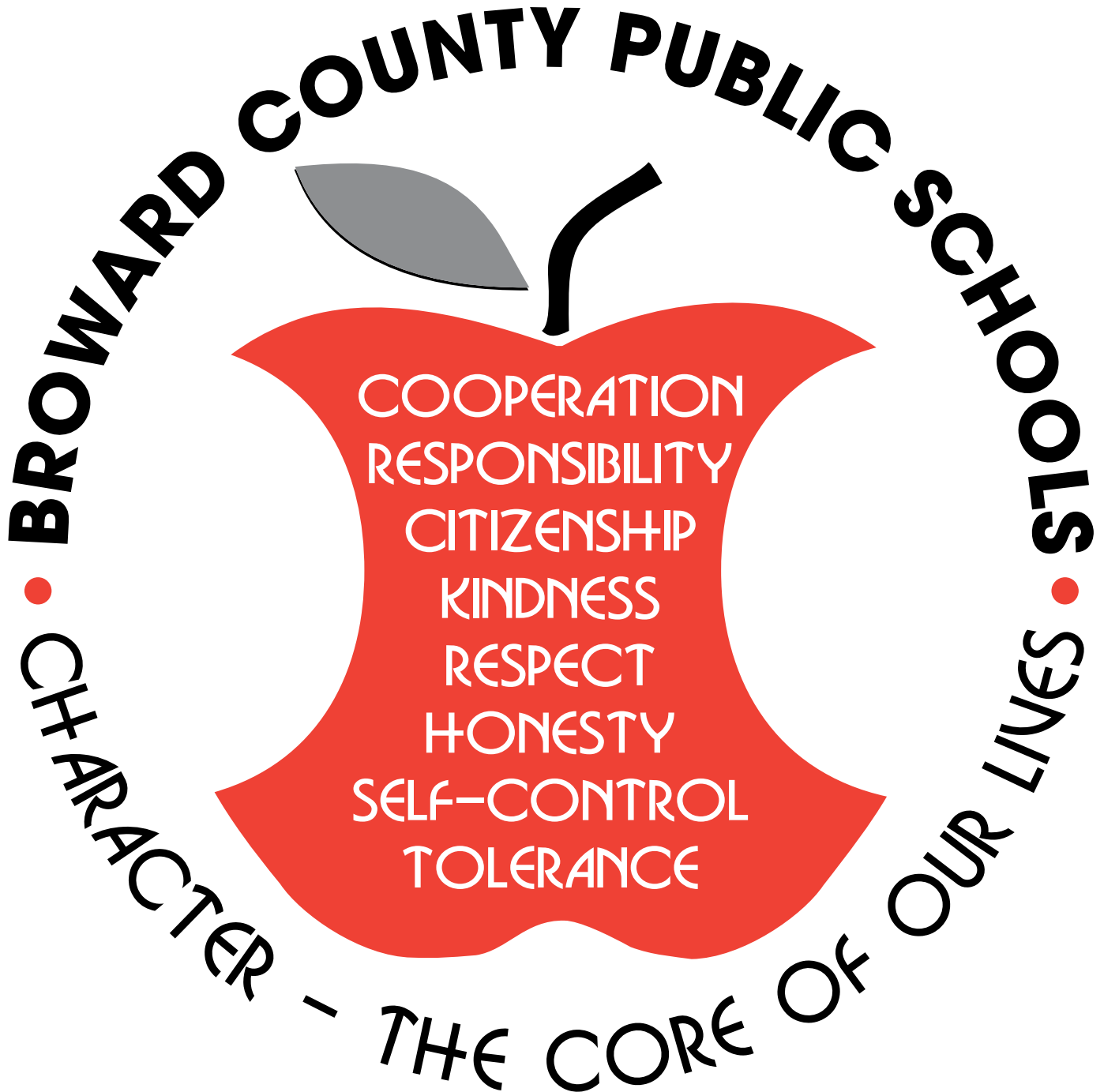




Broward County  
Public Schools

# CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT



2012 2013

# FALSE ADDRESS CAN LEAD TO ARREST

## IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PARENTS

### **SUBJECT: RESIDENCY**

Your child has the right to attend school in the boundary in which you, the parent, reside. It is the responsibility of the parent to provide proper and accurate documentation to the school to prove residency. **The school shall have the right to verify any information that is provided to them.**

### **Submission of Fraudulent Documentation**

In accordance with School Board Policy 5.1, any parent who submits fraudulent documentation to register a student gives cause for such student ***to be withdrawn immediately*** and referred for enrollment in the appropriate boundaried school.

### **False Information**

Florida Statute 837.06 states: “whoever knowingly makes a false statement in writing with intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her official duty **shall be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by law.**” Additionally, a person who knowingly makes a false declaration under penalties of perjury is **guilty of the crime of perjury by false written declaration, a felony of the third degree** under Florida Statute 92.525 and will be reported to the State’s Attorney’s office.

### **Renting Homestead Exemption Property**

Florida Statute 196.061 prohibits the rental of an entire dwelling previously claimed to be a homestead for tax purposes. Such action shall constitute abandonment of said dwelling for homestead exemption purposes and will be reported to the Broward Property Appraiser. **Homestead Exemption may be lost.**

## IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO

PLEASE REVIEW THIS BOOK  
WITH YOUR STUDENT SO  
THAT YOUR FAMILY IS  
AWARE OF WHAT IS AND  
IS NOT APPROPRIATE IN  
SCHOOL, DURING SCHOOL-  
SPONSORED ACTIVITIES,  
AND ON SCHOOL BUS  
TRANSPORTATION.

Since \*parent(s) can be held responsible for the actions of their children, it is important that they are aware of the rules and the consequences if their students break the rules. However, parents also have the right to advocate for their children. Therefore, the school system must have proof that every student and every parent has had a chance to read this Code of Student Conduct.

1. Sign and return the Acknowledgement Form on page 7 to the school within 3 days of receipt of the Code of Student Conduct 2012/2013 to confirm that you have received the book and you know the rules. Your signature does not mean that you agree or disagree with the rules, but rather that you have received a copy of these rules. A copy of the Acknowledgement Form is provided on page 11 of this booklet and should be retained for your records.
2. Choose your options for Media Release on page 8. You must select one option in Section A and another option in Section B. If you do not choose an option in either section, you will default to allow the school to photograph your child, videotape your child, or for your child to be interviewed by the news media or the School District for school and district purposes.
3. Parents of students in any grade level (or students 18 or over) may opt out of (prevent) having any or all directory information provided to certain outside agencies as well as for certain uses within their child's school or school district (for example, information published in yearbooks and school programs).

To request that directory information is not disclosed to specific entities, please complete the Opt Out Notification Form on page 9 and return it to your school.

4. For 11th and 12th grade students who do not wish to share Directory Information with armed services/military recruiters and/or postsecondary educational institutions, complete the opt-out section on page 10 and submit the form to the principal within 10 days from the date of enrollment.
5. The District's Discipline Matrix assigns specific consequences for violating the rules of the Code of Student Conduct and is part of the school's discipline plan. A copy is now located on pages 52-60 of this booklet. Please review the Discipline Matrix with your child. For more information on the matrix, talk with a school administrator.
6. Parents/guardians of dependent majority age students (18 years or older) have certain rights with respect to the student's education records per the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice on p. 33-34 of this book. Parents/guardians of a majority age student may voluntarily waive those parental rights to access the educational information of a dependent majority age student by completing the Declaration of Parental Intent Form. For more information, talk with a school administrator.

*\*Whenever the term "parent" is used, it also refers to either or both parents, any guardian of a student, any person in a parental relationship to a student, or any person exercising supervisory authority over a student in place of a parent.*



# THE SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

600 SOUTHEAST THIRD AVENUE • FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA 33301 • TEL 754-321-2600 • FAX 754-321-2701

ROBERT W. RUNCIE  
Superintendent of Schools

## SCHOOL BOARD

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August 2012

### Welcome to the New School Year!

Dear Students and Parents:

As your Superintendent, I am dedicated to working with the staff, parents, and community to meeting the educational needs of all students in a safe learning environment.

The *Code of Student Conduct*, Policy 5.8, provides specific information regarding the rules that all students are expected to adhere to, as well as consequences for violations of the policy set forth in this document. The *Code of Student Conduct* policy addresses expectations for all students in terms of consistent and timely attendance, respect for people and property, appropriate dress, technology usage, student publications, student activities, student records, and the right to appeal, including grievance procedures. Please review all information in the *Code of Student Conduct* policy carefully and together discuss the consequences of violating the rules.

For the second year, the *Code of Student Conduct*, Policy 5.8 will be distributed electronically through a variety of methods. Students and parents are required to sign a statement indicating that they have received their *Code of Student Conduct* booklet, are aware of the explanation of rules it provides in policy, and have selected their options for media and directory information release. Students and parents will have the opportunity to acknowledge receipt of the booklet electronically as well.

It is important for you to review, the *Code of Student Conduct*, Policy 5.8 because it incorporates changes from previous versions. A list of substantive changes can be found on page 6. You may view the *Code of Student Conduct* under School Board Policies on the District website ([www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com)). You may also view the *Code of Student Conduct* video on BECON television and on the District's website. Schools will provide parents and students with the program schedule.

I hope you experience a fulfilling, engaging, and safe school year as we strive to continue educating today's students for tomorrow's world.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Runcie  
Superintendent

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<b>Portuguese</b>	O Código de Conduta do Estudante encontra-se disponível em português, em sua escola.	



# SUMMARY OF CHANGES

- Establishing the Discipline Matrix as a component of Policy 5.8 – Student Code of Conduct.
- Clarifying language regarding student use of wireless communication devices.
- Added language to clarify possession or use of unauthorized prescription medication.
- Added language to clarify sale and/or transmittal of prescription medications.
- Clarifying language regarding off campus bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or discrimination.
- Definition of “sexting” revised to better align with Florida Statute.
- Aligning policy language with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act Notice (FERPA).
- Further delineate procedures for Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form.
- Outline appeals process for District and Charter School students.



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This booklet lists the District's rules in Policy 5.8 for students in Broward County Public Schools on pages 13-51. The rules apply to all activities occurring on school grounds, on other sites being used for school activities, and on any vehicles authorized to transport students. Your signature below does not indicate that you agree or disagree with the rules, **but rather that you have received a hard copy or electronic copy of these rules.** Return this form to school within 3 days of receipt of the Code booklet.

Parents need to be involved in the education of their children and have the responsibility to:

- Know that for school safety, schools are not required to provide supervision more than 30 minutes prior to the official starting time, nor are they required to provide supervision for more than 30 minutes after the official closing time (F.S. 1003.31 (2)).
- Know that for school safety, for students who ride a school bus, drivers are NOT permitted to let students off the bus except at the designated stop.
- Provide the school with the names of current emergency contact person(s) and/or telephone numbers on an annual basis and when there are changes.
- Notify the school of anything that may affect their child's ability to learn, to attend school regularly, or to take part in school activities.
- Be aware that medicine must be administered in accordance with SB Policy 6305, as may be amended, and that consequences for transmittal and/or sale or attempted sale of over-the-counter medications and possession and/or use of unauthorized medications can be found in SB Policy 5006. SB Policy 6305 outlines the rules regarding over-the-counter and prescription drugs and SB Policy 5006 outlines the consequences for violating those rules. You may view the complete health and suspension and/or expulsion policies, as well as all School Board policies, on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.
- Be aware that parents have rights with regard to the privacy and confidentiality of student records that are maintained by schools as defined in Section VIII of this booklet.
- Neither the School Board of Broward County nor its employees will be held liable for items that are prohibited and are lost, stolen, or confiscated; or for wireless communication devices or other personal technology that is lost, stolen, or confiscated.
- Be aware that confiscated items not claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to local charities.
- Recognize that they are responsible for their student's behavior on the way to and from school and at the bus stop. A safe and respectful learning environment is key to academic achievement; therefore any student's off campus actions that seriously affect a student's ability to learn or a staff member's ability to teach may be handled as a disciplinary infraction. For serious incidents that occur at bus stops and/or that are not on School Board property, parents should contact law enforcement directly. For bullying incidents (see bullying definition, pp. 21-22), school officials should be notified and will investigate and/or provide assistance and intervention, as the principal/designee deems appropriate, which may include the use of the School Resource Officer.
- Ensure their child demonstrates legal, ethical and responsible use of technology including networks, digital tools, the Internet, and software, as defined in Section IV of this booklet.
- Parents will continue to maintain responsibility for students who reach the age of majority, with exceptions as provided by statute.
- Continue to perform the role of parent when the child turns 18 years of age for all educational and discipline purposes.

Student Name (PRINT)

Student Signature

Parent Signature

Date

As a parent of a student in Broward County Public Schools, I understand that my student may be photographed, videotaped or interviewed by the news media or by the School District to promote Broward County Public Schools. I understand that pictures and interviews may be used on the District's Web site, in School District publications, external publications and electronic media, as indicated below.

**You Must Mark a Choice in Both Section A and Section B**



## Section A

Please Check Choice #1 or Choice #2  
(If no choice is marked, then it will default to Choice #1.)

1. ☐ I WILL permit my student to be photographed, filmed or interviewed by the news media or by the School District to promote Broward County Public Schools.
2. ☐ I WILL NOT permit my student to be photographed, filmed or interviewed by the news media or by the School District to promote Broward County Public Schools.

## Section B

Please Check Choice #1 or Choice #2  
(If no choice is marked, then it will default to Choice #1.)

1. ☐ I WILL permit my student to be photographed, videotaped or interviewed for school publications, such as school yearbooks, school newspapers, class pictures, or other school communications tools. I understand the District is required to release this information if requested by the media or other members of the public (i.e., public records requests).
2. ☐ I WILL NOT permit my student to be photographed, videotaped or interviewed for school publications, such as school yearbooks, school newspapers, class pictures, or other school communications tools. I understand my student will not be included in school publications, such as school yearbooks, school newspapers, class pictures or other school communications tools.

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Student Name (PRINT)

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Student Signature

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Date

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Parent Name (PRINT)

---

Parent Signature

---

Date



Directory information is personally identifiable information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The School Board of Broward County, Florida designates the following as "directory information": student's name, residential address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in school-sponsored activities and sports, height and weight of athletic team members, dates of school attendance, degrees received, awards received, and the name of the most recent previous school or program attended.



Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the School Board of Broward County, Florida may disclose in its discretion directory information of a student in any grade level, without prior consent to (a) colleges, universities or other educational institutions in which the student is enrolled, may seek enrollment or may be recruited, or (b) for school publications and other school communication tools (including, but not limited to, yearbooks, athletic programs, graduation programs, and theatrical programs). Parents/guardians of students in any grade level, or eligible students (those over the age of 18 or attending a postsecondary institution), may opt out of having any or all of the following types of directory information disclosed by indicating, with a check mark (✓), those items NOT TO BE DISCLOSED:

<input type="checkbox"/> Student's Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Residential Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Awards Received
<input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Number	<input type="checkbox"/> Date Of Birth	<input type="checkbox"/> Place Of Birth
<input type="checkbox"/> Major Field Of Study	<input type="checkbox"/> School-Sponsored Activities And Sports *	<input type="checkbox"/> Height and Weight Of Athletic Team Members
<input type="checkbox"/> Dates Of School Attendance	<input type="checkbox"/> Degrees Received	<input type="checkbox"/> Name Of The Most Recent School Or Program Attended

\* School-Sponsored Activities include the yearbook. Checking this item will prevent student information from appearing in the yearbook.

NOTE: This form must be completed and submitted to the principal on an annual basis regardless of whether any of the above items were checked or not, WITHIN 10 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL or from the date of enrollment if a student enrolls after the start of each school year.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student's Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB), the School Board of Broward County, Florida may disclose student name, address, and telephone number without prior consent to armed services/military institutions for recruitment purposes and to postsecondary educational institutions (colleges, universities, and institutions of higher education), when requested.

However, parents/guardians and eligible students (those over the age of 18) may opt out of having this information disclosed by indicating their choice below.

**Information disclosed to armed services/military recruiters:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL permit the limited directory information listed above to be disclosed to armed services/military recruiters.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL NOT permit the limited directory information listed above to be disclosed to armed services/military recruiters without my prior permission.

**Information disclosed to postsecondary institutions:**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL permit the limited directory information listed above to be disclosed to postsecondary institutions.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I WILL NOT permit the limited directory information listed above to be disclosed to postsecondary institutions without my prior permission.

**NOTE:** This form must be completed and submitted to the principal on an annual basis, regardless of the chosen option, **WITHIN 10 DAYS FROM THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL** or from the date of enrollment if a student enrolls after the start of each school year.

In addition to this form, all 11th and 12th grade students must also complete the FERPA Opt Out Notification Form/All Grades provided in the Code of Student Conduct.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student's Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian/Eligible Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This booklet lists the District's rules in Policy 5.8 for students in Broward County Public Schools on pages 13-51. The rules apply to all activities occurring on school grounds, on other sites being used for school activities, and on any vehicles authorized to transport students. Your signature below does not indicate that you agree or disagree with the rules, **but rather that you have received a hard copy or electronic copy of these rules.** Return this form to school within 3 days of receipt of the Code booklet.

