

Students

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE AND SAFETY

BP 5030 (a)

The School Board believes that all students have the right to a public education in a safe and positive environment that fosters the maximum opportunity for learning. The School Board seeks to ensure that students, regardless of ethnicity, race, disability, religious or cultural preference, gender identity, sexual orientation or socioeconomic background, do not disproportionately experience suspension, expulsion or other disciplinary actions. An effective school discipline and safety program is necessary to ensure an environment conducive to learning. The School Board shall adopt, and the Superintendent or designee shall implement and maintain, an effective, trauma-informed and culturally responsive school discipline and safety program. The discipline and safety program should reflect community and cultural values resulting in standards of school behavior and safety that are developed with the collaboration of students, parents, guardians, teachers, elders, school administrators, and advisory school boards in each community.

(cf. 1230 – Citizen Advisory Committees)

(cf. 1410 - Interagency Cooperation for Student and Staff Safety)

(cf. 4158 –Employee Security)

(cf. 5131 – Conduct)

(cf. 5131.1 – Bus Conduct)

(cf. 5131.4 – Campus Disturbances)

(cf. 5131.41 – Violent and Aggressive Conduct)

(cf. 5131.42 – Threats of Violence)

(cf. 5131.43 – Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying)

(cf. 5131.5 – Vandalism, Threats, and Graffiti)

(cf. 5131.6 – Alcohol and Other Drugs)

(cf. 5131.62 – Tobacco)

(cf. 5131.63 – Performance Enhancing Drugs)

(cf. 5131.7 – Weapons & Dangerous Instruments)

(cf. 5131.9 – Academic Honesty)

(cf. 5132 – Dress and Grooming)

(cf. 5136 – Gangs)

(cf. 5137 – Positive School Climate)

(cf. 5141.51- At-Risk Youth)

(cf. 5142.2 – School Safety Patrol)

(cf. 5142.3 – Restraint and Seclusion)

(cf. 5144 – Discipline)

(cf. 5144.1 – Suspension and Expulsion)

(cf. 5144.2 – Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Individuals with Exceptional Needs))

(cf. 5145.11 – Questioning and Apprehension)

(cf. 5145.12 – Search and Seizure)

(cf. 5145.5 – Nondiscrimination)

(cf. 5145.5 – Harassment)

(cf. 5145.7 – Sexual Harassment)

(cf. 5147 – Dropout prevention)

(cf. 6159- Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6164.2 – Guidance and Counseling Services)

(cf. 6164.4 – Child Find)

(cf. 6164.5 – Student Study Teams)

(cf. 6172 – Special Education)

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Providing young people with knowledge and skills to settle disputes peacefully is a critical component of an effective disciplinary and safety program. Students who possess skills in negotiation, mediation, and consensus decision making are able to explore peaceful solutions to conflict and to resolve these conflicts in a nonviolent manner. The district will work to build students self-regulation skills, incorporating preventative and restorative practices to minimize the need for discipline and maximize instructional time for every student. The district will also establish these practices and seek to address or reduce disproportionate treatment or use of punitive school discipline based on racial or economic disparities.

The Superintendent or designee shall implement and maintain a conflict resolution strategy for district students. The strategy will provide conflict resolution education and resources to students to learn skills in the nonviolent resolution and mediation of conflicts. Restorative or corrective practices place relationship building with students and families at the center. These can include conferences with students and their parents/guardians; use of student study teams or other intervention-related teams; enrollment in a program teaching social/emotional behavior, intensive and intentional relationship building with students and family, participation in a restorative justice program or restorative circles; and positive behavior support approaches.

The district recognizes that a key component of its school disciplinary and safety program involves appropriate staff response when student behavior impacts on the safety of that student or others. The district prohibits the use of physical restraint and seclusion except in emergency situations as outlined in law and policy. The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development or supports as necessary to assist staff to offer consistent classroom management skills, model skills for students, and implement effective relationship building and disciplinary techniques, eliminating unconscious bias. This includes establishing collaborative relationships with parents/guardians.

(cf. 5142.3 – Restraint and Seclusion)

Not less than once every three years, the district's discipline and safety program shall be reviewed and revised if appropriate. The review process shall make available the opportunity for collaborative input by students, parents, guardians, staff, and advisory school boards in each community. Policies reflecting standards of student behavior, including those identifying prohibited student conduct and penalties, should be reviewed to determine consistency with community standards, including the basic requirements for respect and honesty.

(cf. 9310 – Policy Manual)

(cf. 9311 – School Board Policies)

(cf. 9313 – Administrative Regulations)

The district will submit annual reports to the Department of Education and Early Development, as required by law. These reports will permit assessment of the district's School Discipline and Safety program.

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The School Board will review annually disciplinary action data to understand conduct and discipline of specific dis aggregated groups of students. The School Board and district administrators will periodically review research on effective practices to proactively create trauma informed environments and culturally responsive discipline practices. Results of the review will be used to determine how to incorporate new practices and strategies into district policies and practices.

The School Board desires to give all administrators, teachers, and other employees the authority, knowledge and skills they need to effectively implement the discipline and safety program of the district. Personnel should adhere to lines of primary responsibility and district adopted protocols so that appropriate decision-making may take place at various levels in accordance with School Board policy and administrative regulations. In fulfilling duties and responsibilities in student discipline and safety, all employees shall comply with School Board policies, administrative regulations, and local, state, and federal laws.

(cf. 2110 – Organization Chart/Lines of Responsibility)

(cf. 4158 – Employee Security)

(cf. 5144 – Discipline)

(cf. 4119.21 -- Code of Ethics)

(cf. 4119.3 – Duties of Personnel)

The School Board further desires to give all students, no matter their ethnicity, race, gender or gender identification, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status, the opportunity to learn in an environment in which they feel safe. Should any school be identified as persistently dangerous under state law, students attending that school will be provided the opportunity to transfer to the parent’s choice of one of two or more safe schools within the district. Informed parental choice will be facilitated by timely notice of the meaning of the persistently dangerous designation and the intervention steps the district plans to utilize to make the school safe. Additionally, any student who is the victim of a violent criminal offense that occurred on the grounds of the student’s school will be provided the opportunity to transfer, consistent with state law.

Legal Reference:

UNITED STATES CODE

20 U.S.C. §§ 1400, et seq. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. §§ 2361-2368 (P.L. 107-110)

ALASKA STATUTES

11.81.430 Justification, use of force, special relationships

11.81.900 Definitions

14.03.078 Report

14.03.160 Suspension or expulsion of students for possessing weapons

14.30.045 Grounds for suspension or denial of admission

14.30.180-.350 Education for Exceptional Children

14.33.120-.140 School disciplinary and safety program

14.33.210 Reporting of incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying

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ALASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

- 4 AAC 06.060 Suspension or denial of admission*
- 4 AAC 06.172 Reporting of school disciplinary and safety programs*
- 4 AAC 06.175 Reporting restraint and seclusion incidents.*
- 4 AAC 06.200-.270 Safe schools*
- 4 AAC 06.250 Reporting*
- 4 AAC 07.010-4 AAC 07.900 Student rights and responsibilities*
- 4 AAC 52.010-.990 Education for exceptional children*
- 20 AAC 10.020 Code of ethics and teaching standards*

Adopted AASB policy 9/2015
Reviewed 4/2018
Revised to AASB Update: 06/2019
Reviewed 10/2021
Revised 10/2021