

*Revised*  
Students

Rule 5144

Discipline

~~The District's goal is to ensure that it provides all of its students with schools that are safe and that have an environment that is conducive to learning. The District is committed to nondiscrimination in discipline and to treating all students fairly and equitably in the administration of discipline, without regard to race, color, or national origin. It is critical that students learn and are reinforced in appropriate behavior so that they are engaged in the District's education program, rather than its disciplinary system. Therefore, to the maximum extent possible and permitted by and consistent with the law, the District strives to adopt and implement student discipline policies that equitably implement research-based alternatives to exclusion; and 3) use exclusionary discipline only as a last resort.~~

~~Referral of students from the classroom environment for misbehavior should be avoided. To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Except when a student's presence causes a danger to himself/herself or others or he/she commits a single act of a grave nature or an offense for which suspension or expulsion is required by law, suspension or expulsion shall be used only when other means of correction have been documented and have failed to bring about the proper conduct and it is permitted by law. In no circumstance should student be suspended for tardiness or truancy. Schools shall follow the guidelines of discipline and suspensions in the Student Discipline and Intervention Matrix.~~

~~Classroom-based strategies include but are not limited to:~~

- ~~1. Explicit re-teaching of behavioral expectations~~
- ~~2. Separating students~~
- ~~3. Writing an apology letter~~
- ~~4. Assignment of additional tasks~~
- ~~5. Phone call to parent~~
- ~~6. Keeping students after class~~
- ~~7. Restorative conference with student(s) or class~~
- ~~8. Creation of a positive behavior contract~~
- ~~9. Conference with student~~
- ~~10. Conference with parent and the student~~

~~Parents should be notified if there is an escalating pattern of misbehavior that could lead to classroom or school removal. Students who exhibit a pattern of misbehavior should be provided more intensive support and interventions.~~

### *Site-Level Rules*

*Site-level rules shall be consistent with state law and Board policies and administrative regulations. In developing site-level disciplinary rules, the principal or designee shall solicit the participation, views, and advice of one representative selected by each of the following groups:*

- 1. Parents/guardians*
- 2. Teachers*
- 3. School administrators*
- 4. School security personnel, if any*
- 5. For junior high and high schools, students enrolled in the school*

*Annually, site-level discipline rules shall be reviewed and, if necessary, updated to align with any changes in state law, district discipline policies and regulations, and/or goals for school safety and climate as specified in the district's local control and accountability plan. A copy of the rules shall be filed with the Superintendent or designee for inclusion in the comprehensive safety plan.*

*School rules shall be communicated to students clearly and in an age-appropriate manner.*

*It shall be the duty of each employee of the school to enforce the school rules on student discipline.*

### *Disciplinary Strategies*

To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Except when a student's presence causes a danger to himself/herself or others or he/she commits a single act of a grave nature or an offense for which suspension or expulsion is required by law, suspension or expulsion shall be used only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. Disciplinary strategies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Discussion or conference between school staff and the student and his/her parents/guardians
2. Referral of the student to the school counselor or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling
3. Convening of a study team, guidance team, resource panel, or other intervention-related team (PBIS) to assess the behavior and develop and implement an individual plan to address the behavior in partnership with the student and his/her parents/guardians
4. When applicable, referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psycho-educational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan
5. Enrollment in a program for teaching pro-social behavior or anger management
6. Participation in a restorative justice program
7. A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the school day on campus
8. Participation in a social and emotional learning program that teaches students the ability to understand and manage emotions, develop caring and concern for others, make responsible decisions, establish positive relationships, and handle challenging situations capably

9. Participation in a program that is sensitive to the traumas experienced by student, focuses on students' behavioral health needs, and addresses those needs in a proactive manner.
10. After-school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose students to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups
11. Recess restriction as provided in the section below entitled "Recess Restriction"
12. Detention after school hours as provided in the section below entitled "Detention After School"
13. Community service as provided in the section below entitled "Community Service"
14. In accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, restriction or disqualification from participation in extracurricular activities
15. Reassignment to an alternative educational environment
16. Suspension and expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation

~~For students who have been suspended, expelled, transferred, or who are returning from alternative disciplinary placements or periods of incarceration, staff shall employ individualized efforts and strategies that seek to reintegrate students within the school community, including counseling, tutoring, and other educational services.~~

*When, by law or district policy, other means of correction are required to be implemented before a student could be suspended or expelled, any other means of correction implemented shall be documented and retained in the student's records.*

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

*When disciplining a student who has been identified for special education and related services, the procedures specified in Administrative Regulation 5144.2 - Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities) shall be applied. If a student has not been identified as a student with a disability and the district suspects the behavior that*

*resulted in discipline may be based in an unidentified disability, the district shall conduct an evaluation to determine if the student has a disability which requires an IEP or 504 plan.*

### **Corporal Punishment**

~~Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student.~~

~~Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student.~~

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

### **Recess Restriction**

~~A teacher may restrict a student's recess time only when he/she believes that this action is the most effective way to bring about improved behavior. When recess restriction may involve the withholding of physical activity from a student, the teacher shall try other disciplinary measures before imposing the restriction. Recess restriction shall be subject to the following conditions:~~

- ~~1. The student shall be given adequate time to use the restroom and get a drink or eat lunch, as appropriate.~~
- ~~2. The student shall remain under a certificated employee's supervision during the period of restriction.~~
- ~~3. Teachers shall inform the principal of any recess restrictions they impose.~~

### **Detention After School**

~~Students may be detained for disciplinary reasons up to one hour after the close of the maximum school day.~~

~~If a student will miss his/her school bus on account of being detained after school, or if the student is not transported by school bus, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the detention at least one day in advance so that alternative~~

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~~transportation arrangements may be made. The student shall not be detained unless the principal or designee notifies the parent/guardian.~~

~~In cases where the school bus departs more than one hour after the end of the school day, students may be detained until the bus departs.~~

~~Students shall remain under the supervision of a certificated employee during the period of detention.~~

*Students may be detained for disciplinary reasons for up to one hour after the close of the maximum school day, or until the departure of the school bus to which they have been assigned if applicable.*

*The student shall not be detained unless the principal or designee notifies the parent/guardian.*

*Students shall remain under the supervision of a certificated employee during the period of detention.*

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

## **Community Service**

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

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

## **Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students**

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

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

~~Staff shall identify the predominant languages spoken by the District's Limited English Proficient parents/guardians (LEP) and English language learners (ELLs). For those languages, the District shall create written translations of all the district's discipline policies, practices, procedures, and discipline notices and related documents. For LEP parents/guardians and ELLS who speak other less common languages, the District shall also provide oral interpretation of these documents upon request.~~

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