Parents need to be involved in the education of their children and have the responsibility to:

- Know that for school safety, schools are not required to provide supervision more than 30 minutes prior to the official starting time, nor are they required to provide supervision for more than 30 minutes after the official closing time (F.S. 1003.31 (2)).
- Know that for school safety, for students who ride a school bus, drivers are NOT permitted to let students off the bus except at the designated stop.
- Provide the school with the names of current emergency contact person(s) and/or telephone numbers on an annual basis and when there are changes.
- Notify the school of anything that may affect their child's ability to learn, to attend school regularly, or to take part in school activities.
- Be aware that medicine must be administered in accordance with SB Policy 6305, as may be amended, and that consequences for transmittal and/or sale or attempted sale of over-the-counter medications and possession and/or use of unauthorized medications can be found in SB Policy 5006. SB Policy 6305 outlines the rules regarding over-the-counter and prescription drugs and SB Policy 5006 outlines the consequences for violating those rules. You may view the complete health and suspension and/or expulsion policies, as well as all School Board policies, on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.
- Be aware that parents have rights with regard to the privacy and confidentiality of student records that are maintained by schools as defined in Section VIII of this booklet.
- Neither the School Board of Broward County nor its employees will be held liable for items that are prohibited and are lost, stolen, or confiscated; or for wireless communication devices or other personal technology that is lost, stolen, or confiscated.
- Be aware that confiscated items not claimed by the end of the school year will be donated to local charities.
- Recognize that they are responsible for their student's behavior on the way to and from school and at the bus stop. A safe and respectful learning environment is key to academic achievement; therefore any student's off campus actions that seriously affect a student's ability to learn or a staff member's ability to teach may be handled as a disciplinary infraction. For serious incidents that occur at bus stops and/or that are not on School Board property, parents should contact law enforcement directly. For bullying incidents (see bullying definition, pp. 21-22), school officials should be notified and will investigate and/or provide assistance and intervention, as the principal/designee deems appropriate, which may include the use of the School Resource Officer.
- Ensure their child demonstrates legal, ethical and responsible use of technology including networks, digital tools, the Internet, and software, as defined in Section IV of this booklet.
- Parents will continue to maintain responsibility for students who reach the age of majority, with exceptions as provided by statute.
- Continue to perform the role of parent when the child turns 18 years of age for all educational and discipline purposes.

---

Student Name (PRINT)

---

Student Signature

---

Parent Signature

---

Date



## Need Help?

### 2-1-1 offers:

- Information about services
- Referrals
- Live help in any language, 24 hours a day
- Free, confidential, anonymous services
- Every call answered by a trained, degreed counselor
- Emotional support
- Crisis/suicide intervention

### Dial 2-1-1 for help with:

- Food/Shelter
- Job Assistance
- Healthcare
- Childcare
- Substance Abuse
- Special Needs
- Teen issues
- Domestic Violence
- Depression
- Disaster-related issues

## 2-1-1: Your First Call for Help!

### 2-1-1 Speciality Service Helplines

#### Homeless Helpline 954-563-HELP (4357)

Gateway to accessing homeless services in Broward County.

#### Special Needs Connections 2-1-1 or 954-537-0211

Helps parents, caregivers, and professionals who serve children with disabilities.  
[www.211specialneeds.org](http://www.211specialneeds.org)

#### TeenSpace 211 2-1-1 or 954-567-TEEN (8336)

Safe, anonymous helpline for youth. Help provided by live counselors, audio tapes at 954-390-0490 and an interactive website at [www.teenspace211.org](http://www.teenspace211.org)

#### Behavioral Health INFOLine 954-396-INFO (4636)

Frontdoor entry to child and adolescent mental health services or substance abuse.

#### Touchline for Seniors 954-390-0485

Free, daily reassurance calls to seniors age 60 or over who live alone.

#### TTY 954-390-0942



[www.211-broward.org](http://www.211-broward.org)

Dial 2-1-1 or (954) 537-0211

## **Policy 5.8: Code of Student Conduct**

Adopted as amended 3/20/12

### **PREFACE**

---

#### **Section A**

In order for teaching and learning to take place, a safe and secure school environment is essential. This policy provides specific information on the rules that all students are expected to adhere to, as well as consequences for violations of these rules. The rules apply to all activities occurring on the grounds or other sites being used for such activities and on any vehicle authorized to transport students to and from school, and other activities and various school functions. The School Board is not responsible for students, their conduct and activities, when attending non-school sponsored activities.

#### **Section B**

Florida law supports the active involvement of parents until the student graduates from school (F.S. 743.07, 1003.26, 1003.21). For purposes of all areas of this policy, it is expected that parents of students who have reached the age of majority, (i.e.18 years of age), will continue to perform the parental functions of a dependent student except under the following circumstances:

- (1) The student has been emancipated in compliance with Florida laws (F.S. 743.015) which provides the procedures for a court to remove the “disabilities of nonage” upon the filing of the appropriate papers and making the appropriate showing to the court.
- (2) When the student has no parent and this fact is verified by the school administrator (e.g., by communications with relatives, the Homeless Education Program, or the Florida Department of Children and Families, as is appropriate).

## SECTION I - ATTENDANCE

The parent of a child of compulsory school age is responsible for the child's daily school attendance (F.S. 1003.24). School staff, parents, students, and appropriate state agencies are expected to work together to ensure that laws are obeyed including, but not limited to, referral to the state designated agency for possible court action for extended absence or truancy (F.S. 1003.27). SB Policy 5.5 outlines the rules that apply to attendance and attendance procedures. You may view this policy and all School Board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>. Florida law supports the active involvement of parents until the student graduates from school (F.S. 743.07, 1003.26, 1003.21). This serves as notice to the parent, that when a student reaches the age of majority (18 years of age) the parent shall continue to perform the parental functions of a dependent student, including, but not limited to, provide reasons for absences and tardiness, permission slips for early release, field trips, other activities, as necessary, and to register or terminate (withdraw) school enrollment, until the student graduates.

**A student's presence in class is required to maximize the attainment of instructional objectives. For students who demonstrate patterns of non-attendance, interventions may be recommended.**

### Rights

Students have a right to know how the District defines and handles excused absences, unexcused absences, and tardiness. The District's Discipline Matrix that assigns specific consequences for misbehavior is part of the school's discipline plan. The Discipline Matrix, attached hereto as Appendix A, is hereby made part of this Code of Student Conduct. The Discipline Matrix sets forth the guidelines for assessing consequences for violations of School Board policies. School principals have the discretion to deviate from these guidelines by assessing an appropriate consequence other than stated in the Matrix if he or she determines in his or her sole discretion that there are mitigating or aggravating circumstances.

Students have a right to make-up work they missed during an excused absence or suspension.

Students who are married, are parents, or are expectant mothers have a right to remain in the regular school program or to attend a special program designed to meet their needs.

Students have a right to be protected from exposure to communicable diseases and infestations when in school.

### Rule

The School Board of Broward County, Florida stresses the importance that all students attend school regularly and remain in school until they graduate from high school. However, "a child who attains the age of 16 years [or age specified by state statute, whichever is older] during the school year is not subject to compulsory school attendance beyond the date upon which he or she attains that age if the child files a formal declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment with the District's School Board. The declaration must acknowledge that terminating school enrollment is likely to reduce earning potential and must be signed by the child and the child's parent. The school district must notify the child's parent of receipt of the child's declaration of intent to terminate school enrollment" (F.S. 1003.21). Declaration of Intent Forms are available at each school's administration office. Also be aware that students who drop out of school are not eligible to receive a driver's license or driver's permit or will have their license or permit revoked (p. 16).

### Responsibilities

Students have a responsibility to attend all classes.

Students have a responsibility to be on time for school and all classes.

Students have a responsibility to ask their parents to notify the school when they are absent.

Students have a responsibility to ask teachers for, and to complete, make-up assignments.

Students have a responsibility to get medical advice and/or counseling about how to adjust their schooling for marriage, pregnancy, and parenthood.

Students having or suspected of having a communicable disease are not allowed to attend school. In order to return to school, parents must obtain a doctor's note stating that the student is no longer contagious. Chickenpox is the only infectious disease that does not require a doctor's note.



## NON-ATTENDANCE AND EARLY SIGNS OF TRUANCY

**IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE IN SCHOOL EVERY DAY.** If your child is not in school, he or she MAY BE showing early signs of truancy through a pattern of non-attendance (SB Policy 5.5).

### WHAT IS A PATTERN OF NON-ATTENDANCE?

A student may be establishing a pattern of non-attendance when:

- 1) He or she has an accumulation of tardiness, early sign outs, and/or absences (excused and unexcused) that exceed 5 days in one marking period or 10 days in 2 marking periods; or
- 2) He or she is absent and unexcused 5 days in 30 calendar days or 10 days in 90 calendar days (F.S. 1003.26 (b)).

However, a student does establish a pattern of non-attendance when he or she has an accumulation of 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days, with or without a parent's knowledge (habitual truant) (F.S. 1003.01 (8)).

Parents and students may verify absences at any time at school or at home by contacting the school or by accessing electronic attendance records through Virtual Counselor.

If after an accumulation of absences as noted above, the principal and/or his designee determines that the reasons for time out of school are invalid, the principal/designee shall refer the student to the Collaborative Problem Solving Team to determine if early patterns of truancy are developing and provide appropriate interventions (F.S. 1003.26 (1)(b)), and/or the State Attorney's Office will be notified due to non-compliance with compulsory school attendance laws. However, if the principal and/or his designee determine that the reasons for the absences are valid and there are no early signs of truancy, the parent must provide a note (to be kept on file at the school) that provides the reasons for those absences. No further action will be taken.

### ABSENCE REPORTS

Absences may be reported by telephone or written note. The report must come from a parent and give the date(s) of the absence(s) and the reason for the absence(s). Parents **MUST** report these absences within two (2) days, although school principals **MAY** make exceptions in cases of need. School staff members have a legal right to ask for a written medical excuse.

**For High School Only**, absences for shared-time students must be reported to both schools.

**For Elementary Only**, the Broward Truancy Intervention Program (BTIP) is a joint partnership program of the Broward State Attorney's Office and the School Board of Broward County. The program is designed to prevent excessive absences through parent notification and accountability, school interventions, and daily monitoring of attendance. Parents are expected to communicate with school personnel regarding absences. Parents who do not comply are referred to the State Attorney's Office for failure to comply with F.S. 1003.27 which provides that a parent commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided by law, if the parent refuses or fails to have a child attend school regularly or refuses to participate in meetings concerning the child's truancy.

### EXCUSED ABSENCES

Students must be in school. However, when it is necessary to be out of school, absences may be excused for one of the reasons listed below. (Students on field trips, in internal in-school suspension, or attending alternative-to-suspension programs are not considered absent.) **For reasons 1-5, parents must report the absence the day before, the day of, or within 2 school days following the absence, or the absence will be considered unexcused.** Any absence is unexcused until the school receives a telephone call or a note to excuse the absence. **A reason for the absence must be provided and absences can only be excused for one of the eight School Board allowed reasons for absences.** Some situations will require written documentation from a private physician or public health unit. Excused absences include:

1. Illness. Students who expect to miss at least 15 consecutive school days due to illness, a medical condition, or for social/emotional reasons, or who would miss excessive days intermittently throughout the school year for the same reasons and could benefit from instruction, should obtain a copy of the Hospital/Homebound referral packet from the Hospital/Homebound contact person at their school.
2. Illness of an immediate family member.
3. Death in the family.
4. Religious holidays of the student's specific faith.

5. Required court appearance or subpoena by a law enforcement agency.
6. Special event. Examples of special events include important public functions, conferences, state/national competitions, as well as exceptional cases of family need. Students must get permission from the principal/designee at least five (5) days in advance.
7. Scheduled doctor or dentist appointments.
8. Students having or suspected of having a communicable disease or infestation that can be transmitted are to be excluded from school and are not allowed to return to school until they no longer present a health hazard (F.S. 1003.22). Examples of communicable diseases and infestations include, but are not limited to, fleas, head lice, ringworm, impetigo, and scabies. Students are allowed a maximum of five (5) days excused absence for each infestation of head lice.

## UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

It is the responsibility of the school principal to ensure that parents are contacted after each unexcused absence and to ensure that there are specific, appropriate consequences/interventions as a result of each unexcused absence. Parents may receive letters to inform them of their student's unexcused absences. These letters are generated from official attendance records.

1. Absences are excused only for the reasons previously listed. If absences are not excused, as defined in the previous section, the absences are considered unexcused. This does not apply to suspensions.
2. Students without a completed Certificate of Immunization indicating compliance with the current required schedule of immunizations will not be allowed to attend classes until the certificate is provided or a waiver is obtained. Students who receive the first shot in a series of immunizations but who are late obtaining subsequent shots will be given 3 days grace period after which they will be excluded from school and the resulting absences will be considered unexcused.
3. **For Secondary Only**, students 14-18 years of age who drop out of school or who have 15 unexcused absences within 90 calendar days and have a driver's license or driver's

permit will have their driving privileges suspended by the Division of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles or will not be issued a license or permit if they apply for one. Additional information about procedures and waivers is available from school administration or guidance offices.

## SUSPENSIONS

1. Students who have been assigned an out-of-school suspension and choose not to participate at the alternative-to-suspension site will be considered suspended.
2. Students who have been assigned an out-of-school suspension and do not attend all of the assigned days in the alternative-to-suspension site, those days that they do not attend will be considered suspended.

## MAKE-UP WORK

1. Make-up work for credit and grade is allowed for all excused absences.
2. Students have two (2) class days to make-up the work for each class day of an excused absence, **not including the day of return**. However, previously assigned work is due the day of return. These deadlines may be extended by the principal for extenuating circumstances.
3. **Middle School Students:** Make-up work for credit and grade is allowed for all absences due to the statutory promotion requirements to high school and the impact on course recovery.
4. **For Secondary Only**, when class work is not completed for a marking period due to excused absences, a grade of "I" may be given. Students must complete the work prior to the end of the next marking period and may earn a grade to replace the "I." In extenuating circumstances, the principal has the authority to extend the deadline. But in most cases, when these deadlines are not met, the "I" changes to an "F" and may cause a semester course failure. If and when the class is repeated and students earn a grade, the "I" or the "F" will not be counted in computing grade point averages.
5. **For Secondary Only**, when a semester exam is not completed, a grade of "I" is given. If students are absent on an exam day, the exam must be made up in order for credit to be given.



For each semester exam day students are absent, they will have two (2) days to make-up the exam, not including the day of return. These deadlines may be extended by the principal for extenuating circumstances.

6. **Suspensions:** Make-up work for credit and grade is allowed. It is the student's responsibility to get the missed work. All work is due on the day of return from the suspension. Student is NOT allowed to participate in any school activities during the suspension period. Students who are assigned in-school suspension are expected to be in school. These students must complete assignments and turn in work daily.

For students who are not offered the option to attend an alternative-to-suspension site, specific homework assignments will be provided (F.S. 1003.01). These absences will be considered suspensions.

## TARDINESS

Tardiness is disruptive to the learning environment and can have a negative impact on student achievement. Tardiness may also count toward establishing a pattern of non-attendance that may indicate early signs of truancy (p. 15). A pattern of non-attendance may be established by an accumulation of tardiness, absences (excused and unexcused), and early sign outs that exceed five (5) days in a marking period or ten (10) days in two (2) marking periods.

1. A tardy is excused for the same reasons that an absence is excused. Excused absences/tardiness include: illness, illness of an immediate family member, death in the family, religious holidays of the student's faith, required court appearance or subpoena by a law enforcement agency, special event, scheduled doctor or dentist appointments, or communicable disease. In extenuating circumstances, principals and/or their designee may also excuse a tardy for reasons other than those stated if documentation is provided. Parents must follow the same process to excuse a tardy as they do to excuse an absence.
2. Tardiness is defined as a student not being in the classroom when classes are scheduled to begin. A student who has an excused tardy (note or telephone call) should report directly to class after first checking in at the designated check-in area of the school.

3. Excessive tardiness will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is a pattern of non-attendance.
4. Tardiness to any class without documentation may be considered unexcused.

## EARLY SIGN OUTS

When students are signed out early on an ongoing basis, their academic performance may be negatively impacted. The school system strongly encourages parents to ensure their student is in school for the full school day every day. Signing out early may count toward establishing a pattern of non-attendance that may indicate early signs of truancy (p. 15). A pattern of non-attendance may be established by an accumulation of tardiness, absences (excused and unexcused), and early sign outs that exceeds five (5) days in a marking period or ten (10) days in two (2) marking periods.

1. All schools will establish procedures for early release that ensure that all students are treated consistently.
2. Students shall not be released within the final 30 minutes of the school day unless the principal/designee determines that it is an emergency or the student has a medical/dental appointment that cannot be reasonably scheduled at another time.
3. Excessive early sign outs will be addressed on a case-by-case basis to determine if there is a pattern of non-attendance.

# SECTION II – RESPECT FOR PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Character education is woven into the policies and procedures of Broward County Public Schools. Responsibility, Citizenship, Kindness, Respect, Honesty, Self-Control, Tolerance, and Cooperation are the foundation of this Code of Student Conduct.

## Rights

Students have the right to be treated with respect and honesty.

Students have the right to privacy.

Students have the right to a safe and orderly school.

## Responsibilities

Students have the responsibility to demonstrate the character education traits.

Students have the responsibility to treat others with respect and honesty.

Students have the responsibility to respect the rights of others.

Students have the responsibility to treat school property and the property of others with respect and to act in a way that does not interfere with the rights of others and is not harmful to the health and safety of others.

Students have the responsibility to provide information on any potentially dangerous situations to a staff member or through one of the anonymous tip lines provided by the school system (see the browardschools.com website).

## Rule

It is important for students to know their rights and responsibilities, which include obeying teachers and all other school employees, obeying each individual rule as defined by the school, and obeying bus drivers. Students are expected to honor their responsibilities and behave in ways that respect the rights of all. Consequences for unacceptable behaviors are found in the Discipline Matrix - see Appendix A.

