

Student Discipline

It is essential for schools in M.S.A.D. #3 to maintain a safe and orderly environment, which supports the District's vision, mission, and belief statements. Good discipline allows schools to discharge their primary responsibility to educate students and promote good citizenship. All students are expected to conduct themselves with respect for others and in accordance with Board policies, school rules, and applicable state and federal law. Disciplinary action may be taken with students whose conduct violates policies, rules, or laws, and/or directly interferes with the operations, order or general welfare of the school.

The Board expects the following principles to guide the development and implementation of school rules and disciplinary procedures:

- A. Discipline should emphasize positive reinforcement for appropriate behavior, as well as appropriate consequences for misbehavior. The focus should be on providing a school environment where students are engaged in constructive learning and interactions with others.
- B. Expectations for student behavior should be clearly communicated to school staff, students and parents.
- C. Consequences for misbehavior should be in proportion to the offense, fair and consistently enforced.
- D. Parents should be actively involved in the process of preventing and resolving disciplinary problems in school.

Physical force and corporal punishment shall not be used as disciplinary methods. State law provides that "a teacher or other person entrusted with the care or supervision of a person for special or limited purposes may not be held civilly liable for the use of a reasonable degree of force against the person who creates a disturbance if the teacher or other person reasonably believes it is necessary to (a) control the disturbing behavior; or (b) remove the person from the scene of the disturbance." Teachers are authorized to make and enforce rules for effective classroom management and to foster appropriate student behavior, subject to the direction and approved by the Principal or Assistant Principal.

School-wide rules shall be developed by the building principal with appropriate input from school staff, students and parents and subject to approval by the Superintendent and/or School Board. Principals or Assistant Principals shall provide for the suspension or other serious disciplinary action against students in accordance with Board policies, administrative procedures and Maine law.

Cross Reference: ACA Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action

ACAA Harassment and Sexual Harassment of Students
ACAA Regulation Student Discrimination and Harassment Complaint
Procedure
ACAD Hazing
ADC Tobacco Use and Possession
ADC Regulation Tobacco Uses and Possession
EBCC Bomb Threat
EGAD Copyright Compliance
EGAD Regulations Copyright Compliance Administrative Procedure
IGBAB Child Find
IJNDB Student Computer and Internet Use
IJNDB Regulation Student Computer and Internet Use Rules
JGF Time-Out Rooms and Therapeutic Restraint
JGF Regulation Therapeutic Restraint
JIC System-wide Student Code of Conduct
JICA Student Dress Code
JICB Care of School Property by Students
JICC Student Conduct on Buses
JICFB Bullying
JICH Drug and Alcohol Use by Students
JICIA Weapons, Violence and School Safety
JIH Questioning and Searches of Students
JIH Regulation Questioning and Searches of Students Administrative
Procedure
JKB Detention of Students
JKD Suspension of Students
JKD Regulation Administrative Procedure for Student Suspensions
JKE Expulsion of Students
JKE Regulation Expulsion of Students - Guidelines
JKF Disciplinary Removal of Students with Disabilities
JKF Regulation Administrative Procedure for Removal of Students with
Disabilities
KLG Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities
KLG Regulations Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities
Administrative Procedure

First Reading: March 8, 1999
Second Reading: April 5, 1999
Adopted: April 5, 1999