

Student Conduct and Discipline

The Board expects student conduct to contribute to a productive learning climate. Students shall comply with the district's policies, administrative regulations, school and classroom written rules, pursue the prescribed course of study, submit to the lawful authority of district staff, and conduct themselves in an orderly manner at school during the school day or during district-sponsored activities.

Discipline in the district is based upon a philosophy designed to produce behavioral changes that will enable students to develop the self-discipline necessary to remain in school and to function successfully in their educational and social environments. The major objectives of the district discipline program are to teach the following fundamental concepts for living:

1. Understanding and respect for individual rights, dignity, and safety;
2. Understanding and respect for the law, Board policies, administrative regulations, and school rules;
3. Understanding of and respect for public and private property rights.

Careful attention shall be given to procedures and methods whereby fairness and consistency without bias in discipline shall be assured each student. The objectives of disciplining any student must be to help the student develop a positive attitude toward self-discipline, realize the responsibility of one's actions, and maintain a productive learning environment. All staff members have responsibility for consistency in establishing and maintaining an appropriate behavior atmosphere.

Age appropriate, and when possible research-based disciplinary procedures, shall be used by district personnel to correct behavioral problems, while supporting students' attendance to school and classes. Examples include, but are not limited to, reprimands, conferences, detention, and denial of participation in co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Titles and/or privileges available to or granted to students may be denied and/or revoked (e.g., valedictorian; salutatorian; study body, class, or club office positions; field trips, senior trip, prom).

Students may be suspended in cases of serious infractions or repeated failure to comply with Board policy, administrative regulation, school or classroom rules. Students may be expelled for any of the following circumstances:

1. When a student's conduct poses a threat to the health or safety of students or employees;
2. When other strategies to change the student's behavior have been ineffective, except that expulsion may not be used to address truancy; or
3. When required by law.

The district shall consider the age of the student and the student's past pattern of behavior prior to a suspension or expulsion of the student. The district will ensure careful consideration of the rights and needs of the individual concerned, as well as the best interests of other students and the school program as a whole.

The use of out-of-school suspension or expulsion for discipline of a student in the fifth grade or below, is limited to:

1. Nonaccidental conduct causing serious physical harm to a student or employee;
2. When a school administrator determines, based on the administrator's observation or upon a report from an employee, the student's conduct poses a threat to the health or safety of students or employees; or
3. When the suspension or expulsion is required by law.

When an out-of-school suspension is imposed on a student, the district shall take steps to prevent the recurrence of the behavior that led to the out-of-school suspension, and return the student to a classroom setting to minimize the disruption of the student's academic instruction.

Restitution may be sought for willful damage to district property. Additionally, a student's driving privileges, or the right to apply for driving privileges, may be suspended for violations of ORS 339.254 and 339.257, as provided by Board policy JHFDA-Suspension of Driving Privileges. A referral to law enforcement also may be made for violations of the law. Parental assistance shall be requested when persistent violations occur.

Students in violation of Board policy, administrative regulation, and/or code of conduct provisions shall be subject to discipline, suspension, or expulsion for misconduct, including but not limited to: theft; disruption of the school; damage or destruction of school property; damage or destruction of private property on school premises or during a school activity; assault or threats of harm; unauthorized use of weapons or dangerous instruments; unlawful use of drugs, narcotics, or alcoholic beverages; persistent failure to comply with rules or the lawful directions of teachers or school officials.

Students may face disciplinary consequences for:

1. Any off-campus behavior that would otherwise tend to disrupt the educational process or the operation of the school district;
2. Conduct that occurs off the school premises at school-related or supervised functions and at a school bus stop; or
3. Behavior that threatens or affects the safety or well-being of any student, parent, or school employee, when the person affected or threatened is traveling to or from a school or a school-related activity.

A student handbook, code of conduct, or other document shall be developed by district administration, in cooperation with staff, and will be made available and distributed to parents, students, and employees outlining student conduct expectations and possible disciplinary actions, including consequences for

disorderly conduct, as required by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLBA). In addition, each school in the district shall publish a student/parent handbook detailing additional rules specific to that school.

The district will record and report expulsion data for conduct violations as required by the Oregon Department of Education. Such data will be reported to the Board annually.

The district will provide the opportunity for all students in any district school identified as persistently dangerous or for any victim of a violent criminal offense occurring in or on the grounds of the school the student attends, to the extent feasible, the opportunity to transfer to a safe school within the district.

Parents, students, and employees shall be notified by handbook, code of conduct or other document of acceptable behavior, behavior subject to discipline and the procedures to address behavior and the consequences of that behavior. These procedures will include a system of consequences designed to correct student misconduct and promote acceptable behavior.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 243.650](#)
[ORS 332.061](#)
[ORS 332.072](#)
[ORS 332.107](#)

[ORS 339.115](#)
[ORS 339.240 to -339.280](#)
[ORS 659.850](#)

[OAR 581-021-0045](#)
[OAR 581-021-0050 to -0075](#)

Hazelwood Sch. District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Bethel Sch. Dist. v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).
Shorb v. Grotting and Powers Sch. Dist., Case No. 00CV-0255 (Coos County Circuit Ct.) (2000).
Ferguson v. Phoenix Talent Sch. Dist. #4, 172 Or. App. 389 (2001).
No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. § 7912 (2006).