## EXPECTED BEHAVIORS

- Treat others with respect and honesty
- Prepare for class by bringing paper, pencil, pen, books, and other needed supplies
- Complete all class work and homework
- Use class time properly
- Take home and return necessary forms
- Follow rules and regulations, including those for field trips
- Take care of and return all textbooks, library books, or other school-owned materials loaned to them
- Act responsibly on campus, on buses, on field trips, and at all school-sponsored events, regardless of location
- Wear properly fitted safety-rated helmets when riding a bicycle. Law enforcement officers may issue traffic citations and assess fines to riders under age 16 who do not comply (F.S. 316.2065)
- Secondary students must wear identification (ID) badges, if the school has the infrastructure and/or funding in place to require ID badges and the school's handbook specifies the rules and consequences for ID badges

## UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS LEADING TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION

### ATTENDANCE INCIDENTS

- Leaving class or school without permission
- Not attending school (truancy)
- Being tardy excessively
- Skipping class
- Out of assigned area

### RULE VIOLATION INCIDENTS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO)

- Violating the dress code
- Taking, possessing, displaying, distributing, and/or transmitting pictures using a camera telephone during the school day. Note: Use of a camera telephone may result in additional consequences (beyond confiscation) if used to take pictures that are pornographic or obscene or to break rules or laws
- Littering

## DISRUPTIVE INCIDENTS (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO)

- Disturbing the class or school by: being disrespectful or rude, refusing to obey any staff member, failing to follow classroom rules, running in the halls, throwing objects, possessing or igniting fireworks or firearms, fighting, gambling, or bringing distracting items to school. Examples of distracting items include, but are not limited to: skateboards, scooters, in-line skates/roller blades/heelies (sneakers with wheels), toys, playing cards, games, cigarette lighters, radios, audio recorders, or laser pointers/pens and other laser devices
- Sole possession of a wireless communication device is not a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. However, the possession of a wireless communication device which disrupts the educational process; the use of a wireless communication device during school hours; except as indicated below; the use of a wireless communication device on school buses in the absence of an emergency concerning safety-to-life issues (defined as a bus accident, mechanical breakdown which delays the normal route, and/or thirty (30) minutes or more in a route delay); and the possession or use of a cellular telephone (other than text messaging that does not disrupt the bus driver), would be a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, subjecting violators to progressive discipline.

[Note: School Board employees will not be held liable for wireless communication devices that are lost, stolen, or confiscated. Violations of this policy will result in confiscation, and the device will only be released to the parent. F.S. 1006.07(2)(e) requires school districts to notify parents that students who use wireless communication devices in the commission of a criminal act may face school disciplinary action and/or criminal penalties.]

- Students will not be subject to disciplinary action for the use of their cell phones or other personal technology used to report a potentially dangerous situation.
- Sole possession of personal technology is not a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Personal technology, should be turned off and kept out-of-sight during all instructional and class time activities. No cell phones or other personal technology may be used **for communication purposes** except under the direction of a teacher or administrator for instructional purposes. Using personal technology during all non-instructional or non-class time activities or during class time at the direction of a teacher will not be subject to discipline under this policy. Time before or

after school, passing time between classes, or during lunch is not considered instructional time for secondary students. For elementary students, instructional time is defined as time from the beginning bell until the end of the school day bell: non-instructional time is time prior to the first bell or the bell at the end of the school day. When personal technology is used, headphones, ear buds or other accessories must be used so that it can not be heard by others. Violations of this policy will result in confiscation, and the device will only be released to the parent. Progressive discipline will apply for repeated violations.

- Using scooters and inline skates/rollerblades/heelies in the school building
- Behaving inappropriately on field trips
- Possessing pornographic/obscene material or drug paraphernalia at school
- Misrepresenting oneself by cheating, copying, plagiarizing, counterfeiting, using false identification, or making false reports by posing as a parent to excuse absences or tardiness, sign a report card, etc.
- Unauthorized possession or use of school/county documents or forms
- Abusing another student or staff member including, but not limited to, verbal abuse, actual or threatened physical harm, extortion, destruction of personal property, intentionally making a false accusation, or **intentionally** providing misinformation
- Conducting, recruiting, or participating in youth gang activities on campus
- Using gang-related or cult-related gestures, language, and/or signs
- Unauthorized presence on school property
- For Secondary Students Only, parking a motorized vehicle on school grounds without an official permit or in unauthorized areas
- Endangering the lives of students and staff by setting off unfounded fire alarms
- Gambling

### **SUBSTANCE ABUSE/DRUG INCIDENTS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO)**

- Possessing or using drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco products, including unauthorized over-the-counter medications or unauthorized prescription medications
- Sale or attempted sale and/or transmittal of drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco products, including authorized or unauthorized over-the-counter medications or prescription medications

- Possessing drug paraphernalia

### **ACTS AGAINST PERSONS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO)**

- Bullying and/or harassment
- Cyberbullying
- Taking part in physical acts of a sexual nature, engaging in sexual harassment, or offending others by indecent exposure
- Using insulting, abusive, profane, racially or sexually offensive written or oral language, or making obscene remarks or gestures
- Harassing others because of age, color, gender, national origin, marital status, race, religion, or sexual orientation
- Harassing others because of a disability
- Harassing others because of ethnicity, socio-economic background, or linguistic differences
- Harassing others because of physical appearance or for any other reason
- Hazing
- Threatening, stalking, hitting, or hurting a teacher or other school personnel
- Intentionally making a false accusation that jeopardizes the professional reputation, employment, or certification of a teacher or other member of a school staff
- Committing a hate crime

See definitions section

### **PROPERTY INCIDENTS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO)**

- Damaging, destroying, or vandalizing school property
- Misusing technology
- Starting a fire (arson)
- Committing petty theft
- Breaking and entering/burglary

### **OTHER CRIMINAL INCIDENTS (INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO)**

- Having and/or hiding a weapon (see definitions of weapons)
- Threatening or hurting a person with a weapon
- Committing robbery
- Forcing someone to give money, possessions, or other things of value to another or oneself (extortion)
- Endangering the lives of students and staff by failing to report a threat of violence against others
- Making a bomb threat
- Sexual battery

- Kidnapping or abduction
- Homicide
- Committing other criminal acts

## DEFINITIONS

**Hazing** means any action or situation that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student regardless of: 1) the student's willingness to participate or; 2) that the conduct or activity was not sanctioned by the organization or; 3) that the activity was not done as a condition of membership to an organization (F.S. 1006.63).

**Hate crime** refers to an attack or offense against an individual or his/her property in which the individual is intentionally selected because of his/her race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability, or sexual orientation. The attack or offense may range from racial remarks or graffiti on school walls to threats of physical harm, intimidation, hate mail and hate e-mail, vandalism, arson, physical assault, etc. Students who believe they have been victims of a hate crime must immediately report the act to a teacher and/or school administrator. **The District's Special Investigative Unit conducts hate crime investigations.**

**National origin** pertains to, but is not limited to, an individual's or his/her ancestor's place of origin, as well as, physical, cultural, or linguistic characteristics.

**"Bullying"** means systematically and chronically inflicting physical hurt or psychological distress on one or more students or employees. It is further defined as unwanted purposeful written, verbal, nonverbal or physical behavior, including, but not limited to, any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, by an adult or student, that has the potential to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment or cause long term damage; cause discomfort or humiliation; or unreasonably interfere with the individual's school performance or participation, is carried out repeatedly and is often characterized by an imbalance of power. Bullying may involve, but is not limited to:

1. Unwanted teasing
2. Threatening
3. Intimidating
4. Stalking
5. Cyberbullying
6. Physical violence
7. Theft
8. Sexual, religious, or racial harassment
9. Public humiliation

10. Destruction of school or personal property
11. Social exclusion, including incitement and/or coercion
12. Rumor or spreading of falsehoods

**"Sexting"** the use of a computer, or any other device capable of electronic data transmission or distribution, to transmit or distribute to another, any photograph or video of any person, which depicts nudity as defined in F.S. 847.0141 (1) (a).

**"Harassment"** means any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture, use of technology, computer software, or written, verbal or physical conduct directed against a student or school employee that:

1. Places a student or school employee in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property;
2. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's educational performance, and employee's work performance, either's opportunities, or benefits;
3. Has the effect of substantially negatively impacting a student's or employee's emotional or mental well-being; or
4. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of a school.

**"Cyberstalking"** as defined in F.S. 784.048(d) means to engage in a course of conduct to communicate, or to cause to be communicated, words, images, or language by or through the use of electronic mail or electronic communication, directed at or about a specific person, causing substantial emotional distress to that person and serving no legitimate purpose.

**"Cyberbullying"** is defined as the willful and repeated harassment and intimidation of a person through the use of digital technologies, including, but not limited to, e-mail, blogs, texting on cell phones, social websites (e.g., MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, etc.), chat rooms, sexting, instant messaging, or video voyeurism.

Note: Per F.S. 810.145, voyeurism, which may be utilized in cyberbullying, in and of itself, is a criminal offense.

**“Bullying,” “Cyberbullying,” and/or “Harassment”** also encompasses:

1. Retaliation against a student or school employee by another student or school employee for asserting or alleging an act of bullying, harassment, or discrimination.
2. Retaliation also includes reporting a baseless act of bullying, harassment, or discrimination that is not made in good faith.
3. Perpetuation of conduct listed in the definition of bullying, harassment, and/or discrimination by an individual or group with intent to demean, dehumanize, embarrass, or cause emotional or physical harm to a student or school employee by:
  - a. Incitement or coercion;
  - b. Accessing or knowingly and willingly causing or providing access to data or computer software through a computer, computer system, or computer network within the scope of the district school system; or
  - c. Acting in a manner that has an effect substantially similar to the effect of bullying, harassment, or discrimination.

**“Bullying,” “Cyberbullying,” “Harassment,” and “Discrimination”** also encompass, but are not limited to, unwanted harm towards a student or employee in regard to their real or perceived: sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability (physical, mental, or educational), marital status, socioeconomic background, ancestry, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, linguistic preference, political beliefs, sexual orientation, social/family background or being viewed as different in its education programs or admissions to education programs and therefore prohibits bullying of any student or employee by any Board member, District employee, consultant, contractor, agent, parent, visitor, volunteer, student, or other person in the school or outside the school at school-sponsored activities or events, on school buses, and at training facilities or training programs sponsored by the District.

Disciplinary sanctions may be imposed when the alleged bullying, cyberbullying, harassment or discrimination takes place off campus provided that a nexus exists between the off campus conduct and conduct at a school or during a school sponsored event. This is determined on a case-by-case basis after reviewing the facts and circumstances unique to each situation.

If a sufficient nexus exists, appropriate discipline shall be issued in accordance with this policy and as provided for in current law.

“Nothing in this section shall be construed to abridge the rights of students or school board employees that are protected by the First Amendment” to the state or federal constitutions. (1006.147)(10).

Note: Suspected acts of persistent bullying encompassing “Discrimination” relating to any “Protected Category” by any student, Board member, District employee, consultant, contractor, agent, visitor, volunteer, student, or other person in the school or outside the school at school-sponsored activities or events, on school buses, and at training facilities or training programs sponsored by the District (refer to the School Board of Broward County (SBBC) Policy 4001.1, Nondiscrimination Policy Statement) shall be reported to the school based administration, but the complaint shall also be filed with, and investigated by, the EEO/Title IX Coordinator (754) 321-2150.

## **SCHOOL BUS BEHAVIOR**

Misconduct by any student while riding a school bus represents a serious threat to the safety of all occupants of the bus as well as other motorists, pedestrians, and members of the community. All rules that apply to the school grounds and school activities also apply to the school bus. Parents are responsible for their student’s behavior on the way to and from school and at the bus stop. While the District does not assume any liability for incidents that occur at a bus stop or en route to and from school, a student, parent, or witness may file a complaint following the same procedures for bullying against a student and the school will investigate and/or provide assistance and intervention as the principal/designee deems appropriate, which may include the use of the School Resource Officer. The principal/designee shall use all District Reporting Systems to log all reports and interventions.

## **Unacceptable Behaviors on a School Bus Leading to Disciplinary Action**

### **Level One Violations**

- Eating or drinking on the bus
- Failing to sit in the seat assigned by the bus operator



## Level One Consequences

First Offense	Verbal or written reprimand from the school principal or designee.
Second Offense	Parent Conference.
Third Offense	3-day suspension from school bus transportation.
Repeated Offenses	Repeated Level One unacceptable behaviors will be considered willful disobedience and/or open defiance of authority, resulting in suspension from the bus for the remainder of the school year and/or suspension and/or possible expulsion from school.

## Level Two Violations

- Disrupting, distracting, or disobeying a bus operator
- Failing to utilize required safety equipment on the bus
- Getting out of the seat while the bus is in motion
- Loud talking, inappropriate remarks, or spitting out of the bus window at other students, pedestrians, or motorists

## Level Two Consequences

First Offense	Verbal or written reprimand from the school principal or designee.
Second Offense	1-day to 10-days suspension from school bus transportation.
Repeated Offenses	Repeated Level Two unacceptable behaviors will be considered willful disobedience and/or open defiance of authority, resulting in suspension from the bus for the remainder of the school year and/or suspension and/or possible expulsion from school.

## Level Three Violations

- Placing head, arms, or legs outside the window of the bus
- Opening a school bus emergency door and/or exiting the bus when the bus is stopped, unless directed by the school bus operator in an emergency or during an evacuation drill
- Threats against the bus operator, bus attendant, or passengers on the bus
- Use of profanity
- Fighting on the bus
- Smoking on the bus
- Opening a school bus emergency exit door while the bus is in motion
- Throwing objects out of the window of the bus, which may or may not cause injury to persons or physical damage

- Throwing objects at a bus after leaving the bus, which may or may not cause injury to persons or physical damage
- Vandalism of seats or other bus equipment
- Boarding or attempting to board a bus route other than the student's assigned bus route or attempting to leave the school bus at other than the student's assigned bus stop without permission of the school principal or designee

## Level Three Consequences

First Offense	1-day to 10-days suspension from school bus transportation and/or school.
Second Offense	10-days suspension from school bus transportation and/or school.
Third Offense	Repeated Level Three unacceptable behaviors will be considered willful disobedience and/or open defiance of authority, resulting in suspension from the bus for the remainder of the school year and/or suspension and/or possible expulsion from school.

\*For IDEA-eligible ESE students, suspension and expulsions shall follow applicable laws, School Board policies, and provisions of the Individual Education Plan (IEP). Likewise, for students determined to be disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, suspension, expulsion, and other disciplinary measures shall follow applicable laws, School Board policies, and provisions of the Section 504 Accommodation Plan.

The principal or designee may review individual cases before assigning consequences.

## Discrimination and/or Harassment

**The School Board of Broward County, Florida, prohibits any policy or procedure which results in discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, marital status, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.**

If any \*\*student feels that he or she has been discriminated against or harassed, there are specific procedures to report such offenses. See pp. 49-51 for further information.

\*\*Whenever the word "student" appears, parents may become involved.

## FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION

Harassment is a form of discrimination. Harassment based on age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, linguistic differences, \*national origin, marital status, race, religion, or sexual orientation are violations of School Board policies, civil rights laws and statutes and should be addressed in a similar manner as detailed above.

\*National origin pertains to, but is not limited to, an individual's or his/her ancestor's place of origin, as well as physical, cultural, or linguistic characteristics.

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND SEXUAL VIOLATIONS

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination that violates the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and SB Policy 4001.1. Sexual violence is a physical act of aggression that includes a sexual act of sexual purpose. Sexual violence is also a violation of these same statutes and may also represent a criminal law violation. The school district prohibits any form of sexual harassment and sexual violence.

Sexual harassment and sexual violence are unlawful and will be grounds for disciplinary action. Students who believe they have been victims of sexual harassment or sexual violence should report the alleged act immediately to a teacher and/or school administrator. Because sexual harassment can take on many forms, the following are some examples of sexual harassment/violence.

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT/SEXUAL VIOLENCE DEFINED

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct, or communication of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Unwelcome statements of a sexual nature
- Unwelcome solicitation or pressure for sexual activity
- Intentional brushing against, patting, or pinching of another's body
- Suggestive or obscene letters, notes, invitations, derogatory comments, slurs, jokes, epithets, unwanted physical contact, and blocking movements
- Leering with sexual overtones, gestures, display of sexually suggestive objects, posters, or cartoons
- Indecent exposure

**NOTE: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)** SB Policy 4001.1, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) prohibits discrimination against any students with regard to access to programs, services, and activities on the basis of disability. If any student feels he or she has been discriminated against because of such disabilities or perception of a disability, there are specific procedures to report such offenses located in Section X.





SECTION III - DRESS CODE

Appropriate dress and grooming can help to create a positive learning environment. Other attire may be allowed for special school activities with approval of the school administration. Possible consequences for violating the dress code are found in the Discipline Matrix. **Changes in clothing trends will not override the dress code policy.**

Rights	Responsibilities
Students have a right to wear stylish clothes of their choice as long as those clothes are appropriate for school, are not dangerous to health and safety, and do not create a substantial and material disruption of the school.	Students have a responsibility to dress neatly appropriately, to be clean and well groomed.

Rule

All students are expected to honor their responsibilities and dress in a way that respects the rights of others.

