

DISCIPLINE

The Board of Trustees desires to provide a safe, supportive, and positive school environment conducive to student learning and to prepare 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, and parent involvement can minimize the need for discipline.

The Superintendent or designee shall approve, for each school, a complement of effective, age-appropriate strategies for correcting student behavior. Such strategies may include, but are not limited to, conferences with students and their parents/guardians; use of study, guidance, or other intervention-related teams; enrollment in a program teaching prosocial behavior or anger management; and participation in a restorative justice program. Staff shall use preventative measures and positive conflict resolution techniques whenever possible. Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as suspension and expulsion, shall be imposed only when required by law and when other means of correction have failed. (Education Code 48900.5)

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)
(cf. 5137 - Positive School Climate)
(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)
(cf. 5145.9 - Hate-Motivated Behavior)
(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)
(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

Board policies and administrative regulations shall outline acceptable student conduct and provide the basis for sound disciplinary practices.

(cf. 5131 - Conduct)
(cf. 5131.1 - Bus Conduct)
(cf. 5131.2 - Bullying)

The administrative staff at each school may develop disciplinary rules to meet the school's particular needs. However, the rules shall be consistent with law, Board policy, and district regulations. The Board may review, at an open meeting, the approved school discipline rules for consistency with Board policy and state law. (Education Code 35291.5)

(cf. 9320 - Meetings and Notices)

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 and opportunity to learn.

Persistently disruptive students may be assigned to alternative programs or removed from school in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

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(cf. 3515 - Campus Security)
(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)
(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)
(cf. 5136 - Gangs)
(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)
(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))
(cf. 6159.4 - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)
(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)
(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies.

(cf. 0410 - Nondiscrimination in District Programs and Activities)
(cf. 5145.3 - Nondiscrimination/Harassment)
(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as necessary to assist staff in developing consistent classroom management skills, implementing effective disciplinary techniques, and establishing cooperative relationships with parents/guardians.

(cf. 4131 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4231 - Staff Development)
(cf. 4331 - Staff Development)

At the beginning of every school year, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the Board regarding disciplinary strategies used in each school in the immediately preceding school year and their effect on student learning in the school.

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student. (Education Code 49001)

However, corporal punishment does not include any pain or discomfort suffered by a student as a result of his/her voluntary participation in an athletic or other recreational competition or activity. In addition, an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect himself/herself, students, staff, or other persons, to prevent damage to property, or to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects within the control of the student is not corporal punishment. (Education Code 49001)

(cf. 4158/4258/4358 - Employee Security)
(cf. 5131.7 - Weapons and Dangerous Instruments)
(cf. 6145.2 - Athletic Competition)

DISCIPLINE (continued)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32288 *School safety plans*

35146 *Closed sessions*

35291 *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*

49330-49335 *Injurious objects*

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*

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

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

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

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROGRAM ADVISORIES

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

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICIES

01-02 School Safety, Discipline, and Attendance, March 2001

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>

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Site-Level Rules

In developing site-level disciplinary rules, the principal or designee shall solicit the participation, views, and advice of one representative selected by each of the following groups: (Education Code 35291.5)

1. Parents/guardians
2. Teachers
3. School administrators
4. School security personnel, if any

(cf. 3515.3 - District Police/Security Department)

5. For junior high and high schools, students enrolled in the school

Each school shall file a copy of its rules with the Superintendent or designee.

Each school shall review its site-level discipline rules at least every four years.

It shall be the duty of each employee of the school to enforce the school rules on student discipline. (Education Code 35291)

Disciplinary Strategies

To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Disciplinary strategies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Discussion or conference between school staff and the student and his/her parents/guardians

(cf. 5020 - Parent Rights and Responsibilities)

(cf. 6020 - Parent Involvement)

2. Referral of the student to the school counselor or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling

(cf. 5138 - Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

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3. Convening of a study, guidance, resource panel, or other intervention-related team to assess the behavior and develop and implement an individual plan to address the behavior in partnership with the student and his/her parents/guardians

(cf. 6164.5 - Student Success Teams)

4. When applicable, referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psychoeducational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan

(cf. 6159 - Individualized Education Program)

(cf. 6164.6 - Identification and Education under Section 504)

5. Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management
6. Participation in a restorative justice program
7. A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the school day on campus
8. After-school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose students to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups

(cf. 5148.2 - Before/After School Programs)

9. Detention after school hours as provided in the section below entitled "Detention After School"
10. Community service as provided in the section below entitled "Community Service"
11. In accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, restriction or disqualification from participation in extracurricular activities

(cf. 6145 - Extracurricular/Cocurricular Activities)

12. Reassignment to an alternative educational environment

(cf. 6158 - Independent Study)

(cf. 6181 - Alternative Schools/Programs of Choice)

(cf. 6184 - Continuation Education)

(cf. 6185 - Community Day School)

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13. Suspension and expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation

(cf. 5144.1 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. 5144.2 - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process (Students with Disabilities))

Detention After School

Students may be detained for disciplinary reasons up to one hour after the close of the maximum school day. (5 CCR 353)

Students may be offered the choice of serving their detention on Saturday rather than after school.

(cf. 6176 - Weekend/Saturday Classes)

Community Service

As part of or instead of disciplinary action, the Board, Superintendent, principal, or principal's designee may, at his/her discretion, require a student to perform community service during nonschool hours on school grounds, or, with written permission of the student's parent/guardian, off school grounds. Such service may include, but is not limited to, community or school outdoor beautification, campus betterment, and teacher, peer, or youth assistance programs. (Education Code 48900.6)

This community service option is not available for a student who has been suspended, pending expulsion, pursuant to Education Code 48915. However, if the recommended expulsion is not implemented or the expulsion itself is suspended, then a student may be required to perform community service for the resulting suspension. (Education Code 48900.6)

Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians, in writing, about the availability of district rules related to discipline. (Education Code 35291, 48980)

(cf. 5145.6 - Parental Notifications)

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide written notice of the rules related to discipline to transfer students at the time of their enrollment in the district.