

Policy 5144: Discipline

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: 04/01/2014 | **Last Revised Date:** 03/01/2024 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 03/01/2024

The Governing Board is committed to providing a safe, supportive, and positive school environment which is conducive to student learning and achievement and desires to prepare students for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board believes that high expectations for student behavior, use of effective school and classroom management strategies, provision of appropriate intervention and support, and parent/guardian involvement can minimize the need for disciplinary measures that exclude students from instruction as a means for correcting student misbehavior.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop effective, age-appropriate strategies for maintaining a positive school climate and responding appropriately to student misbehavior at district schools. The strategies shall focus on providing students with needed supports; communicating clear, appropriate, and consistent expectations and consequences for student conduct; and ensuring equity and continuous improvement in the implementation of district discipline policies and practices.

In addition, the Superintendent or designee's strategies for responding to student misconduct shall reflect the Board's preference for the use of positive interventions and alternative disciplinary measures over exclusionary discipline measures.

Disciplinary measures that may result in loss of instructional time or cause students to be disengaged from school, such as detention, suspension, and expulsion, shall be imposed only when required or permitted by law or when other means of correction have been documented to have failed. (Education Code 48900.5)

School personnel and volunteers shall not allow any disciplinary action taken against a student to result in the denial or delay of a school meal. (Education Code 49557.5)

A student shall not be denied recess unless the student's participation poses an immediate threat to the physical safety of the student or to the physical safety of one or more of the student's peers. If, due to such immediate threat, a student is denied recess, staff shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve the threat and minimize the student's exclusion from recess, to the greatest extent practicable. (Education Code 49056)

Seclusion and behavioral restraint are prohibited as a means of discipline and shall not be used to correct student behavior except as permitted pursuant to Education Code 49005.4 and in accordance with district regulations. (Education Code 49005.2)

The Superintendent or designee shall create a model discipline matrix that lists violations and the consequences for each as allowed by law.

The principal or designee at each school may develop disciplinary rules to meet the school's

particular needs consistent with law, Board policy, and administrative regulations. The Board, at an open meeting, may review the approved school discipline rules for consistency with Board policy and state law. Site-level disciplinary rules shall be included in the district's comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282, 35291.5)

At all times, the safety of students and staff, providing interventions and supports to students, as well as the maintenance of an orderly school environment, shall be priorities in determining appropriate discipline. When misconduct occurs, staff shall attempt to identify the causes of the student's behavior and implement appropriate support and/or discipline. When choosing between different disciplinary strategies, staff shall consider the effect of each option on the student's health, well-being, and opportunity to learn.

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

The Superintendent or designee shall provide professional development as necessary to assist staff in developing the skills needed to effectively and equitably implement the disciplinary strategies adopted for district schools, including, but not limited to, knowledge of school and classroom management skills and their consistent application, effective accountability and positive intervention techniques, and the tools to form strong, cooperative relationships with parents/guardians.

District goals for improving school climate, based on suspension and expulsion rates, surveys of students, staff, and parents/guardians regarding their sense of school safety and connectedness to the school community, and other local measures, shall be included in the district's local control and accountability plan, as required by law.

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

Policy Reference Disclaimer:

These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State

5 CCR 307

5 CCR 353

Civ. Code 1714.1

Ed. Code 32280-32289.5

Ed. Code 35146

Ed. Code 35291-35291.5

Description

[Participation in school activities until departure of bus](#)

[Detention after school](#)

[Liability of parent or guardian for act of willful misconduct by a minor](#)

[School safety plans](#)

[Closed sessions](#)

[Rules](#)

Ed. Code 35291.5	School-adopted discipline rules
Ed. Code 37223	Weekend classes
Ed. Code 48900-48926	Suspension and expulsion
Ed. Code 48980-48985	Parent/Guardian notifications
Ed. Code 49005-49006.4	Seclusion and restraint
Ed. Code 49055	Restorative justice practices
Ed. Code 49056	Prohibition of denial of recess
Ed. Code 49330-49335	Injurious objects
Ed. Code 49414.4	Opioid misuse; alternative to referral to law enforcement
Ed. Code 49550-49564.5	Meals for needy students
Ed. Code 52060-52077	Local control and accountability plan
Federal	Description
20 USC 1400-1482	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
29 USC 794	Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504
42 USC 1751-1769j	School Lunch Program
42 USC 1773	School Breakfast Program
Management Resources	Description
California Dept of Education Program Advisories	Classroom Management: A California Resource Guide for Teachers and Administrators of Elementary and Secondary Schools, 2000
CSBA Publication	The Case for Reducing Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions, Fact Sheet, April 2014
CSBA Publication	Recent Legislation on Discipline: AB 240, Fact Sheet, March 2015
CSBA Publication	Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011
CSBA Publication	Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender- Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014
CSBA Publication	Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity During the School Day, Fact Sheet, November 2009
Fix School Discipline Project	Sample alternative discipline policy