1. Footwear must be worn at all times. For grades K-12, bedroom slippers are not allowed, and for elementary students, backless footwear is not allowed. Additionally, elementary students may not wear backless, sling-backs, or open-toed footwear. Socks may not be worn with backless shoes as a substitute back for backless shoes.
2. Special clothing, including footwear, may be required for safety reasons in certain programs or activities such as physical education, home economics, career/technical education, and science.
3. Revealing clothing or clothing that exposes the torso is not allowed. Examples include, but are not limited to: tank tops or spaghetti straps without overblouses (long shirts) or jackets; see-through garments; mini-skirts or mini-dresses; halters; backless dresses; jackets, shirts, or blouses tied at the midriff; and bare midriff outfits.
4. Clothing which is not worn appropriately, is not properly fastened, or has tears that are \*indecent will not be permitted. All trousers, including oversized or low-hanging trousers, must be worn and secured at waist level.
5. Garments including, but not limited to, pajamas, boxer shorts, bloomers, and bustiers, which were traditionally designed as undergarments, sleepwear, or beachwear, may not be worn as outer garments. Other clothing not allowed are: leggings without overblouses (long shirts) that reach mid-thigh, tights, bodysuits, or hosiery, including those with lace trim, and bicycle racing attire unless they are worn underneath dresses, skirts, or shorts of appropriate length. Appropriate T-shirts may be worn as outer garments.
6. Clothing that exposes the upper thigh is not allowed. Shorts that are not shorter than mid-thigh, including walking shorts, Bermuda shorts, and split skirts (culottes), are allowed. **For Pre-K through 3**, shorter shorts may be worn since these are standard attire for these ages.
7. Clothing, jewelry, buttons, haircuts, or other items or markings which are, \*suggestive, \*revealing, or \*indecent, associated with gangs or cults, encourage the use of drugs, alcohol, or violence, or support discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, linguistic differences, marital status, national origin, race, religion, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, physical appearance, or on any other basis are not allowed.

8. Head coverings including, but not limited to, caps and hats are not allowed unless they are necessary for safety in programs such as home economics, technology education, vocational education, and athletics or are worn for religious or medical reasons. Bandannas are not allowed. Hats, that do not violate #7 above, are allowed to be worn outdoors for physical education and recess as a safety precaution from sun damage.
9. Curlers and other hair grooming aids are not allowed. Personal grooming including, but not limited to, combing, brushing, and/or spraying hair, and applying cosmetics is allowed only in restrooms and/or designated areas.
10. Sunglasses may not be worn indoors unless a doctor's authorization is on file. Sunglasses are allowed to be worn outdoors for physical education and recess as a safety precaution from sun damage.
11. Any articles of clothing or jewelry that may cause injury including, but not limited to: items with spikes or sharp objects, wallet chains, and heavy link chains are not allowed.
12. Parents/guardians may request exemptions for their students from participation in the mandatory unified dress program, and shall be informed by the principal, in writing, of the following procedure in this regard:
  - a. Parents/guardians may request an application for exemption from the current school.
  - b. An application for exemption must be made annually.
  - c. The application for exemption must be completed in full and must be submitted to the school principal within the first ten (10) school days of a student's initial attendance.
  - d. The school principal (or a designated school administrator) shall communicate with the parents to discuss the unified dress policy and the nature of the request for the exemption. The purpose of this communication shall include:
    - (1) Ensuring that the parents/guardians understand the unified dress policy and its intent.
    - (2) Verifying the accuracy of the information on the application for an exemption.
  - e. The principal's response in this regard shall be transmitted to the parents/guardians in writing via the Application For Exemption form within ten (10) school days of submission.

Principal may only deny an application if the application is received on or after the 11th school day after enrollment.

13. Violators of the uniform policy (SB Policy 5309) shall be subject to the same penalties as violators of the dress code policy. For further clarification, see the District's Discipline Matrix that assigns specific consequences and is part of the attached school's discipline plan. You may view the complete uniform policy and all School Board policies on the Web at:  
<http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.

\*Indecent, suggestive, and revealing refer to exposure of private body parts and/or pictures or words with a sexual connotation.

SECTION IV - TECHNOLOGY USAGE

Computers, networks, and online communications and information systems such as the Internet and e-mail are becoming more commonplace in our classrooms and media centers every year. Digital Curriculum and Resources for students provided by SBBC are becoming commonplace via the Broward Enterprise Education Portal (BEEP) and accessible via the Internet. While these systems deliver a huge number of resources to our classrooms, their ability to serve students and teachers depends on the responsible and ethical use of every device and system.

Use of the school district’s technology and/or software for any unauthorized purpose is prohibited. This includes the unauthorized use of a computer/technology, including, but not limited to, accessing or breaking into restricted accounts or networks, creating, modifying or destroying files/records without permission, copying software, entering, distributing or printing unauthorized files/records, uploading to the Internet and/or sharing or distributing, offensive or inappropriate material, including video, and any other misuse or violation of the School Board of Broward County Technology-Acceptable Use Policy 5306, Section 6.

Rights

Students have a right to use appropriate online communications and information systems, the Internet and networks to increase their access to information and resources.

Students have a right to use appropriate online communications and information systems, the Internet and networks to obtain information, create intellectual products, collaborate and communicate for educational purposes.

Students have a right to use appropriate online communications and information systems, the Internet and networks without the fear that their products or their personal reputation will be violated, misrepresented, tampered with, destroyed, or stolen.

Responsibilities

Students have a responsibility to understand the difference between appropriate and unacceptable uses of online communications and information systems, the Internet and networks.

Students have a responsibility to use online communications and information systems, the Internet and networks in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner in accordance with their educational mission.

Students have a responsibility to recognize that the use of online communications and information systems, the Internet and networks is a privilege that can be withdrawn if they engage in unacceptable or illegal use of this resource.

Rule

Students are expected to use technology responsibly.

SB Policy 5306 defines the appropriate use of technology throughout the District. This policy describes how computers and networks must be used to support research and instructional activities in our classrooms, labs, and media centers. It also includes the use of the digital resources provided by SBBC and made available through the Broward Education Enterprise Portal (BEEP) for students. First, it promotes the use of technology as a powerful educational tool that is increasingly becoming a common part of every student’s day. Second, it provides those students who use these computers, and the networks to which they are connected, to act in accordance with prescribed rules and behavioral codes detailed in the policy. Several major provisions are noted below. The full text of SB Policy 5306 is available upon request from each school’s media center and on the School Board web site. You may view the complete technology policy and all School Board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.

## Major Policy Provisions:

- Use of computers, networks, the Internet and online communication and information systems must be related to students' educational activities
- Students must recognize that computers, networks, and equipment used to support online learning are shared devices and agree to use them in ways which will maintain their continued operability for all users
- No illegal activity may be conducted using the District's computers, networks, or online communication and information systems
- Students must not access or distribute offensive, obscene, inflammatory, or pornographic materials, or participate in "sexting" (see p. 21 for the definition)
- Students shall not intentionally spread, or attempt to spread computer viruses, vandalize data, infiltrate systems, or degrade/disrupt computer and/or network performance
- All users of computers, networks, and online communications and information systems shall adhere to laws regarding copyright

## FCAT Administration Policy

- It is unlawful for anyone knowingly and willfully to violate test security rules adopted by the State Board of Education for mandatory tests, such as FCAT, and knowingly and willfully fail to follow test administration directions specified in the test administration manuals (F.S. 1008.24)
- The FCAT Administration Manual states:  
"During FCAT testing, possession of any electronic device that reproduces, transmits, calculates, or records is cause for invalidation. "Possession" is defined as "within arm's reach," even if the electronic device is not visible. For example, students [shall] not have cellular phones in their pockets, clipped to their belts, at their desks, or anywhere they can be easily accessed during testing."
- Schools will direct students on the appropriate storage of electronic devices during testing
- It is strongly advised that you do not bring a cell phone or any other prohibited electronic device to any testing environment including but not limited to: Advanced Placement exams, PSAT or International Baccalaureate. If your electronic device makes any noise, or you are seen using it at any time – including breaks – you may be dismissed immediately, your scores may be canceled, and the device may be confiscated

*Illegally using school district technology and/or software to alter information is a felony. Misusing school district technology and/or software to transmit insulting, profane, racially or sexually offensive written language, or to make obscene remarks or gestures is unacceptable behavior that will lead to disciplinary action. Using technology including, but not limited to, computers, networks, online telecommunication systems, cellular telephones, and camera telephones to bully, extort, or libel another student or staff member is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct and will result in disciplinary action.*

## SECTION V - STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND ASSEMBLY

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School activities give students a chance to interact in positive ways. They can learn from each other how to work together harmoniously for common goals.

### Rights

Students have a right to take part in extracurricular activities, assemblies, and school-approved organizations without discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, linguistic differences, marital status, national origin, race, religion, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, physical appearance, or on any other basis.

Students have a right to take part in electing officers for student government.

Students have a right to consult with faculty advisors of school-approved clubs and groups.

Students have a right to seek office in student government and/or school-approved clubs and groups without discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, ethnicity, gender, linguistic differences, marital status, national origin, race, religion, socioeconomic background, sexual orientation, physical appearance, or on any other basis.

Students have a right to attend educational field trips or educational school-sponsored activities. However, non-educational field trips are a privilege. Students on field trips will have the same rights, as it pertains to make-up work, as students with excused absences.

### Rule

Many students take part in school-related activities that are extracurricular (take place outside of school hours), social, and interscholastic (engage in competition with other schools). Students must attend half of the classes on the day of an activity in which they want to take part unless they have been excused or exempted from class by the school administration in advance. Students are expected to have prior approval from the school administration for many activities related to school-approved and school-sponsored clubs and groups. They need approval to:

- Present a program or an assembly
- Collect funds. Items cannot be sold for personal gain such as food, jewelry, T-shirts, etc.
- Have a fundraising project on or off school grounds. Fundraising drives among students initiated by outside organizations such as the Salvation Army, United Way, Girl Scouts, etc., are not permitted in the schools
- Hold a demonstration

### Responsibilities

Students have a responsibility to keep their extracurricular activities from interfering with their academic work and to know and follow the rules for the activities they choose.

Students have a responsibility to ensure that their actions as members of school clubs and groups meet the standards that have been set by the school administration.

Students have a responsibility to educate themselves as to the qualities needed for leadership and choose officers who have those qualities.

Students who hold office have a responsibility to learn how to do their jobs, support the goals of the group that elected them, and to treat other members of the group fairly.

Students who participate in field trips, social and/or extra curricular activities that are school-approved and/or sponsored by school clubs or groups, have a responsibility to follow the rules set forth in the Code of Student Conduct, and where applicable, by the conferences, conventions or contests they may attend. (See SB Policy 6303.) You may view the complete field trip policy and all School Board policies on the Web: <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.

## FIELD TRIPS

Under special conditions, students may be denied participation in educational or non-educational field trips and educational school-sponsored activities (See SB Policy 6303).

## INTERSCHOLASTIC EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

**RULE** - Students must maintain satisfactory conduct in school and in the community to participate in interscholastic, extra curricular activities (See SB Policy 6201). This policy outlines the requirements to participate in these activities. You may view the complete student eligibility policy and all School Board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.

## MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY (Based on each 9-week marking period)

To participate in interscholastic extracurricular athletics, middle school students must meet the following requirements:

1. Students must have been regularly promoted and must maintain a quarterly grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale. Middle school students must pass 5 of 6, or 4 of 5 classes, depending on the schedule.
2. Middle school students may receive no more than one unsatisfactory "U" in conduct.
3. Failure to meet requirements makes the student/athlete ineligible for contests for the entire next nine weeks. This will take effect as of report card issue date.
4. Requirements are subject to the principal's appeal based on extreme circumstances. A copy of the principal's appeal must be filed with the County Athletic Department.

## HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY (Based on an 18-week semester regardless of class scheduling format, i.e., block and rotator)

To participate in interscholastic extracurricular athletics, high school students must meet the following requirements:

1. Students shall be progressing satisfactorily toward graduation as provided for in the District's approved pupil progression plan.
2. Students must have been regularly promoted from the 8th grade and must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or above on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent in the courses required for high school graduation. The cumulative grade point average and courses for graduation include all attempted credits in high school.
3. Student participation will be disallowed if the student is convicted of, or found to have committed, a felony or a delinquent act that would have been a felony if committed by an adult, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld.
4. Since representing a school either as an elected school officer or in extracurricular activities is both an honor and a privilege, only students meeting requirements established by their club, school, instructional services, and/or the Board shall be eligible to serve as representatives of their school.

## SECTION VI – STUDENT FREE SPEECH AND DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

The Constitution of the United States guarantees to its citizens the right to express ideas freely. A basic education should prepare students to do that in responsible ways.

### Rights

Students have a right to hear all sides of subjects about which people disagree.

Students have a right to give their opinions and points of view.

Students have a right to be free of censorship within a framework of mutual respect.

Students have a right to expect that materials listed under Section 1 below will not be allowed in the schools.

### Responsibilities

Students have a responsibility to be informed about all sides of controversial issues.

Students have a responsibility to listen politely to the viewpoints of others.

Students have a responsibility to use good judgment in developing student publications.

Students have a responsibility to use good judgment in selecting sources of information.

1. No printed or written materials or electronic or electro-magnetic media (hereafter “material”) may be distributed in the schools or on school grounds unless the principal or his/her designee has granted permission. A principal or designee may deny permission to distribute if the material can reasonably be interpreted as:
  - a. Obscene or pornographic;
  - b. Libelous or slanderous;
  - c. Likely to create a substantial disruption of, or material interference with, normal school activity or appropriate discipline in the operation of the school. Material will not be deemed to fall within this subsection only because students, faculty or staff may disagree with or find the contents of the material offensive;
  - d. Profane, vulgar, or lewd language;
  - e. Selling a commercial product or attempting to make a commercial profit from the sale of products. (For rules governing student/school fundraisers, refer to Section V. Student Activities and Assembly, pp. 29-30).
2. If material is denied distribution, the principal or designee must state to the student the specific reasons why such material was denied distribution.
3. If the material is denied distribution under Subsection (1)(c) as likely to cause a substantial disruption or material interference, the principal or designee must state to the student the specific reasons why a disruption is likely to occur as a result of the distribution and why such disruption would be substantial.
4. Notices of student non-curricular group meetings posted on general purpose student bulletin boards do not represent the viewpoint of the School Board and/or the administration. The Board is only offering physical space to such groups and does not promote, endorse, or otherwise sponsor such materials. Students are encouraged to be sensitive to other viewpoints and beliefs when posting such notices.
5. Students may not hand out petitions or surveys during class time unless curriculum-based.



6. A principal or designee must either approve or reject a request from a student to distribute materials within 24 hours of the request by the student. Any request to distribute materials not acted upon within 24 hours by the principal or designee is deemed approved.
  - a. For approved materials, the principal or designee may assign reasonable restrictions with regard to time, place, and manner of distribution.
  - b. For approved materials, the publication shall contain this phrase: "THE OPINIONS AND/OR ACTIVITIES ARE NOT ENDORSED OR SPONSORED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD."
7. Any student aggrieved by a decision made under this section has the right to appeal such decision as specified in Section X of this policy on p. 50.

## SECTION VII – SCHOOL SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS

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School sponsored publications are important components of school-based instructional programs. All school publications shall be consistent with the educational curriculum and the cultural values of the school community and appropriate for the school setting. In this regard, considerable latitude shall be provided to individual school leadership to plan and develop school publications.

The contents of all school publications must meet the district's journalism standards, which prohibit obscenity, profanity, libelous or slanderous material, vulgar or lewd language, or material that may cause substantial disruption of normal school activities. All school sponsored publications must include the following statement: The opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of [insert name of school] or Broward County Public Schools.

Approval for publication shall be based on:

1. Consistency with the educational curriculum of the School Board;
2. Reasonable school community standards and cultural values; and
3. The overall purpose of the publication in relation to the academic curriculum and school setting.

The principal or designee(s) shall retain final authority to approve the design and content of all school publications prior to publication or posting. Any advertisements in school-sponsored publications must adhere to School Board Policy 6300-Advertising. Publications include, but are not limited to, items such as school newspapers, yearbooks, student newspapers, and publications put out by the PTA, Booster Clubs, and the like.





SECTION VIII - PRIVACY OF STUDENT RECORDS

Rights

Students have the right to expect that schools will keep student records safe, secure, and private. Students who are eighteen (18) years or older have the right to see their own school records.

Students have a right to expect that others will respect personal belongings.

Responsibilities

Students have a responsibility to learn how the information in their school records is gathered, how it is used, and what it means.

Collection, Use and Disclosure of Social Security Numbers of Students:

Social Security numbers of students are requested as required by F.S. § 1008.386 for reporting to DOE, for the student’s permanent record, for assessment matching, for processing of student scholarships as necessary [42 U.S.C. § 1758, 7 C.F.R. 245.6 (a) et seq.]; and as otherwise authorized in writing by the parent or adult student. Students are not required to provide their social security number as a condition of enrollment or graduation. Social security numbers are kept confidential and are exempt from public inspection in accordance with Florida Statutes.

Rule

Students have the right to personal privacy and have the responsibility of respecting the rights of others.

- 1. Information about another person must be treated with respect and privacy.
- 2. Student aides may not be in areas where they would be able to read student records and files that are private.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Notice

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act is a federal law that protects the accuracy and privacy of students’ educational records.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), F.S. 1002.22, and SB Policy 5100.1 afford parents, guardians or eligible students (students over 18 years of age or attending a postsecondary institution) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. These rights are:

- (1) *The right to inspect and review a student’s education records within 30 days of the day the District receives a request for access.* Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements

for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. When the educational records contain information about more than one student, parents may review the information related only to his or her child.

- (2) *The right to request the amendment of a student’s education records.* Parents or eligible students may ask the Broward County School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student’s privacy rights. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify the reasons for the request.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing within 45 calendar days regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided when the parent or eligible student is notified of the right to a hearing.

- (3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. FERPA permits disclosure without consent in many situations, including, to a school official<sup>1</sup> with a legitimate educational interest<sup>2</sup>, pursuant to a court order or a subpoena, and if disclosure is made in response to a court order or subpoena, you will be notified, except where the law prohibits said notification. In addition, FERPA permits several other types of nonconsensual disclosures, including to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, and governmental agencies.

"Directory Information" is personally identifiable information that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The School Board of Broward County designates the following as "directory information": student's name, residential address, telephone number, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in school-sponsored activities and sports, height and weight of athletic team members, dates of school attendance, degrees and awards received, and the name of the most recent previous school or program attended. The School Board reserves the right to release Directory Information to (a) colleges, universities or other educational institutions in which the student is enrolled, may seek enrollment or may be recruited, or (b) for

school publications and other school communication tools (including, but not limited to, yearbooks, athletic programs, graduation programs, and theatrical programs).

