See Appendices C and D)

There has been a significant decrease in the number of African-American students suspended over the first half the current school year as compared to the first half of the 2012-2013 school year (15 vs. 63). Although African-American students continue to be over-represented in the group of students suspended (38.5%) when compared to their representation in the overall enrollment (26.9%), this is a significant improvement over prior years. The percent of African American students who have been suspended has gone from 11.8% in 2012-2013 to only 3% in the first half of the current school year. In the first half of the 2012-2013 school year 72.4% of the students suspended were African American and in the first half of the current school year that percent has declined to 38.5% (See Appendix B).

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Felicia Starks Turner
Director of Administrative Services

Mr. Todd Fitzgerald
Julian Middle School Principal

Mr. Mike Michowski
Brooks Middle School Principal

Ms. Meg Ross
Student Information Systems Manager

Appendix A

Suspensions (In and Out of School) at the Middle Schools

School Year	Total					ISS		OSS	
	Enrollment	Suspensions	# of students	% of students	Avg./ Student	#	%	#	%
2010-11	1686	133	87	5%	1.53	78	58.6%	55	41.4%
2011-12	1733	131	93	5%	1.41	97	74.0%	34	26.0%
2012-13	1814	106	87	5%	1.22	65	61.3%	41	38.7%
2013-14	1830	45	39	2%	1.15	31	69%	14	31%

Appendix B Suspended Students (In and Out of School) by Enrollment and Ethnicity

All Students

School Year	Enrollment	Students Suspended	% Suspended	Students Not Suspended	% Not Suspended
2010-11	1686	87	5%	1599	95%
2011-12	1733	93	5%	1640	95%
2012-13	1826	87	5%	1739	95%
2013-14	1830	39	2%	1791	98%

African American Students

School Year	Enrollment	% of Total Enrollment	Students Suspended	% of Total AA Population Suspended	Students Not Suspended	% of Total AA Population Not Suspended	AA as % of All Students Suspended
2010-11	467	27.7%	55	11.8%	412	88.2%	63.2%
2011-12	482	27.8%	53	11.0%	429	89.0%	57.0%
2012-13	535	29.3%	63	11.8%	472	88.2%	72.4%
2013-14	493	26.9%	15	3.0%	478	97%	38.5%

White Students

School Year	Enrollment	% of Total Enrollment	Students Suspended	% of Total WH Population Suspended	Students Not Suspended	% of Total WH Population Not Suspended	WH as % of All Students Suspended
2010-11	936	55.5%	21	2.2%	915	97.8%	24.1%
2011-12	942	54.4%	26	2.8%	916	97.2%	27.9%
2012-13	968	53.0%	13	1.3%	955	98.7%	14.9%
2013-14	986	53.9%	15	1.5%	971	98.5%	38.5%

Other Students

School Year	Enrollment	% of Total Enrollment	Students Suspended	% of Total Other Population Suspended	Students Not Suspended	% of Total Other Population Not Suspended	Other as % of All Students Suspended
2010-11	283	16.8%	11	3.9%	272	96.1%	12.6%
2011-12	309	17.8%	14	4.5%	295	95.5%	15.0%
2012-13	323	17.7%	11	3.4%	312	96.6%	12.6%
2013-14	351	19.2%	9	2.6%	342	97.4%	23.1%

Appendix C

ISS Incidents by Category 1st half of each school year

In School Suspensions	2010-2011 #	2010-2011 %	2011-2012 #	2011-2012 %	2012-2013 #	2012-2013 %	2013-2014 #	2013-2014 %
# of Incidents	78		96		65		31	
Abusive Lang/ Profanity	--		3	3.1%	1	1.5%	2	6.5%
Bullying/ Harassment*	22	28.2%	17	17.7%	7	10.8%	5	16.1%
Defiance/ Disrespect*	11	14.1%	11	11.5%	8	12.3%	1	3.2%
Disruption	--		1	1.0%	6	9.2%	2	6.5%
Fighting/ Aggression*	23	29.5%	42	43.8%	31	47.7%	12	38.7%
Gang Affiliation/Display	--		0		0		0	
Lying/Cheating	--		3	3.1%	0		0	
Property Damage/Vandalism	--		1	1.0%	3	4.6%	0	
Tardy/Skip Class/ Truancy	--		11	11.5%	0		5	16.1%
Technology Violation	--		1	1.0%	0		0	
Theft/Forgery*	0		3	3.1%	8	12.3%	3	9.7%
Use/Possession of Alcohol	0		0		0		0	
Use/Possession of Combustibles	0		0		1	1.5%	0	
Use/Possession of Drugs	0		0		1	1.5%	0	
Use/Possession of Tobacco	0		0		0		0	
Use/Possession of Weapons	0		0		0		1	3.2%
Other	--		3	3.1%			0	
Repeated Misbehavior •	7	9.0%	--		--		--	
Safety •	2	2.6%	--		--		--	
Serious Injury •	0		--		--		--	
School Rules •	13	16.7%	--		--		--	

* Denotes change in category name in 2011-2012

-- denotes category not used that year

- Repeated Misbehavior, Safety, Serious Injury, and School Rules were not in use after the 2010-2011 school year.

Appendix D

OSS Incidents by Category – 1st half of each school year

Out of School Suspensions	2010-2011 #	2010-2011 %	2011-2012 #	2011-2012 %	2012-2013#	2012-2013%	2013-2014#	2013-2014%
# of Incidents	55		35		41		14	
Abusive Lang./ Profanity	--		1	2.9%	2	4.9%	2	14.3%
Bullying/ Harassment*	4	7.3%	9	25.7%	1	2.4%	1	7.1%
Defiance/ Disrespect*	7	12.7%	3	8.6%	1	2.4%	1	7.1%
Disruption	--	--	2	5.7%	2	4.9%	1	7.1%
Fighting/ Aggression*	24	43.6%	12	34.3%	21	51.2%	3	21.4%
Gang Affiliation/Display	--		1	2.9%	0		0	
Lying/Cheating	--				1	2.4%	0	
Property Damage/Vandalism	--				0		0	
Tardy/Skip Class/ Truancy	--				3	7.3%	0	
Technology Violation	--				0		0	
Theft/Forgery*	1	1.8%	1	2.9%	7	17.1%	0	
Use/Possession of Weapons	6	10.9%	3	8.6%	1	2.4%	1	7.1%
Use/Possession of Alcohol	0				0		0	
Use/Possession of Combustibles	--		2	5.7%	1	2.4%	1	7.1%
Use/Possession of Drugs	3	5.5%			1	2.4%	1	7.1%
Use/Possession of Tobacco	0				0		3	21.4%
Other	--		0		0			
Repeated Misbehavior •	1	1.8%	--		--		--	
Safety •	6	10.9%	--		--		--	
Serious Injury •	2	3.6%	--		--		--	
School Rules •	1	1.8%	--		--		--	

* Denotes change in category name in 2011-2012

-- Denotes category not used that year

- Repeated Misbehavior, Safety, Serious Injury, and School Rules were not in use after the 2010-2011 school year.