

policy

BOARD OF EDUCATION
GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT
SCHOOL DISTRICT #304

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE

General Policy Statement

The Board of Education acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning and that an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment, which is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The Board believes that the best discipline is self-imposed and that students should learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and the consequences of their actions.

The Board shall require each student of this District to adhere to **the behavioral expectations and** the Code of Conduct promulgated by the administration and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. **The Board supports a progressive discipline approach and a code of conduct which is clear and readily available to students, staff, and parents.**

A parent-teacher **disciplinary** advisory committee **task force** on student discipline and school bus safety shall be established and maintained under the direction of the Superintendent to review, develop, and make recommendations to the Board regarding the provisions of the Student Discipline Code/ **and** Code of Conduct **(the Student Handbook available on the District website)** including school searches. **This task force shall meet at least annually and will include parent representatives and two Board Members, serving in a liaison capacity.** Such rules shall require that students:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially-acceptable behavior;
- B. respect the person and property of others;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;

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- E. obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

The School Board **delegates authority to the Superintendent and building administrators**, in consultation with a ~~parent-teacher~~ **disciplinary** advisory committee **task force**, ~~must~~ **to** develop provisions in the **Student Discipline Code and Code of Conduct** that address students who have demonstrated behaviors that put them at risk of aggressive behavior, including bullying. **In an effort to keep current with behavioral expectations, the Student Handbook and Code of Conduct will be reviewed and modified at least annually by the disciplinary advisory committee task force and presented to the Board of Education prior to the beginning of each school year.**

Other Violations of the Student Discipline Policy

Bullying

~~The Board of Education is committed to creating a supportive climate that encourages learning in an environment which is free from “bullying”. Bullying is an action or a pattern of conduct and behaviors toward other students that terrorize, intimidate, instigate fights or provokes retaliation. These behaviors can include communication by verbal, non verbal, or electronic means. Any student who is identified as demonstrating “bullying” behavior shall be referred to the building principal or designee. The principal or designee may notify the student’s parents or guardian of the referral and may attempt to schedule a conference to discuss the referral and to recommend such available intervention and/or disciplinary procedures as deemed reasonably appropriate.~~

The Superintendent shall promulgate administrative guidelines for student conduct **and Code of Conduct, as explained in the Student Handbook**, which carry out the purposes of this policy.

The Student Discipline Code **and Code of Conduct** shall designate sanctions, excluding corporal punishment, for the infractions of rules, **including consequences for repeated infractions.**

The Board shall attempt to provide, as resources permit, alternative programs and activities for disruptive students as a means to prevent or reduce discipline problems. In planning such programs, the Superintendent shall include procedures which ensure cooperation with those community agencies and organizations which can provide assistance to such students.

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A copy of the **Student Handbook and** Code of Conduct shall be provided to the parents or guardian of each student within fifteen (15) days after the start of the school term, or within fifteen (15) days after starting classes for a student who transfers into the District during the school term.

The Superintendent shall publish to all students, **parents, and staff** the rules of this District regarding student conduct, the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules, and the due process procedures that will be followed in administering **Student Discipline and** the Code of Conduct.

The Superintendent, principals, assistant principals, and deans of students may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct for a period not to exceed ten (10) school days. Suspensions are subject to review by the Board of Education upon parent/guardian request.

The Superintendent, principals, assistant principals, and deans shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to District administrative guidelines and the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Teachers and other employees of this Board having authority over students shall have the authority to take such means as may be necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of this Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.

Maintaining order on District vehicles shall be the responsibility of the driver on regular bus runs. All discipline issues shall be communicated to school principals for processing. When District vehicles are used for field trips and other District activities, however, the teacher, coach, or advisor shall be responsible for student discipline. If a student becomes a serious discipline problem on the vehicle, the Superintendent, principals, assistant principals and deans of students may suspend the transportation privileges of the student for up to ten (10) school days providing such suspension conforms with due process. The Board may suspend a student in excess of ten (10) days for safety reasons.

No student is to be detained after the close of the regular school day unless the student's parent has been contacted and informed that the student will be detained. No student shall be refused transportation services until the parent has been notified or other suitable transportation arrangements have been made. Notification to the parent is the responsibility of District personnel and should be made prior to the departure of school buses. If a parent cannot be contacted, the child should be detained on another day.

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Additional academic assignments shall not be used in a punitive manner. Academic grades will not be adjusted as a punitive reason unless the disciplinary information is directly related to academic activities (e.g. cheating on assignments or tests).

Other Violations of the Student Discipline Policy

Bullying

The Board of Education is committed to creating a supportive climate that encourages learning in an environment which is free from “bullying”. Bullying is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- A. placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s person or property;***
- B. causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student’s physical or mental health;***
- C. substantially interfering with the student’s academic performance;
or***
- D. substantially interfering with the student’s ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.***

Bullying, as defined herein, may take various forms, including but not limited to harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, physical or mental disability, military status, sexual orientation, gender-related identity or expression, unfavorable discharge from military service, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in the school district. Bullying will not be permitted or tolerated during any school-sponsored education program or activity; while in school, on school property, on school

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buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities; or through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.

105 ILCS 5/10-20.14(d)
105 ILCS 5/10-22.6
105 ILCS 5/24-24
105 ILCS 5/27-23.7

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