Parents/guardians of students in any grade level (or students age 18 or students attending postsecondary institutions) may opt out of (refuse to permit) the release of any or all of the above Directory Information. On the FERPA Opt Out Form provided in this Code of Student Conduct, parents/guardians or eligible student must indicate the types of Directory Information they do not want disclosed. The FERPA Opt Out Form must be submitted to the school principal annually.

The School Board of Broward County may also release student name, address, and telephone number of 11th and 12th grade students to the armed services, military recruiters, and/or postsecondary institutions. Parents/guardians of students or eligible students in 11th and 12th grade may opt out of having Directory Information provided to the armed services, military recruiters, and/or postsecondary institutions. On the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Opt Out Form provided in this Code of Student Conduct, parents/guardians must indicate the categories they wish not be disclosed. The NCLB Opt Out Form must be submitted to the school principal annually.

- (4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is **Family Policy Compliance Office • U. S. Department of Education • 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. • Washington, DC 20202-4605.**

If you wish to discuss and try to resolve any FERPA concerns before contacting the Family Policy Compliance Office, you may contact the SBBC Privacy Officer at 754-321-1914.

*1 School official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health and medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special function that would normally be performed by SBBC personnel (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); a clerical or paraprofessional staff member assisting another school official in performing his or her professional duties.*

*2 Legitimate educational interest exists when a school official needs to review an educational record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.*

*For additional information refer to SB Policy 5100.1. This policy outlines the privacy rights of parents and students with respect to students' educational records. You may view the complete student records policy and all School Board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.*

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF  
BROWARD COUNTY'S  
NOTICE OF PRIVACY  
PRACTICES RELATED  
TO STUDENTS & FAMILY  
MEDICAL/MENTAL  
HEALTH RECORDS  
PROTECTED BY HIPAA

This notice describes  
how protected health  
information about you and/  
or your child may be used  
and disclosed and how  
you can get access to this  
information.

## **HIPAA NOTICE**

Effective Date of Notice: 3/20/12

### **The School Board of Broward County (SBBC) Duties Under HIPAA**

All medical and health records are protected by Florida Statute, FERPA or HIPAA depending on who the health care provider is who created the records and the age of the student. Medical records of a student received from health care providers who are not acting on behalf of the School District are protected by the HIPAA. This HIPAA notice pertains only to the information that is protected by HIPAA.

HIPAA, a Federal law, requires entities covered by this law, including school districts in some limited situations, to maintain the privacy of all mental and physical health records. These records are referred to as “protected health information” (PHI).

### **HOW THE SCHOOL DISTRICT USES AND SHARES YOUR AND YOUR CHILD'S PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

PHI includes demographic and medical information about the past, present, or future physical or mental health of an individual. Demographic information may include your and your child's name, address, telephone number, social security number, and any other means of identifying you and/or your child as a specific person.

PHI is information the school district has received from outside health care providers, such as a report from your child's doctor.

Your or your child's PHI may be used or shared by the school district for purposes of medical and/or mental health treatment and/or payment for services. Health care professionals may use this information in the clinics, schools, and/or hospitals to take care of you or your child.

It is important for you to be aware that this law allows the school district to share your and your child's PHI without your consent under the following circumstances:

- With another health care provider for purposes of your or your child's treatment;
- With insurance companies, Medicaid, or local, state, or federal agencies to pay for the services provided to you or your child;
- Reporting abuse of children, adults, or disabled persons;
- Investigations related to a missing child;
- Internal investigations and audits by the school district or any grant funding body;
- Investigations and audits by the State's Inspector General, Department of Education, and Auditor General;
- Public health purposes including vital statistics, disease reporting, and regulation of health professionals;
- Medical examiner investigations;
- Research approved by the school district;
- Court orders and/or subpoenas; and,
- Judicial and administrative proceedings.

## HIPAA NOTICE

The school district may share your and/or your child's PHI at other times with your written authorization. This authorization will have an expiration date; additionally, you may revoke the authorization in writing at any time. Certain uses and sharing of psychotherapy (counseling) notes may also require your written authorization, except when required by a subpoena or court order.

### INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS

- **You have the right to request the school district to restrict the use and with whom you and/or your child's PHI may be shared.** The school district will consider any of your requests, but is not required to agree to them.
- You have the right to request confidential communications. The school district may mail or call you with appointment reminders or regarding your responsibility to pay for services. We will make contact with you in the manner and at the address or telephone number you select. You may provide an address other than your residence where you can receive mail and where you may be contacted. You will be asked to put your contact information in writing.
- You have the right to review and receive a copy of your PHI. Your review of the PHI will be supervised and will be at a time and place that is convenient to you and a representative of the school district. You may be denied access as specified by law. This might occur if your child consented to care and the parent's consent was not required by law or if your child is receiving care at the direction of a court or a person appointed by the court. If access is denied, you have the right to request a review by a licensed health care professional who is not involved in the decision to deny access. The licensed health care professional will be designated by the school district.
- You have the right to correct your PHI. Your request to correct your or your child's PHI must be in writing and provide a reason to support your requested correction. If your correction is accepted, the school district will make the correction and tell you and others who need to know about the correction. The school district may deny your request, in whole or part, if it finds the PHI:
  - Was not created by school district;
  - Does not qualify as PHI;
  - Is by law not available for your review; or,
  - Is accurate and complete.

If your request is denied, the school district will place your request for corrections with your PHI. You may also send a letter detailing the reason you disagree with the decision. The school district will respond to your letter in writing. You may also file a complaint, as described in the section entitled Complaints.

## HIPAA NOTICE

**You have the right to receive a list of the individuals and/or agencies with which the school district has shared your PHI within six years from the date of the request, except for those listed below:**

- Information shared with you;
- Information shared with individuals involved with your care;
- Information you authorized to be shared;
- Information shared to carry out treatment and/or payment;
- Information shared for public health purposes;
- Information shared for the purposes of research, other than those you authorized in writing;
- Information shared for health professional regulatory purposes;
- Information shared to report abuse of children, adults, or disabled persons;
- Information shared in response to court orders and/or subpoenas; and
- Information shared prior to April 14, 2003.

This notice tells you how your and your child's PHI may be used and how the school district keeps this information private and confidential. The school district has always kept this information confidential; this notice simply explains the school district's legal responsibilities, with regard to PHI.

The law requires the school district to give this Notice of Privacy Practices to you. The school district is required to do what this notice says it will do. If the school district changes how it handles your or your child's PHI records, you will be informed. The most current notice will be posted on the SBBC website, [www.browardschools.com](http://www.browardschools.com).

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Requests for further information about the matters covered in this notice may be directed to the SBBC Privacy Officer, Risk Management Department, who can be reached at 754-321-1914.

### COMPLAINTS

If you believe your HIPAA privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the SBBC Privacy Officer at 600 S.E. 3rd Avenue, 11th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301/Telephone (754) 321-1914 and/or Region IV, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Atlanta Federal Center, Suite 3B70 61 Forsyth Street, SW, Atlanta, GA 30303-8909/ HIPAA Privacy Hotline (404) 562-7886; Fax: (404) 562-7881; TDD: (404) 331-2867. Please be advised the SBBC will not retaliate against you or your child for filing a complaint.

When students do not follow the rules and expectations outlined in this Code of Student Conduct policy, one or more of the following actions may be taken until the problem is resolved.

## **SECTION IX – INTERVENTION and/or CONSEQUENCES**

### **Possible Interventions and/or Consequences of Misbehavior**

The district will make every reasonable effort to correct student misbehavior through school-based resources at the lowest possible level, and to support students in learning the skills necessary to enhance a positive school environment and avoid negative behavior. The vast majority of disciplinary issues should be addressed at the classroom level by teachers. In all instances, school discipline should be reasonable, timely, fair, age-appropriate, and should match the severity of the student's misbehavior. Any disciplinary or prosecutorial action taken against a student who violates this policy must be based on particular circumstances of the student's misconduct.

It will not be necessary to use each consequence or to use consequences in the order listed below. However, as provided in the Discipline Matrix, certain rule violations do require specific consequences. The District's Discipline Matrix is attached and also available on the District's website at [www.browardschools.com/schools/discipline\\_matrix.htm](http://www.browardschools.com/schools/discipline_matrix.htm).

- Guidance Counselor intervention
- Social Worker intervention
- Family Counselor intervention
- Timeout for students
- Teacher/student conference, including record review
- Disciplinary action initiated by teacher
- Restitution, work detail, etc.
- Before or after school detention (parent responsible for transportation).
- Saturday School (parent responsible for transportation)
- Referral to administrator
- School/parent contact
- School/parent conference
- Conflict mediation
- Alternative probationary contract
- Confiscation
- Principal involvement
- Guidance/administration referral to school Social Worker
- Removal from class by teacher
- Suspension from the bus. Students must attend school and the parent(s) must provide transportation
- For Secondary Only, warning, notification, or towing for motor vehicle violations:
  - a. First offense: Warning
  - b. Second offense: Parent notification
  - c. Third offense: Tow vehicle
- Administrative referral to student services, outside agencies, counseling programs, alternative education programs, and/or placement in other special programs, such as a state-licensed drug rehabilitation program

## **SECTION IX – INTERVENTION and/or CONSEQUENCES**

- Out-of-school suspension from classes and all school activities in accordance with SB Policy 5006. This policy outlines the violations and the procedures for out-of-school suspension and expulsion. You may view the complete suspension/expulsion policy and all School Board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>
- Recommendation for expulsion in accordance with SB Policy 5006
- Referral to Special Investigative Unit/police
- Full restitution by parent(s) for damage done by student in accordance with SB Policy 2303. This policy presents the School Board's position on financial responsibility for children's acts. You may view this complete policy and all School board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>

Notice of a suspension shall be sent within twenty-four (24) hours by certified mail or hand-delivered to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student is age 18 or older or has been emancipated per Florida Statute, Section 743.015 or whose parent is unknown as per Policy 5.5: Attendance.

*\*For IDEA-eligible ESE students, suspension and expulsions shall follow applicable laws, School Board policies, and provisions of the Individual Education Plan (IEP). Likewise, for students determined to be disabled under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, suspension, expulsion, and other disciplinary measures shall follow applicable laws, School Board policies, and provisions of the Section 504 Accommodation Plan.*

### **Consequences of Serious Misbehavior Leading to Suspension and/or Expulsion (Sections II-V of SB Policy 5006: Discipline Policy: Suspensions and/or Expulsion)**

The Code also includes provisions for action that **MUST** be taken if there are serious problems involving weapons, drugs (including alcohol), mood-altering substances, steroids, and criminal acts. Specific action, outlined in SB Policy 5006, will be taken as a result of these violations. However, if the principal determines that the student uses an instrument or object in self-defense, the student will not be suspended or expelled. Self-defense is an attempt to “ward off” an attack or stop the process of confrontation. It is not self-defense when an object is used in retaliation or when the student uses an object to become an aggressor. SB Policy 5006 outlines all the violations that result in out-of-school suspension and expulsion and/or the consequences. You may view the complete suspension/expulsion policy and all School Board policies on the Web at <http://www.broward.k12.fl.us/sbbcpolicies>.

All violations under SB Policy 5006 will involve the following steps:

- Principal involvement
- Immediate parent contact
- Suspension from school grounds, all classes, and all school activities
- Referral to Special Investigative Unit and police, as specified in Policy 5006, Section VI

### **OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION**

When, by the school's administration, a student is removed from school and school-related activities on or off school grounds.



## **EXPULSION**

When, by action of the School Board, a student is removed from school and school-related activities on or off school grounds.

### **Medications: Use, Possession, Sale, and/or Transmittal Leading to Suspension and Possible Expulsion**

School Board Policy 6305 (Administration of Medications/Treatments), provides the guidelines for the administration of medication and/or treatment for students receiving prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) medication.

A new Authorization for Medication/Treatment Form must be completed and signed by the healthcare provider and parent for any new medication(s), changes in dosage, or changes in current medication(s).

As per Policy 6305, students with special health conditions, e.g., asthma, diabetes and hypersensitivity, regardless of grade, may carry medication on self, only if approved by their physician and noted on the Medication/Treatment Authorization form.

All other medications, including over-the-counter, must be transported by the parents/guardians. Therefore students are prohibited from possessing any medication while on school grounds except as indicated above.

Students found to be in violation of School Board Policy 6305 shall be subject to the disciplinary action identified below.

**Use and/or possession of unauthorized over-the-counter medications and sale or attempted sale and/or transmittal of authorized or unauthorized over-the-counter medications is prohibited.**

#### **First Offense Procedures:**

The first time occurrence for the use and/or possession of over-the-counter medications and sale or attempted sale and/or transmittal of authorized or unauthorized over-the-counter medications shall be counted at any time while the student is enrolled in a Broward County Public School. (1) If the student has been suspended or expelled for a prior drug offense by any in-state or out-of-state public, private, charter, or research school, then the disposition of this offense shall constitute a second offense and the procedures for second offenses shall apply. (2) Upon committing the first offense, a student may be referred to the area substance abuse case manager who shall refer the student to an appropriate counseling program.

#### **Second Offense Procedures:**

(1) The student shall be suspended from the regular school program for one to two (1-2) days. In the case of a student with a disability, the IEP/504 Team should convene as soon as possible to address the student's program and to determine appropriate action. (2) The student may be referred to the area substance abuse counselor.



**Third and Subsequent Offense Procedures:**

(1) The student shall be suspended for a ten (10) day out-of-school suspension. In the case of a student with a disability, the IEP/504 Team should convene as soon as possible to address the student's program and to determine appropriate action. (2) The student shall be referred to the area substance abuse counselor. (3) The incident shall be considered a FIRST OFFENSE under Section III (A or C) of SB Policy 5006.

**Drug and Substance Abuse Offenses Leading to Suspension and Possible Expulsion**

Each principal shall post, in a place readily seen by students, a notice stating that a student's locker or other storage area may be subject to search based upon reasonable suspicion of possession of prohibited, unauthorized or illegal materials, or substances and may also result in a search of person, possessions, locker and/or vehicle. School personnel shall report to the principal/designee the suspected unlawful use, possession, sale or attempted sale by a student of any drugs, over-the-counter or prescription substances except those authorized under Policy 6305 (Administration of Medication/Treatments), alcoholic beverage or inhalant, and shall be exempt from the civil liability when making such reports.

*However, any personal property brought on school grounds may be inspected by drug-sniffing dogs for alcohol, drugs, or other prohibited substances. Personal property that may be inspected includes, but is not limited to, cars parked on school grounds, desks, backpacks, lockers, book bags, and gym bags. Reasonable suspicion of improper conduct is not required to use drug-sniffing dogs to inspect personal property. Drug-sniffing dogs will not be used to inspect students for alcohol, drugs, or other prohibited substances.*

**The following section addresses: (A) USE, POSSESSION, OR BEING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MOOD-ALTERING SUBSTANCES, (B) POSSESSION OF UNAUTHORIZED OR MOOD-ALTERING SUBSTANCES IS PROHIBITED AND (C) SALE, ATTEMPTED SALE, OR TRANSMITTAL.**

**(A) USE, POSSESSION, OR BEING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF MOOD-ALTERING SUBSTANCES**

Use, possession, or being under the influence of mood-altering substances, including alcohol and alcoholic beverages, is prohibited.

**First Offense Procedures:** (1) The first-time occurrence for the use, possession, or being under the influence of mood-altering substances, including alcohol and alcoholic beverages, shall be counted at any time during which the student is enrolled in a Broward County Public School. If the student has been suspended or expelled for a prior drug offense by any in-state or out-of-state public, private, charter, or research school, then the disposition of this offense shall constitute a second offense, and the procedures for second offenses shall apply. (2) The student shall be suspended from the regular school program for ten (10) days and referred to the area substance abuse case manager who shall refer the student to an appropriate counseling program. Up to seven (7) days of the suspension may be waived if the student attends and completes a counseling program authorized by the principal/designee in conjunction with the area substance abuse case manager. If the student does not complete the recommended counseling program, the remaining days of the full ten (10) days suspension shall be imposed. In the case of a student with a disability, the IEP/504 Team should convene as soon as possible to address the student's program and to determine appropriate action.

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**Second Offense Procedures:** (1) The student shall be suspended from the regular school program for ten (10) days and expulsion shall be mandatory. In the case of a student with a disability, expulsion would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 Team. (2) The student shall be placed in an expulsion abeyance program, and the expulsion shall be held in abeyance if the student completes a state certified drug/alcohol rehabilitation program or a treatment program with a certified addiction professional. (3) If the student fails to complete the state certified drug/alcohol rehabilitation program, the full term of the expulsion shall be implemented. (4) The student may return to the regular school program upon successful completion of the prescribed rehabilitation program. The area substance abuse case manager shall monitor/verify that the student has completed the program.

**Third and Subsequent Offense(s) Procedures:** (1) The student shall be suspended from the regular school program for ten (10) days and expulsion shall be mandatory. In the case of a student with a disability, expulsion would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 Team. (2) The student shall be placed in an Expulsion Abeyance Program for a period of one calendar year, with no Workback allowed, commencing with the date of the offense and shall complete a state certified drug/alcohol rehabilitation program. In the case of a student with a disability, the IEP/504 Team should convene as soon as possible to address the student's program and to determine appropriate action.

**(B) POSSESSION OF UNAUTHORIZED OR MOOD ALTERING SUBSTANCES IS PROHIBITED**

**First Offense Procedures:** (1) The student shall be suspended from the regular school program for ten (10) days and expulsion shall be mandatory. (2) The student shall be placed in the Expulsion Abeyance Program for a period of one (1) calendar year commencing with the date of the offense. Workback is allowed. In the case of a student with a disability, expulsion would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 Team.

