

Students

Discipline

The ~~Governing~~ Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and to preparing students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board believes that high expectations for student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent involvement can minimize the need for disciplinary measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student behavior. Staff shall use preventative measures and adopt alternative disciplinary measures that provide students with appropriate interventions and supports as a means for preventing and addressing student misbehavior.

The Superintendent or designee shall design a complement of effective, age appropriate strategies for maintaining a positive school climate and correcting student misbehavior at district schools. The strategies shall focus on providing students with the needed supports; communicating clear, appropriate, and consistent expectations and consequences for student conduct; and ensuring equity and continuous improvement in the implementation of district discipline policies and practices.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee's strategies shall reflect the Board's preference for the use of positive interventions and alternative disciplinary measures over exclusionary discipline measures as a means for correcting student misbehavior.

Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension, and expulsion, shall be imposed only when other means of correction have been documented to have failed.

School personnel and volunteers shall not allow any disciplinary action taken against a student to result in the denial or delay of a school meal.

Seclusion and behavioral restraint are prohibited as a means of discipline and shall not be used to correct student behavior except as permitted pursuant to Education Code 49005.4 and in accordance with district regulations.

The Superintendent or designee shall create a model discipline matrix that lists violations and the consequences for each as allowed by law.

The administrative staff at each school may develop disciplinary rules to meet the school's particular needs consistent with law, Board policy, and district regulations. The Board, at an open meeting, shall review the approved school discipline rules for consistency with Board policy and state law.

~~The Superintendent or designee shall create a model discipline matrix that lists violations, the interventions to be used, and, as necessary, the consequences for each as allowed by law.~~

At all times, the safety of students and staff and the maintenance of an orderly school environment shall be priorities in determining appropriate discipline. When misconduct occurs, staff shall attempt to identify the causes of the student's behavior and implement appropriate discipline. When choosing between different disciplinary strategies, staff shall consider the effect of each option on the student's health, well-being, and opportunity to learn.

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies. Routine discipline matters will be handled by school administration. School resource officers will only be called upon for threats to school safety and serious school-based criminal conduct that cannot be safely and appropriately handled by the school's internal disciplinary procedures.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as necessary to assist staff in developing the skills needed to effectively implement the disciplinary strategies adopted for district schools, including, but not limited to, consistent school and classroom management skills, effective accountability and positive intervention techniques, and development of strong, cooperative relationships with parents/guardians.

District goals for improving school climate, based on suspension and expulsion rates, surveys of students, staff, and parents/guardians regarding their sense of school safety, and other local measures, shall be included in the district's local control and accountability plan, as required by law.

At the beginning of each school year, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board regarding: 1) disciplinary strategies used in district schools in the immediately preceding school year and their effect on student learning; and 2) whether discipline data disaggregated by race, ethnicity, gender, and/or disability raises any concerns about different treatment of particular groups of students and any strategies utilized by the District to address the concerns.

Legal References:

Education Code

32280- ~~32288~~ **32289.5** School safety plans
35146 Closed sessions
35291 - **35291.5** **School discipline** rules
35291.5 -~~35291.7~~ School-adopted discipline rules
37223 Weekend classes
44807.5 Restriction from recess
48900-48926 Suspension and expulsion
48980-48985 Notification of parent/guardian
49000-49001 Prohibition of corporal punishment
49005-49006.4 **Seclusion and restraint**
49330-49335 Injurious objects
49550-49564.5 **Meals for needy students**
52060-52077 Local control and accountability

Civil Code

1714.1 Parental liability for child's misconduct

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

307 Participation in school activities until departure of bus

353 Detention after school

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20

1400-1482 **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 29

794 **Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504**

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

1751-1769j **School Lunch Program**

1773 **School Breakfast Program**

Management Resources:

CSBA Publications

The Case for Reducing Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions, Fact Sheet, April 2014

Recent Legislation on Discipline: AB 240, Fact Sheet, March 2015

Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011

Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014

Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity During the School Day, Fact Sheet, November 2009

State Board of Education Policies

California Department of Education Program Advisories

Classroom Management: A California Resource Guide for Teacher and Administrators of Elementary and Secondary Schools, 2000

U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights Publications
Resource on Confronting Racial Discrimination in Student Discipline
Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the
Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the
Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of
School Discipline, January 2014

Web Sites

CSBA:<http://www.csba.org>

California Department of Education: <http://www.cde.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Education: <http://www.ed.gov>

CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services:

<https://legalservices.csba.org/#https://legalservices.csba.org/>

Public Counsel: <http://www.fixschooldiscipline.org/#>

Policy 5144

Page 4

Policy

revised: 02/17/76

adopted: 05/11/67

revised: 01/06/81

revised: 07/21/87

revised: 06/02/98

revised: 09/21/04 (technical revision)

revised: 05/03/05 (technical revision)

revised: 02/07/12

revised: 01/12/16

revised: 05/16/17