U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Resource on Confronting Racial Discrimination in Student Discipline
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Fact Sheet: Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, January 2014
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Public Counsel
Website	U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
Website	California Department of Education
Website	CSBA

Cross References

Code	Description
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1114	District-Sponsored Social Media
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E(1)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3-E(2)	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1313	Civility
3512	Equipment
3512-E(1)	Equipment
3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools
3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools
3513.4	Drug And Alcohol Free Schools

3515	<u>Campus Security</u>
3515	<u>Campus Security</u>
3515.21	<u>Unmanned Aircraft Systems (Drones)</u>
3515.3	<u>District Police/Security Department</u>
3515.3	<u>District Police/Security Department</u>
3515.31	<u>School Resource Officers</u>
3515.4	<u>Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage</u>
3515.4	<u>Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage</u>
3543	<u>Transportation Safety And Emergencies</u>
4131	<u>Staff Development</u>
4158	<u>Employee Security</u>
4158	<u>Employee Security</u>
4258	<u>Employee Security</u>
4258	<u>Employee Security</u>
4358	<u>Employee Security</u>
4358	<u>Employee Security</u>
5000	<u>Concepts And Roles</u>
5020	<u>Parent Rights And Responsibilities</u>
5020	<u>Parent Rights And Responsibilities</u>
5030	<u>Student Wellness</u>
5112.1	<u>Exemptions From Attendance</u>
5112.1	<u>Exemptions From Attendance</u>
5112.5	<u>Open/Closed Campus</u>
5113.1	<u>Chronic Absence And Truancy</u>
5113.1	<u>Chronic Absence And Truancy</u>
5116.2	<u>Involuntary Student Transfers</u>
5125	<u>Student Records</u>
5125	<u>Student Records</u>
5127	<u>Graduation Ceremonies And Activities</u>
5131	<u>Conduct</u>

5131.1	<u>Bus Conduct</u>
5131.1	<u>Bus Conduct</u>
5131.2	<u>Bullying</u>
5131.2	<u>Bullying</u>
5131.4	<u>Student Disturbances</u>
5131.4	<u>Student Disturbances</u>
5131.41	<u>Use Of Seclusion And Restraint</u>
5131.5	<u>Vandalism And Graffiti</u>
5131.6	<u>Alcohol And Other Drugs</u>
5131.6	<u>Alcohol And Other Drugs</u>
5131.62	<u>Tobacco</u>
5131.62	<u>Tobacco</u>
5131.63	<u>Steroids</u>
5131.63	<u>Steroids</u>
5131.7	<u>Weapons And Dangerous Instruments</u>
5131.7	<u>Weapons And Dangerous Instruments</u>
5131.9	<u>Academic Honesty</u>
5132	<u>Dress And Grooming</u>
5132	<u>Dress And Grooming</u>
5137	<u>Positive School Climate</u>
5138	<u>Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation</u>
5141.4	<u>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</u>
5141.4	<u>Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting</u>
5142	<u>Safety</u>
5142	<u>Safety</u>
5144.1	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</u>
5144.1	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process</u>
5144.2	<u>Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities)</u>
5144.4	<u>Required Parental Attendance</u>

5144.4	<u>Required Parental Attendance</u>
5145.2	<u>Freedom Of Speech/Expression</u>
5145.2	<u>Freedom Of Speech/Expression</u>
5145.3	<u>Nondiscrimination/Harassment</u>
5145.3	<u>Nondiscrimination/Harassment</u>
5145.6	<u>Parent/Guardian Notifications</u>
5145.6-E(1)	<u>Parent/Guardian Notifications</u>
5145.7	<u>Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment</u>
5145.7	<u>Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment</u>
5145.71	<u>Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures</u>
5145.71-E(1)	<u>Title IX Sex Discrimination and Sex-Based Harassment Complaint Procedures</u>
5145.9	<u>Hate-Motivated Behavior</u>
5148.2	<u>Before/After School Programs</u>
5148.2	<u>Before/After School Programs</u>
6145	<u>Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities</u>
6145	<u>Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities</u>
6145.2	<u>Athletic Competition</u>
6145.2	<u>Athletic Competition</u>
6145.8	<u>Assemblies And Special Events</u>
6153	<u>School-Sponsored Trips</u>
6153	<u>School-Sponsored Trips</u>
6159.4	<u>Behavioral Interventions For Special Education Students</u>
6162.54	<u>Test Integrity/Test Preparation</u>
6163.4	<u>Student Use Of Technology</u>
6163.4-E(1)	<u>Student Use Of Technology</u>
6164.2	<u>Guidance/Counseling Services</u>
6164.5	<u>Student Success Teams</u>
6164.5	<u>Student Success Teams</u>

6184	<u>Continuation Education</u>
6184	<u>Continuation Education</u>
6185	<u>Community Day School</u>
6185	<u>Community Day School</u>
9321	<u>Closed Session</u>
9321-E(1)	<u>Closed Session</u>
9321-E(2)	<u>Closed Session</u>