**Second and Subsequent Offense Procedures:** (1) The student shall be suspended from the regular school program for ten (10) days and expulsion shall be mandatory. In the case of a student with a disability, expulsion would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 team. (2) The student shall be placed in the Expulsion Abeyance Program for a period of one (1) calendar year commencing with the date of the offense, with no Workback allowed. In the case of a student with a disability, the IEP/504 team should convene as soon as possible to address the student's program and to determine appropriate action. (3) The student must complete a state certified drug rehabilitation program.

**(C) SALE, ATTEMPTED SALE, OR TRANSMITTAL** of drugs or mood-altering substances, unauthorized substances, or other substances held out or represented to be drugs or mood-altering substances, including alcohol or alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

**Procedures for Sale, Attempted Sale, or Transmittal:** (1) Student shall be suspended from the regular school program for ten (10) days and expulsion shall be mandatory. In the case of a student with a disability, expulsion would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 Team. (2) The student shall be placed in the Expulsion Abeyance Program for a period of one (1) calendar year, commencing with the date of the offense, with no Workback allowed. In the case of a student with a disability, the IEP/504 Team should convene as soon as possible to address the student's program and to determine appropriate action.

**Other Offenses (Non-Drug and Non-Substance Abuse Offenses) Leading to Suspension  
and Possible Expulsion**

Students shall be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion when they:

- Repeatedly commit a serious breach of conduct including, but not limited to, willful disobedience and/or open defiance of authority or violations of Policy 5.9: Anti-Bullying.
- Commit assault
- Commit battery
- Commit or threaten to commit damage to property
- Commit any act on campus or off campus that substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of the classroom or school activities
- Commit grand theft
- Possess and/or display or transmit a Class B weapon
- Possess, display, transmit, or handle laser pens/pointers and other laser devices in a manner that could potentially harm or injure another individual
- Make an internet/electronic transmission of a threat to do harm to person(s) on school grounds, or to school property that results in a substantial disruption (see Definitions – Section IX) to the school climate
- Conduct, recruit, or participate on campus in a formal or informal manner in order to foster youth gang activity. This activity may include an association or group of three (3) or more persons who are gang-related individually or collectively who engage in a pattern of youth or street gang activity and have a common name or common identifying clothing, jewelry, buttons, colors, signs, symbols, or markings with the intent to threaten and/or present a danger to public order and safety
- Transmit or distribute any video voyeurism or sexting information or images as defined in Section II of this policy
- Commit other criminal actions on School Board property, or during school events or activities not already set forth in Policy 5006, including, but not limited to, when the student is found by a court to have committed a delinquent act which would be a felony, if committed by an adult; the student has had adjudication withheld for a delinquent act which, if committed by an adult, would be a felony; or the student has been found guilty of a felony
- Use the school district's technology and/or software for any unauthorized purpose. This includes the unauthorized use of a computer/technology, including, but not limited to, accessing or breaking into restricted accounts or networks, creating, modifying or destroying files/records without permission, copying software, entering, distributing or printing unauthorized files/records, uploading to the Internet and/or sharing or distributing, offensive or inappropriate material, including video, and any other misuse or violation of the School Board of Broward County Technology-Acceptable Use Policy 5306, Section 6

**Mandatory Expulsion**

Students shall not be subject to mandatory suspension and expulsion proceedings when the principal determines that an instrument or object was used solely for the purpose of defense against an aggressor. A student shall not be subject to mandatory expulsion proceedings if it is determined that the student immediately\* returned a firearm to the person who gave it to

her or him, or if the student took a firearm to a staff member or was in the process of taking it to a staff member. (\*The term “immediately” means without delay.)

### **Offenses Leading to Mandatory Expulsion**

Students found to have committed one of the following offenses will be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student’s regular school for a period not less than 1 full year, and will be referred to the criminal justice or juvenile justice system:

- (1) Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in Chapter 790, to school, to any school function, or onto any school-sponsored transportation or possessing, displaying, using, selling or transmitting a firearm at school.
- (2) Making a threat or false report, as defined by F.S. 790.162 and 790.163, respectively, involving school or school personnel’s property, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity, including:
  - a. Threatening to throw, project, place, or discharge a destructive device with intent to do bodily harm to any person or with intent to damage any property of any person.
  - b. Making a false report, with intent to deceive, mislead, or otherwise misinform a person concerning the placing or planting of any bomb, dynamite, or other deadly explosive, or weapon of mass destruction.

In addition, students found to have committed the following offenses on school property, school-sponsored transportation, or during a school-sponsored activity shall receive the most severe consequences provided in this policy which shall be mandatory suspension and expulsion, referral to appropriate counseling services, and may be referred to the local law enforcement agency for criminal prosecution. (See section on Workback, pg 46. This provision is not available for some of the following offenses.) These acts pose a serious threat to school safety and include:

- Serious assault
- Arson or attempted arson
- Sexual battery (rape) or attempted sexual battery (rape)
- Possessing, displaying, using, selling or transmitting of a Class A weapon
- Homicide
- Kidnapping or abduction
- Bringing, possessing using, or selling of any explosive propellant or destructive device
- Robbery or attempted robbery
- Armed robbery or attempted armed robbery
- Serious battery
- \*Battery on School Board of Broward County employee, sports official, or other specified officials as listed in F.S. 784.081
- \*Battery on a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical care provider, and others as listed in F.S. 784.07 (g)
- \*Found, by a court, to have committed an assault on specified officials, or School Board employees or sports official. (F.S. 784.081)
- \*Found, by a court, to have committed an assault on a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical care provider, etc., (F.S. 784.07)
- Extortion

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- Threatening to throw, project, place, or discharge a destructive device that may cause bodily harm to any person or damage any property of any person
- Making a false report concerning the placing or planting of any bomb, dynamite, or other deadly explosive

\*When charged with these acts, the student shall be immediately removed from the classroom and placed in an alternative school setting pending disposition.

*AT NO TIME is it appropriate for any student to possess or bring a weapon of any kind onto a school campus. Federal and state laws require local school districts to notify parents, through the Code of Student Conduct, that any student who is determined to have brought a firearm, projectile device, electric weapon or device, or flare gun to school, to any school function, or on any school-sponsored transportation will be recommended for expulsion, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than one full year and referred for criminal prosecution.*

*Possession of a firearm, projectile device, electric weapon or device, or flare gun shall be defined as knowingly, intentionally, deliberately, or inadvertently (without meaning to do it) bringing a firearm on school property, school-sponsored transportation, or to a school-sponsored activity.*

*\*Elementary students, Grades K-5, (at the time of infraction) in possession of a projectile device on campus or any school sponsored event, will be eligible for Workback.*

### **Expulsion / Expulsion Abeyance**

1. The expulsion shall commence with the date of the School Board's final order or, in the case of a student with a disability, the date established by the IEP/504 Team. However, the term of exclusion from the regular school shall not exceed one calendar year from the date of the offense. If the expulsion shall be held in abeyance, the student shall be given the opportunity to participate in an established Expulsion Abeyance Program. In the case of a student with a disability, movement to such a program would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 Team.
2. If a student enrolls in an Expulsion Abeyance Program or in a program designated by the Superintendent and successfully completes the program, the expulsion shall be expunged from the student's official transcript. The area student services substance abuse/expulsion case manager will facilitate the student's re-entry into the regular school program, except where indicated otherwise in this policy. In the case of a student with a disability, return to a school placement would require action by the IEP/504 Team.
3. Refusal or failure to meet conditions specified in the Expulsion Abeyance Agreement may result in the removal of the abeyance option, and the student may be expelled from all programs and schools in the Broward County Schools until the duration of the original expulsion has lapsed. In the case of a student with a disability, expulsion would constitute a change in placement and would require action by the IEP/504 Team.

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4. The appropriate expulsion code shall be entered into the student's permanent record. This record shall be forwarded to any school requesting that record for the purpose of student admission.
5. The area student services case manager shall monitor/verify that the student has completed the program.
6. All steps necessary to protect the victim, of any acts set forth in this policy, from further victimization will be taken. With infractions that require mandatory expulsion (See Section V) or involve serious repeated acts of bullying, such actions may include assignment of the student (perpetrator) to a different school from that where the offense occurred. Only the Superintendent/designee may assign a student to another school after completion of the mandatory requirements for expulsion abeyance or after compliance with the bullying complaint procedures. Should the district make such a reassignment, transportation will be provided by the District. All "no contact orders" entered by a court shall be enforced. Transportation is not provided by the district when there is a court order for no contact requiring reassignment of the student to another school, unless there is transportation available at no additional cost to the District.

**Workback**

The Workback Program is designed to allow a student who has been recommended for expulsion to reduce the one-year period of expulsion by no more than ninety (90) school attendance days, except where otherwise indicated in this policy. Workback requirements are reviewed with the student by the area case manager and include specific responsibilities the student must comply with to be considered for Workback. However, students are not eligible for the Workback Program if they commit any of the following offenses:

- Arson or attempted arson
- Sexual battery (rape) or attempted sexual battery (rape)
- Possession, use, sale, or transmittal of a firearm, projectile device\*, electric weapon or device, or flare gun
- Homicide
- Kidnapping or abduction
- Armed robbery or attempted armed robbery
- Second and subsequent offenses for possession or use of an unauthorized substance
- Third and subsequent offenses for use, or being under the influence of mood-altering substances including alcohol and alcoholic beverages
- Sale or transmittal of mood altering substances including alcohol and alcoholic beverages
- Sale or transmittal of unauthorized substances or the sale or transmittal of the student's own prescription medication
- Battery on a School Board of Broward County employee
- Battery on a Law Enforcement Officer

\*Elementary students, Grades K-5, (at the time of infraction) in possession of a projectile device on campus or any school sponsored event, will be eligible for Workback.

## **SECTION IX – INTERVENTION and/or CONSEQUENCES**

For all other offenses, the principal, with approval of the area superintendent, may recommend that a student not participate in the Workback Program due to the circumstances of the expellable offense. Upon successful completion of the Workback Program, the student shall transition back to the regular school program, except when indicated otherwise in this policy. In the case of a student with a disability, return to a school placement, is a change in placement and will require action by the IEP/504 Team.

### **Out-of-District Expulsions**

Expulsion or dismissal of a student from any in-state or out-of-state public, private, charter, or research school will be honored by the Broward County School Board if the act committed is one that would be grounds for expulsion under this policy.

If a student who has been expelled or dismissed from another district wishes admission, he/she shall be placed in an appropriate Expulsion Abeyance Program or a program designated by the Superintendent for a period of time commensurate with the terms of the original expulsion.

### **Definition of Weapons**

Weapons are defined in two categories, Class “A” or Class “B.” An object which can be defined as a Class “A” weapon pursuant to this policy shall be conclusively determined to be a Class “A” weapon and further classifications shall not be considered.

#### **Class A weapons include:**

- Firearms, (whether operable or inoperable, loaded or unloaded) including, but not limited to, hand, zip, pistol, rifle, shotgun, and starter gun
- Projectile devices including, but not limited to BB guns, pellet (hard and soft) guns, and paintball guns, and slingshots
- Explosive propellants or destructive devices (operable or inoperable)
- Dirks
- Brass knuckles and/or metallic knuckles
- Billy clubs
- Tear gas
- Electric weapon or device including, but not limited to, stun guns and taser guns
- Slungshot
- Chemical weapon or devices
- Flare guns

#### **Class B weapons include:**

- Possession of a toy guns
- Toys which resemble weapons, when used in a threatening manner
- Knives - any kind of knife, including, but not limited to, pen, switchblade or hunting knife
- Chains, including any chain not being used for the purpose for which it was normally intended that is capable of harming an individual
- Pipe - any length of metal or other hard substance not being used for the purpose for which it was normally intended
- Razorblades of any kind or similar instruments with a sharp cutting edge
- Ice picks and other pointed instruments
- Nunchakus, Chinese stars



## SECTION IX – INTERVENTION and/or CONSEQUENCES

- Pepper spray, a mace device with the capacity to hold two (2) ounces or less of the chemical
- Any tool or instrument when used in a threatening manner, including, but not limited to, scissors, compass, or similar items
- Ammunition and any component thereof, including but not limited to bullets, shotgun shells, bullet casings, magazines, or clips

### Other Definitions for this Policy

**Assault** is defined as an intentional threat by words or action to do harm to another person, coupled with an apparent ability to carry out the threat, and/or committing an act that creates a well-founded fear in such person that such violence is imminent.

**Days** shall be construed to be school days (as determined by the applicable school calendar) whenever mentioned in this policy.

**Serious Assault** is defined as an assault in which a Class A or Class B weapon is used to commit the assault.

**Battery** is defined as an intentional touching or striking another person without their consent or against their will or causing bodily injury to another person. In the case of “battery on a School Board employee” or “Law Enforcement Officer” there must be evidence of an unprovoked, deliberate act with intent to cause physical harm to the person.

**Serious Battery** is defined as committing battery (1) using a Class A or Class B weapon or (2) causing serious injury.

**Minor Injury** is defined as an injury which solely requires treatment by a professional medical personnel.

**Serious Injury** is defined as an injury which requires treatment by professional medical personnel.

**Petty Theft** is defined as taking property of another that is less than \$300.

**Grand Theft** is defined as taking property of another worth \$300 or more.

**Mood-Altering Substance** is any substance that is or may be detrimental to the user or to others, including, but not limited to, alcohol or alcoholic beverages, cocaine, marijuana (less than 20 grams), hallucinogens, inhalants, narcotics (such as hydrocodone and oxycodone), stimulants (such as Ritalin, Adderall, and Ecstasy), depressants (such as Xanax and benzoids), and steroids.

**Unauthorized Substances** include any substances deemed to be illegal, any prescription drugs not prescribed for the student who is in possession of the medication, and any medication that is not authorized as part of Policy 6305.

**Disruptive Behavior** is that which causes confusion or disorder or interrupts, interferes, or impedes normal classroom or school activity.

**Violent Behavior** is that using physical force that causes damage or injury or violates or abuses another person or property.

**Substantial Disruption** is defined as an incident which results in the temporary suspension of the educational process due to a school evacuation, interference with learning activities/ educational process, and/or requires the intervention of outside agencies such as the police or fire department.

**Possession** is the knowing, intentional, deliberate or inadvertent control of any article, object, asset, or property.

**Transmittal** is the transfer of an object, thing, electronic message or image, or substance from one person to another. Transmittal does not occur when the person immediately\* returns the item back to the person who gave it to them or if it is immediately delivered to a teacher or school administrator. \*The term “immediately” means without delay.

## **SECTION X - RIGHT TO APPEAL UNFAIR PENALTIES, GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES for DISCRIMINATION, BULLYING and/or HARASSMENT OFFENSES, including SECTION 504 DISCRIMINATION**

### **RIGHT TO AN APPEAL**

There may be times when students feel they have been unfairly penalized. Most problems can be solved if students speak with the teacher or staff member who was involved. If students feel uncomfortable with this person, they may request a conference with the next level of authority. Students may also request the presence of a third party, such as a counselor, assistant principal, other staff person, translator, interpreter, or attorney. Parents also have the right to be included. If talking things over does not solve the problem, the following steps may be taken:

1. A written statement must be presented to the principal within five (5) school days after the last conference. The statement must tell what happened, when it happened, who was involved, and how the student would like the problem resolved. A copy of the statement should be filed and maintained as an educational record. The principal or the administrator with the most knowledge of the incident has 5 school days to respond in writing.
2. If the problem still has not been resolved within five (5) school days from receipt of the written response, the student may request in writing, an appointment with the area superintendent/designee. The letter asking for the appointment must include a copy of the first written statement and the response.

**In the case of Charter Schools:** If the problem still has not been resolved within five (5) school days from receipt of the written response, the charter school student may request, in writing, a meeting with the Governing Board.

Items 3-5 below do not apply to Charter School students.

3. Upon receipt of the letter, the area superintendent/designee will schedule a meeting within five (5) school days with the district student and his or her parent. This meeting will include the person(s) involved in the appeal process, the principal, the district student, the parent(s) and anyone else he or she wishes to attend. An attorney may be present to represent either the district student and/or the school. The area superintendent/designee has five (5) school days after the date of the meeting to send a written response to the district student.
4. If district students still are not satisfied, they may take the problem to the Superintendent following the above procedures.
5. The Superintendent will schedule another meeting to see how the matter can be resolved. After the date of this meeting, the Superintendent has five (5) school days to send a written response. The decision of the Superintendent shall be final for the appeal of any penalties fewer than ten (10) days. For appeals of ten (10) days, district students have the right to appeal to the School Board.

6. A student shall serve his or her suspension during the pendency of any appeals. If the student is successful in his or her appeal, the student's record shall be corrected to remove all indications of the suspension and the absences shall be reflected as "excused," for the period in question. Refer to page 16, regarding make-up work.

## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES for DISCRIMINATION, BULLYING and/or HARASSMENT OFFENSES, including SECTION 504 DISCRIMINATION**

### **REPORTING DISCRIMINATION, BULLYING and/or HARASSMENT OFFENSES**

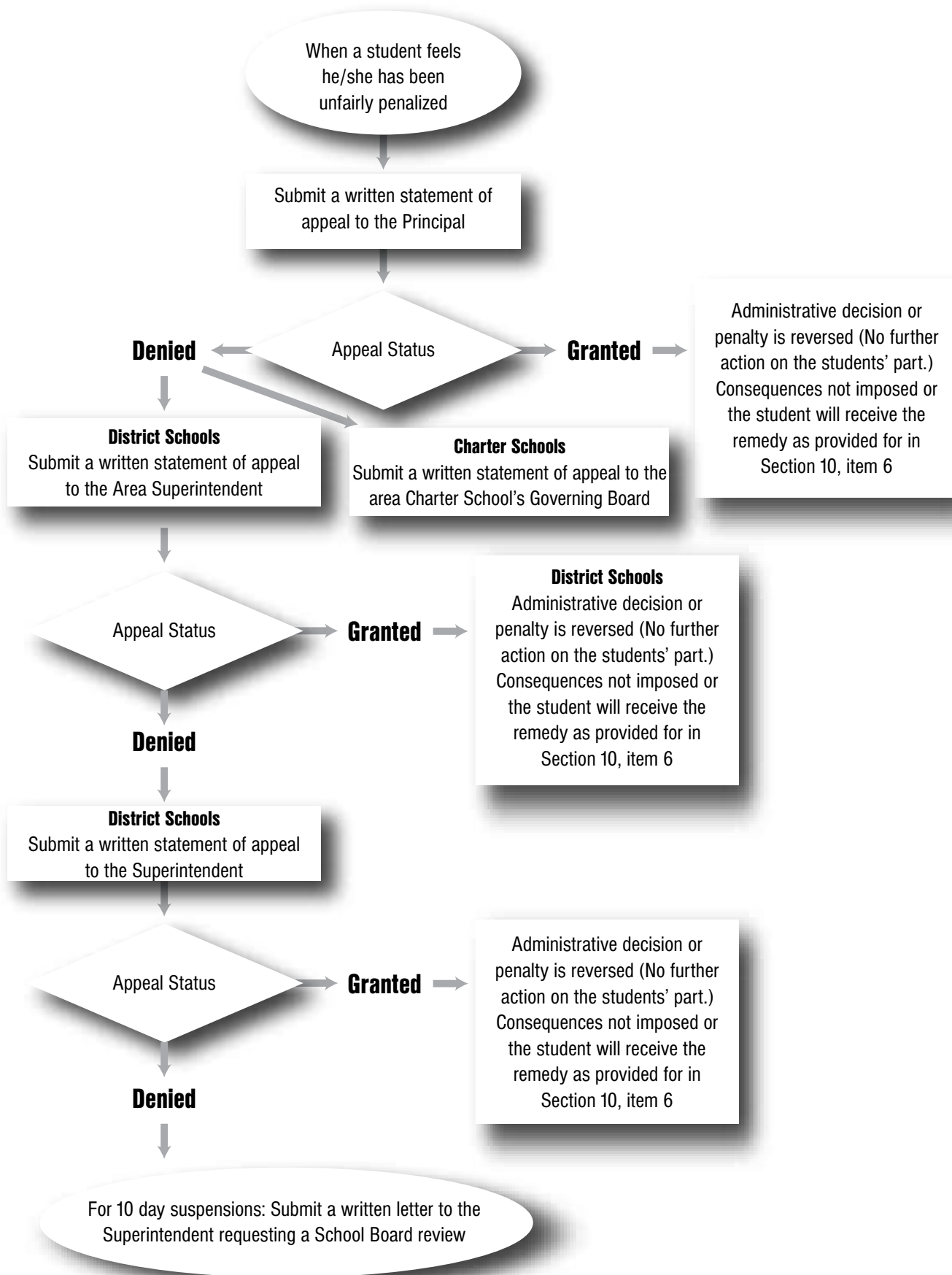
If any district school student feels that he or she has been discriminated against or harassed, he or she may contact the Executive Director of Benefits and EEO Compliance in the Department of Equal Educational Opportunities, 600 Southeast Third Avenue, 14th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301, Phone: 754-321-2150. Teletype Machine (TTY): 754-321-2158. Email: EEO@Browardschools.com. Complaints relating to discrimination may also be addressed to the Office for Civil Rights, 61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Suite 19T70, Atlanta, GA 30303, or the state or federal Office for Civil Rights.

### **REPORTING SECTION 504 DISCRIMINATION**

The steps below have been developed to comply with the law for resolution of individual complaints under Section 504/ADA. Persons aggrieved by district school actions are not required by law to exhaust the District's grievance procedures before filing a complaint at the federal or state level.

The following steps should be followed if resolution on Section 504/ADA issues through informal discussion with appropriate district school personnel is not achieved. All meetings, discussions, etc., should be documented. Appropriate district school personnel could include teachers, the Section 504 liaison, counselors, school administrator, etc.

1. If informal discussions do not resolve the issue, the district school student/parent/guardian may obtain a Grievance Filing Form from the principal. The completed form should be submitted to the district school principal within 15 school days.
2. Within 15 school days of receipt of the written grievance, the district school principal shall provide the grievant with a Grievance Resolution Notice that upholds, modifies, or denies the resolution sought.
3. If the district school student/parent/guardian is not satisfied with the response issued in Step 2, he/she may file a complaint with the Director of Benefits and EEO Compliance in the Department of Equal Educational Opportunities at 754-321-2150, who will inform the district school student of his or her rights under Section 504/ADA, including an impartial hearing pursuant to federal and state regulations. The Department of Equal Educational Opportunities will conduct an investigation, convene pertinent parties, including legal counsel, and make a determination as to whether probable cause exists to believe that the district student was, in fact, discriminated against. A determination of probable cause will include specific recommendations for corrective behavior.



*The Discipline Matrix: A Tool For Administrators To Assign Consequences For Serious Misbehavior*

*The Discipline Matrix* is a tool for administrators to respond appropriately when students have committed serious violations, per the *Code of Student Conduct*. This tool is designed to offer consistency at all levels across the District so that students are disciplined fairly from school to school when their behavior requires punishment beyond the classroom. There are two different versions of the Matrix: One to assign consequences to elementary students (grades K-5) and one to assign consequences to secondary students (grades 6-12).

A copy of the Matrix is included in the *Code of Student Conduct* to assist you and your child in understanding the consequences of seriously violating school rules. While most parents will have no need to be familiar with the Matrix, the School Board and the District want to ensure that parents are knowledgeable about the actions of its school administrators when students misbehave. The Matrix enables administrators to assign consequences consistently, regardless of the school your child attends.

### **HOW DO I READ THE MATRIX?**

The Matrix outlines the violations in the same way as the *Code of Student Conduct*. When a student has multiple violations in one incident, e.g. fight; using a weapon, the administrator will impose the more severe consequences.

The first “X” in any row indicates the initial action when a student has been referred to his/her administrator for disciplinary action. In each row, an “A” to the left of the “X”, indicates a “possible” action; an “A” to the right of the “X” indicates a subsequent action.

### **IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?**

Yes. The Discipline Matrix does not apply to classroom management as assigned by the teacher but rather as a progressive step when a student has broken the rules requiring a principal and/or designee to assign consequences. While continuous disregard for classroom rules will almost always be referred to an administrator, certain violations of the rules, e.g. weapon possession, assault, sexual harassment, require initial administrative action.

Like the *Code of Student Conduct*, the Matrix is reviewed annually by District stakeholders, including parents, teachers, administrators, counselors, and other community representatives.

### **WHERE DO I GO IF I WANT FURTHER EXPLANATION OF THIS DOCUMENT?**

Should you require further explanation of the Discipline Matrix, please call your school administrator.

**Appendix - A**  
**Administrative Discipline Matrix**  
**Elementary - 2012/2013**

Reported to State	Incident Code	Incident	Prevention/Intervention (Re-entry parent conference)/Consequence (Record on TERMS C26 Panel) - Minimum of Two	Collaborative Problem Solving Team (RD)	Threat Assessment Protocol	Confiscation (When Applicable)	Restitution (When Applicable)	School Specific Consequences	Loss of Privilege	Removal From Class (Less than 1 day)	Detention	Verbal Warning (dress code violation only)	Loss of Extra Curricular Activities (1-5 days)(dress code violation only)	In-school Suspension 1-3 Days & Loss of Extra curricular Activities 1-30 days (dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: 1-5 days	In-School Suspension: 6-10 Days	Out-of-School Suspension: 1-5 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 6-10 Days (Offer AES)	Mandatory Out-of-School Suspension: 10 Days	Recommendation for Emergency Behavior Change	Recommendation for Expulsion	Complete Immediate Notification Form (SIU)	Report to local Law Enforcement required
		<div>Documentation on TERMS C26 panel is required for all violations requiring administrative action.</div> <div>Discipline of ESE/504 students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal laws and School Board policies.</div> <div> <b>LEGEND</b>  M = Mandatory action  X = Initial punitive action (for 1st offense)  A = Additional (progressive) action  S = Incident codes reported to the State  B= Recommendation for emergency behavior change </div>																					
		<b>Attendance Incidents</b>																					
	ZL	Class Cut (Skipping)	M	A				X	A	A	A				A	A							
	ZM	Tardiness, Habitual	M	M				X	A	A	A				A	A							
	ZV	Truancy	M	M					X	A	A				A	A							
	ZG	Leaving Campus Without Permission	M	A											X	A	A						
	ZU	Out of Assigned Area	M	A				X	A	A					A	A							
		<b>Rule Violation Incidents</b>																					
	ZE	Dress Code Violation	M	A								X	A	A									
		<i>Dress Code Violation Only-1st Offense-must include verbal parent notification, 2nd Offense must include parent conference, 3rd Offense includes parent conference, letter to parent regarding the student's in-school suspension AND ineligibility to participate in extra curricular activities.</i>																					
	ZB	Cheating- Major	M	A											X	A							
	ZF	School Rules violation (Includes Classroom Rules)	M	A				X	A	A					A								
	ZP	Detention - Unserved	M	A					X	A	A				A								
S	ED	Electronic devices - offensive or unlawful use or publication				M											X	A	A			M	A
	ZY	Cell Phone Violation. Punitive action begins on the 2nd offense	M			M			X	A	A				A	A	A						
		<b>Disruptive Incidents</b>																					
	SB	Disruptive (Unruly) Behavior or Play	M	A				X	A	A	A				A	A	A						
	01	Disobedience/Insubordination	M	A				X	A	A	A				A	A	A						
	ZW	Defiance of Authority (See Definition)	M	M											X	A	A	A	A				
	SM	Cumulative Administrative Referrals (5 or more)	M	M											X	A	A	A	A				
	02	Profanity - use of insulting/Obscene Language	M	A				X	A	A	A				A	A	A						
	ZX	Profanity Directed Towards a Staff Member	M	M											X	A	A	A	A				
S	SG	Gambling	M	A		M									X	A	A					M	A
	Z1	Inciting a Disturbance	M	A											X	A	A						
S	SF	Passing and / or Producing Counterfeit Money	M	A											X	A	A					M	A
	ZH	Falsification/Misrepresentation (Lying, Forgery of signature)	M	A						X	A				A	A							
	ZC	Prohibited/Distracting Items - Possession/Use	M	A		M		X		A	A				A	A							
	ZJ	Distribution/Sale of unauthorized Materials (Non-Criminal)	M	A		M		X		A	A				A	A							
S	Z2	Laser Device - Inappropriate Use	M	A		M											X	A	A	B		M	
S	G1	Gang Activity	M	M													X	A	A	B		M	
	XA	Disruption on Campus (Minor)	M	A											X	A	A						
S	D0	Disruption on Campus (Major)	M	A													X	A	A			M	A
S	66	Trespassing	M	A											X	A	A					M	A
S	F9	False Fire Alarm/911 Call	M	A													X	A	A			M	A
		<b>B- A Recommendation for Emergency Behavior Change: This applies when the student commits an offense for which a secondary student would receive a mandatory expulsion under School Board Policy 5006. Since the policy does not contemplate the expulsion of elementary students (except where noted), other disciplinary action may be taken (i.e., administrative placement into the Behavior Change program).</b>																					

**Appendix - A**  
**Administrative Discipline Matrix**  
**Elementary - 2012/2013**

Reported to State	Incident Code	Incident	Prevention/Intervention (Re-entry parent conference)/Consequence (Record on TERMS C26 Panel) - Minimum of Two	Collaborative Problem Solving Team (CPT)	Threat Assessment Protocol	Confiscation (When Applicable)	Restitution (When Applicable)	School Specific Consequences	Loss of Privilege	Removal From Class (Less than 1 day)	Detention	Verbal Warning (dress code violation only)	Loss of Extra Curricular Activities (1-5 days)(dress code violation only)	In-school Suspension 1-3 Days & Loss of Extra curricular Activities 1-30 days (dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: 1-5 days	In-School Suspension: 6-10 Days	Out-of-School Suspension: 1-5 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 6-10 Days (Offer AES)	Mandatory Out-of-School Suspension: 10 Days	Recommendation for Emergency Behavior Change	Recommendation for Expulsion	Complete Immediate Notification Form (SIU)	Report to local Law Enforcement required
		Documentation on TERMS C26 panel is required for all violations requiring administrative action.																					
		Discipline of ESE/504 students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal laws and School Board policies.																					
		<b>LEGEND</b> M = Mandatory action X = Initial punitive action (for 1st offense) A = Additional (progressive) action S = Incident codes reported to the State B= Recommendation for emergency behavior change																					
		<b>Substance Abuse/Drug Incidents</b>																					
		X* 1st Offense																					
		X* 2nd and 3rd Offense																					
	Z4	Medication - Over-the-Counter (Possession/Unauthorized use)	M	A		M		X	A	A					A	A	A					M	
S	TU	Tobacco - Possession/Use/Sale/Transmittal	M	A		M									X	A	A	A				M	
S	A1	Alcohol - Possession/Use/Under the Influence	M	M		M												X*				M	A
S	A3	Alcohol Sale/Attempted Sale/Transmittal	M	M		M												X*				M	A
S	D5	Drug - Possession/Use/Under the Influence	M	M		M												X*				M	A
S	D7	Drug or Imitation Drug Sale/Attempted Sale/Transmittal	M	M		M												X*				M	A
S	DF	Drug - Possession of unauthorized substances	M	M		M												X*				M	A
	DP	Drug Paraphernalia - Possession	M	A		M											X	A	A	A		M	A
		<b>Acts Against Persons</b>																					
		X* - When deciding what disciplinary action should be taken, the Principal or designee shall consider the severity of the offense and may impose a more severe consequence up to and including a ten day out of school suspension.																					
	Z1	Fight - Minor/Altercation/Confrontation	M	A				X	A	A	A				A	A							
S	F1	Fighting	M	M											X*	A	A	A				M	A
	ZA	Bullying	M	A	M										X	A	A	A				M	
S	HA	Harassment	M	M	M										X	A	A	A				M	
	ZT	Hazing	M	M	M										X	A	A	A					
S	SS	False Accusation Against School Staff	M	A											X	A	A	A				M	A
S	56	Sexual Misconduct/Indecent Exposure	M	M											X	A	A	A				M	A
S	50	Sexual Harassment	M	M											X	A	A	A				M	A
	ZN	Assault/Threat (Low Level-Non-Criminal)	M	A	M				X	A	A				A								
S	A5	Assault/Threat (Medium Level)	M	M	M										X	A	A	A				M	A
S	A6	Assault/Threat (High Level)	M	M	M											X	A	A	B			M	A
S	A7	Assault/(Threat -Serious)	M	A	M											X	A	A				M	A
S	22	Battery	M	A												X	A	A				M	A
S	26	Battery on a SBBC Employee/Law Enforcement Officer	M	A													X	B				M	A
S	23	Battery - Serious	M	A													X	B				M	A
		B- A Recommendation for Emergency Behavior Change: This applies when the student commits an offense for which a secondary student would receive a mandatory expulsion under School Board Policy 5006. Since the policy does not contemplate the expulsion of elementary students (except where noted), other disciplinary action may be taken (i.e., administrative placement into the Behavior Change program).																					



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		Property Incidents																												
	T5	Theft - Petty < \$300				M	A		M	A	X	A	A								A	A							M	
S	T6	Theft - Grand ≥ \$300				M	A		M	A													X	A					M	A
S	80	Theft - Motor Vehicle							M															X					M	A
S	V4	Vandalism/Damage to Property < \$1000				M	A				A													X	A			M		
S	V5	Vandalism/Damage to Property ≥ \$1000				M	A				A													X	A			M	A	
	Z3	Technology - Inappropriate use (Computers or Networks)				M	A					X	A	A	A							A								
S	ST	Technology - Illegal use (Computers or Networks)				M	A																		X				M	A
S	13	Arson				M	M				A													X	A	B		M	A	
	FS	Fire - Starting a fire on campus				M	A																X	A	A			M	A	
S	36	Burglary -Unlawful Breaking/Entering into a school facility				M	M				A													X	A			M	A	
		Other Criminal Incidents																												
S	OS	Other Serious Incident/Delinquent Act				M	M																	X	A			M	A	
	XX	Delinquent Act/Felony Off-Campus				M	M																	X						
S	WA	Weapons - Class A - Possession				M	M		M																X		M	M	M	
S	WB	Weapons - Class B (Possession)				M	M		M														X	A	A	B		M	A	
S	R2	Robbery or Attempted Robbery				M	M		M															X	A	B		M	A	
S	R4	Robbery (Armed) or Attempted Armed Robbery				M	M		M																X	B		M	A	
S	S1	Sexual Battery/Rape (Actual or Attempted)				M	M																	X	B		M	A		
S	K1	Kidnapping or Abduction				M	M																		X	B		M	A	
S	42	Homicide				M	M																		X	B		M	M	
S	SE	Extortion				M	M																	X	A	B		M	A	
S	B3	Bomb Threat (Placing)				M	M																		X		M	M	M	
S	B4	Bomb Threat (False Reporting)				M	M																		X		M	M	M	
		B- A Recommendation for Emergency Behavior Change: This applies when the student commits an offense for which a secondary student would receive a mandatory expulsion under School Board Policy 5006. Since the policy does not contemplate the expulsion of elementary students (except where noted), other disciplinary action may be taken (i.e., administrative placement into the Behavior Change program).																												

