

Multnomah Education Service District

Code: **JG**
Adopted: 10/07/80
Revised/Readopted: 9/20/94; 12/20/05; 5/21/13;
2/18/14; 10/20/15; 8/16/16
Orig. Code(s): 6430

Student Discipline**

Discipline in MESD shall be 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.

Students are subject to discipline for conduct while traveling to and from school, at the bus stop, at school-sponsored events and at other schools operated by the ESD, and while off campus whenever such conduct causes substantial and material disruption of the educational environment or the invasion of rights of others.

The major objectives of the MESD 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, MESD policies, procedures, rules and administrative regulations;
3. Understanding and respect for public and private property rights.

The Board seeks to ensure a climate which is appropriate for learning and which assures the safety and welfare of personnel and students. The superintendent will develop administrative regulations whereby those students who disrupt the educational setting or who endanger the safety of others will be offered corrective counseling and be subject to age appropriate, and research-based effective disciplinary sanctions to correct behavioral problems, while supporting a students' attendance to school and classes. Additionally student may be denied participation in co-curricular and extracurricular programs and activities. Title and/or privileges available or granted to students may be denied and/or revoked (e.g., including but not limited to, field trips, etc.). The ESD shall consider the age of the student and the student's past pattern of behavior prior to suspension or expulsion of the student.

A student whose conduct or current state is seriously detrimental to the MESD's best interests may be suspended. Students may be expelled for conduct that poses a threat to the health or safety of students or employees; when other strategies to change student behavior have been ineffective, except that expulsion may not be used to address truancy; or when required by law. The MESD shall consider the age of the student and the past pattern of the student's behavior prior to imposing the suspension or expulsion. MESD will ensure careful consideration of the age appropriateness, rights and needs of the individual concerned, as well as the best interests of other students and the MESD program as a whole in determining disciplinary consequences.

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 in the fifth grade or lower, the MESD 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.

Parents, students and employees shall be notified by handbook, code of conduct or other document of the procedures to address behavior and the consequences of that behavior.

Administrative regulations for excluding students from MESD-operated classrooms shall be developed cooperatively with the component districts.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 243.650](#)

[ORS 334.125\(1\)\(2\)\(7\)](#)

[ORS 339.240 to -339.280](#)

[ORS 659.850](#)

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

Tinker v. Des Moines Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).

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).

C.R. v. Eugene S.D. 4J, #U.S. District Court of OR (2013).

MESD Cross Reference:

JB - Equal Educational Opportunity

JFCA - Student Dress and Grooming**

JFCB - Care of School Property by Students**

JFCC - Student Conduct on Buses

JFCF -

Hazing/Harassment/Intimidation/Bullying/Menacing/Cyberbullying/Teen Dating Violence - Students

JFCJ - Weapons

JFG - Student Searches and Questioning**

JFH - Student Complaints

JGB - Detention of Students**

JGDA/JGEA - Discipline of Students with Disabilities**

JGE - Expulsion**