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		<b>Documentation on TERMS C26 panel is required for all violations requiring administrative action.</b>																					
		<b>Discipline of ESE/504 students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal laws and School Board policies.</b>																					
		<b>LEGEND</b> <b>M = Mandatory action</b> <b>X = Initial punitive action (for 1st offense)</b> <b>A = Additional (progressive) action</b> <b>S = Incident codes reported to the State</b> <b>B= Recommendation for emergency behavior change</b>																					
		<b>Bus Behavior Incidents</b>																					
	Z7	<b>Level One Violations:</b> Eating/drinking on the bus. Failure to sit as assigned by bus operator.	M																				
		1st Offense																					
		2nd Offense																					
		3rd Offense																					
		Repeated Offenses																					
	Z8	<b>Level Two Violations:</b> Disrupting, distracting, disobeying the bus operator. Failure to utilize required safety equipment on the bus. Getting out of seat while bus is in motion. Loud talking, inappropriate remarks, or spitting out of bus window at students, pedestrians, motorists.	M																				
		1st Offense																					
		2nd Offense																					
		3rd Offense																					
	Z9	<b>Level Three Violations:</b> Placing head, arms, and legs outside of window. Opening the emergency door while the bus is in motion. Opening or exiting emergency door when the bus is stopped unless directed by the bus operator. Threats against the bus operator, attendant or passengers on the bus. Profanity directed at the bus operator or bus attendant. Fighting or smoking on the bus. Throwing objects out of the bus window or at the bus. Vandalism of seats or other bus equipment. Boarding or attempting to board (also attempting to leave) a bus other than the student's assigned route or stop without permission.	M																				A
		1st Offense																					
		2nd Offense																					
		3rd Offense																					

**Appendix - A**  
**Administrative Discipline Matrix**  
**Secondary - 2012/2013**

Reported to State	Incident Code	Incident	Prevention/Intervention (Re-entry parent conference) Consequence (Record on TERMS C26 Panel) - Minimum of Two	Collaborative Problem Solving Team (RtI)	Threat Assessment Protocol	Confiscation (When Applicable)	Restitution (When Applicable)	Detention	Detention (Extended/Multiple)	Saturday School	Verbal Warning (dress code violation only)	Loss of Extra Curricular Activities (1-5 days)(dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: 1-3 Days & Loss of Extra Curricular Activities 1-30 days (dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: Less Than One Day	In-School Suspension: 1-5 Days	In-School Suspension: 6-10 Days	Out-of-School Suspension: 1-2 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 3-10 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 6-10 Days (Offer AES)	Mandatory Out-of-School Suspension: 10 Days	Alternative Probationary Contract	Recommendation for Expulsion	Complete Immediate Notification Form (SIU)	Report to local law Enforcement required		
		<div>Documentation on TERMS C26 panel is required for all violations requiring administrative action.</div> <div>Discipline of ESE/504 students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal laws and School Board policies.</div> <div>LEGEND M = Mandatory action X = Initial punitive action (for 1st offense) A = Additional (progressive) action S = Incident codes reported to the State</div>																								
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	ZV	Truancy	M	A				X	A	A				A	A											
	ZG	Leaving Campus Without Permission	M	A													X	A								
	ZU	Out of Assigned Area	M	A				X	A	A				A	A	A										
		Rule Violation Incidents																								
	ZE	Dress Code Violation	M*	A							X	A	A													
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	ZP	Detention - Unserved	M	A						X					A	A										
	ZS	Detention - Saturday - Unserved	M	A													X	A	A							
S	ED	Electronic Devices - Offensive or unlawful use or publication				M													X	A		M	A			
	ZY	Cell Phone Violation Punitive action begins on the 2nd offense	M			M		X	A					A	A		A	A								
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S	Z2	Laser Device - Inappropriate Use	M	A		M												X	A	A	A	A	M			
S	G1	Gang Activity	M	M													X	A	A	A	A	A	M			
	XA	Disruption on Campus (Minor)															X	A	A							
S	D0	Disruption on Campus (Major)	M	A														X	A	A	A	A	M	A		
S	66	Trespassing	M	A													X	A	A				M	A		
S	F9	False Fire Alarm/911 Call	M	A														X				A	M	A		

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		Substance Abuse/Drug Incidents																									
		X* 1st Offense	Mandatory 10 day out-of-school suspension; up to 7 days may be waived after referral to the Area Substance Abuse Counselor.																								
		X* 2nd and 3rd Offense	Mandatory 10 day out-of-school suspension and recommendation for expulsion.																								
	Z4	Medication - Over-the-Counter (Possession/Unauthorized use)	M	A		M								X	A	A	A	A						M			
S	TU	Tobacco Use/Possession/Sale/Transmittal	M	A		M									X	A	A	A	A					M			
S	A1	Alcohol - Possession/Use/Under the Influence	M	A		M															X*		X*	M	A		
S	A3	Alcohol Sale/Attempted Sale/Transmittal	M	A		M															X		M	M	A		
S	D5	Drug - Possession/Use/Under the Influence	M	A		M															X*		X*	M	A		
S	D7	Drug or Imitation Drug Sale/Attempted Sale/Transmittal	M	A		M															X		M	M	A		
S	DF	Drug - Possession of unauthorized substances	M	A		M															X		M	M	A		
	DP	Drug Paraphernalia - Possession	M	A		M												X	A	A	A	A	M				
		Acts Against Persons																									
		X* - When deciding what disciplinary action should be taken, the Principal or designee shall consider the severity of the offense and may impose a more severe consequence up to and including a ten day out of school suspension.																									
	ZI	Fight - Minor/Altercation/Confrontation	M	A											X	A	A	A									
S	F1	Fighting	M	A													X*	A	A					M	A		
	ZA	Bullying	M	A	M												X	A	A					M			
S	HA	Harassment	M	M	M												X	A	A					M			
	ZT	Hazing	M	M	M									X	A	A	A	A									
S	SS	False Accusation Against School Staff	M	A													X	A	A					M	A		
S	56	Sexual Misconduct/Indecent Exposure	M	M													X*	A	A					M	A		
S	50	Sexual Harassment	M	M										X	A	A	A	A						M	A		
	ZN	Assault/Threat (Low level-Non-Criminal)	M	A	M									X	A	A	A										
S	A5	Assault/Threat (Medium Level)	M	M	M												X	A	A	A	A	A	M	A			
S	A6	Assault/Threat (High Level)	M	M	M														X			M	M	A			
S	A7	Assault/(Threat - Serious)	M	A	M														X			M	M	A			
S	22	Battery	M	A													X	A	A	A	A	M	A	A			
S	26	Battery on a SBBC Employee/Law Enforcement Officer	M	A															X			M	M	A			
S	23	Battery - Serious	M	A															X			M	M	A			

**Appendix - A**  
**Administrative Discipline Matrix**  
**Secondary - 2012/2013**

Reported to State	Incident Code		Incident	Prevention/Intervention (Re-entry parent conference) Consequence (Record on TERMS C26 Panel) - Minimum of Two	Collaborative Problem Solving Team (RtI)	Threat Assessment Protocol	Confiscation (When Applicable)	Restitution (When Applicable)	Detention	Detention (Extended/Multiple)	Saturday School	Verbal Warning (dress code violation only)	Loss of Extra Curricular Activities (1-5 days)(dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: 1-3 Days & Loss of Extra Curricular Activities 1-30 days (dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: Less Than One Day	In-School Suspension: 1-5 Days	In-School Suspension: 6-10 Days	Out-of-School Suspension: 1-2 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 3-10 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 6-10 Days (Offer AES)	Mandatory Out-of-School Suspension: 10 Days	Alternative Probationary Contract	Recommendation for Expulsion	Complete Immediate Notification Form (SIU)	Report to local law Enforcement required
	Documentation on TERMS C26 panel is required for all violations requiring administrative action.																								
	Discipline of ESE/504 students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal laws and School Board policies.																								
	LEGEND M = Mandatory action X = Initial punitive action (for 1st offense) A = Additional (progressive) action S = Incident codes reported to the State																								
	Property Incidents																								
	T5	Theft - Petty < \$300	M	A			M	A								X	A	A	A	A					M
S	T6	Theft - Grand ≥ \$300	M	A			M														X	A*	A	M	A
S	80	Theft - Motor Vehicle					M														X		M	M	A
S	V4	Vandalism/Damage to Property < \$1000	M	A				A											X	A	A	A	A	M	
S	V5	Vandalism/Damage to Property ≥ \$1000	M	A				A											X	A	A	A	A	M	A
	Z3	Technology - Inappropriate use (Computers or Networks)	M	A												X	A	A	A	A					
S	ST	Technology - Illegal use (Computers or Networks)	M	A																	X		A	M	A
S	13	Arson	M	A				A													X		M	M	A
	FS	Fire - Starting a fire on campus	M	A															X	A	A	A	A	M	A
S	36	Burglary - Unlawful Breaking/ Entering into a school facility	M	A				A												X	A	A	A	M	A
	A* - When deciding what disciplinary action should be taken, the Principal or designee shall consider the severity of the offense and may impose an Alternative Probationary Contract along with the initial punitive action.																								
	Other Criminal Incidents																								
S	OS	Other Serious Incident/Delinquent Act	M	A																	X	A	A	M	A
	XX	Delinquent Act/Felony Off-Campus	M	A																	X	A	A		
S	WA	Weapons - Class A (Possession)	M	A			M														X		M	M	M
S	WB	Weapons - Class B (Possession)	M	A			M												X	A	A	M	A	M	A
S	R2	Robbery or Attempted Robbery	M	A			M														X		M	M	A
S	R4	Robbery (Armed) or Attempted Armed Robbery	M	A			M														X		M	M	A
S	S1	Sexual Battery/Rape (Actual or Attempted)	M	A																	X		M	M	A
S	K1	Kidnapping or Abduction	M	A																	X		M	M	A
S	42	Homicide	M	A																	X		M	M	M
S	SE	Extortion	M	A			M														X		M	M	A
S	B3	Bomb Threat (Placing)	M	M																	X		M	M	M
S	B4	Bomb Threat (False Reporting)	M	M																	X		M	M	M

**Appendix - A**  
**Administrative Discipline Matrix**  
**Secondary - 2012/2013**

Reported to State	Incident Code	Incident	Prevention/Intervention (Re-entry parent conference) Consequence (Record on TERMS C26 Panel) - Minimum of Two	Collaborative Problem Solving Team (RtI)	Threat Assessment Protocol	Confiscation (When Applicable)	Restitution (When Applicable)	Detention	Detention (Extended/Multiple)	Saturday School	Verbal Warning (dress code violation only)	Loss of Extra Curricular Activities (1-5 days)(dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: 1-3 Days & Loss of Extra Curricular Activities 1-30 days (dress code violation only)	In-School Suspension: Less Than One Day	In-School Suspension: 1-5 Days	In-School Suspension: 6-10 Days	Out-of-School Suspension: 1-2 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 3-10 Days (Offer AES)	Out-of-School Suspension: 6-10 Days (Offer AES)	Mandatory Out-of-School Suspension: 10 Days	Alternative Probationary Contract	Recommendation for Expulsion	Complete Immediate Notification Form (SIU)	Report to local law Enforcement required		
		<div>Documentation on TERMS C26 panel is required for all violations requiring administrative action.</div> <div>Discipline of ESE/504 students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal laws and School Board policies.</div> <div>LEGEND M = Mandatory action X = Initial punitive action (for 1st offense) A = Additional (progressive) action S = Incident codes reported to the State</div>																								
		Bus Behavior Incidents																								
	Z7	Level One Violations: Eating/drinking on the bus. Failure to sit as assigned by bus operator.	M																							
		1st Offense	Verbal or written reprimand from school principal or designee																							
		2nd Offense	Parent Conference																							
		3rd Offense	3 day suspension from school bus transportation																							
		Repeated Offenses	Expulsion from school bus for remainder of the school year and/or possible suspension or expulsion from school																							
	Z8	Level Two Violations: Disrupting, distracting, disobeying the bus operator. Failure to utilize required safety equipment on the bus. Getting out of seat while bus is in motion. Loud talking, inappropriate remarks, or spitting out of bus window at students, pedestrians, motorists.	M																							
		1st Offense	Verbal or written reprimand from school principal or designee																							
		2nd Offense	1-10 day suspension from school bus transportation																							
		3rd Offense	Expulsion from school bus for remainder of the school year and/or possible suspension or expulsion from school																							
	Z9	Level Three Violations: Placing head, arms, and legs outside of window. Opening the emergency door while the bus is in motion. Opening or exiting emergency door when the bus is stopped unless directed by the bus operator. Threats against the bus operator, attendant or passengers on the bus. Profanity directed at the bus operator or bus attendant. Fighting or smoking on the bus. Throwing objects out of the bus window or at the bus. Vandalism of seats or other bus equipment. Boarding or attempting to board (also attempting to leave) a bus other than the student's assigned route or stop without permission.	M																					A		
		1st Offense	1-10 day suspension from school bus transportation and/or from school																							
		2nd Offense	10 day suspension from school bus transportation and/or from school																							
		3rd Offense	Expulsion from school bus for remainder of the school year and/or possible suspension or expulsion from school																							

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## Did you know?

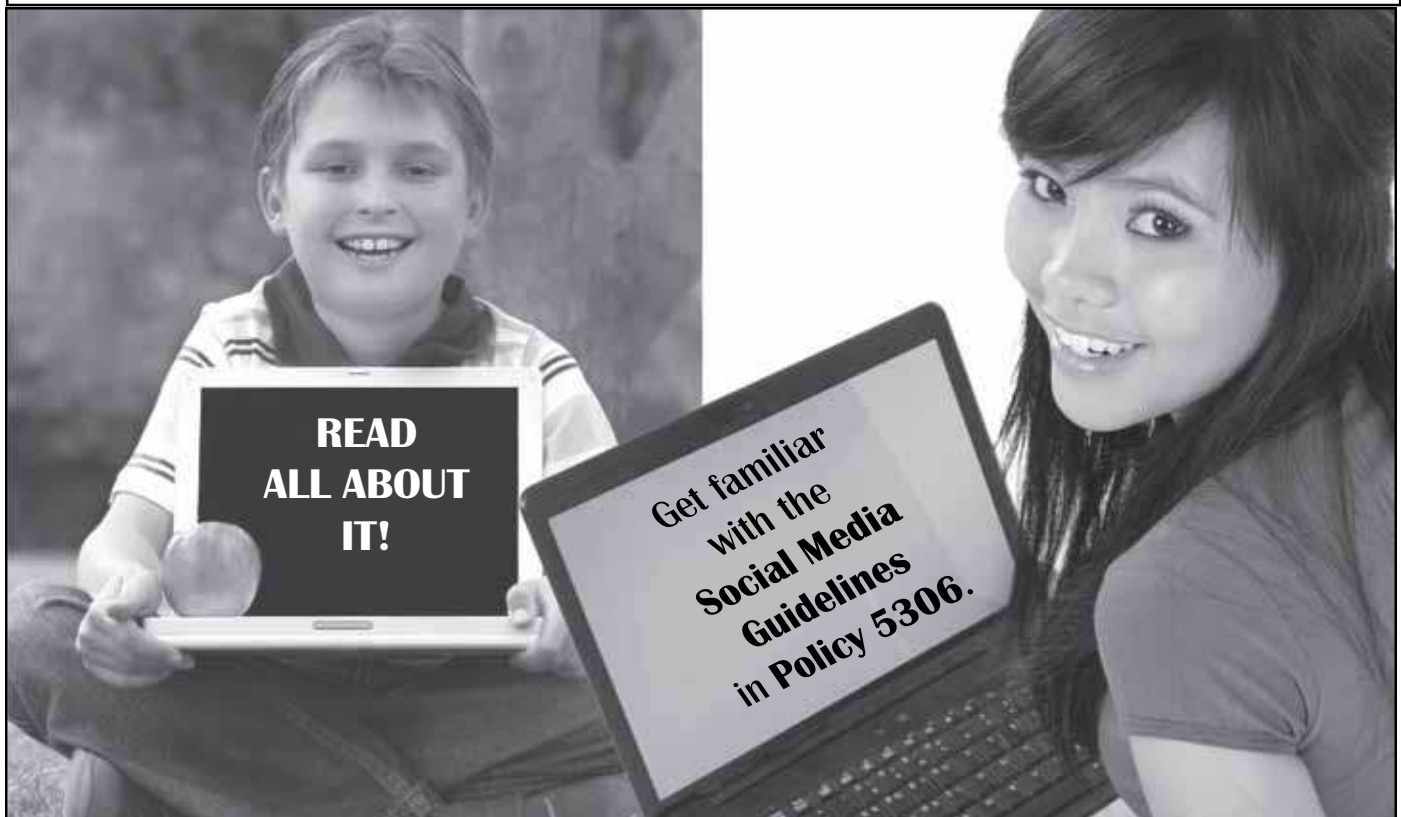
- Each year 1 in 4 adolescents reports verbal, physical, emotional or sexual abuse by their dating partner \*
- Dating violence is when one person uses their power to control and/or abuse another person in a dating relationship
- Dating violence is unacceptable and against the law in: ✓ School ✓ Home ✓ Community  
**EVERYWHERE!**



## Who can you talk to for help?

- SIU's Anonymous Tip Hotline 754-321-0911, your school administrators, or other trusted adults
- 211 First Call for Help 24-hour Info. & Referral, Dial 211 or 954-537-0211
- Women In Distress 24-hour Crisis Line 954-761-1133
- Florida Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-500-1119

\* Foshee VA, Linder GF, Bauman KE, et al. The safe dates project: theoretical basis, evaluation design, and selected baseline findings. American Journal of Preventive Medicine 1996;12(2):39-47. Avery-Leaf S, Cascardi M, O'Leary KD, Cano A. Efficacy of a dating violence prevention program on attitudes justifying aggression. Journal of Adolescent Health 1997; 21:11-17.



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