



Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Student Discipline
Code	218
Status	Active
Adopted	May 16, 2006

### **Purpose**

The Board acknowledges that student conduct is closely related to learning. An effective educational program requires a safe and orderly school environment; and the effectiveness of the instructional program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

### **Authority**

The Board shall require each student to adhere to Board policies and the rules and regulations promulgated by the administration and to submit to disciplinary measures appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. School rules and Board policies shall govern student conduct in school, at school-sponsored activities, and during the time spent in travel to and from school. [\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)

The Board shall adopt a Code of Student Conduct to govern student behavior.[\[2\]](#)

### **Guidelines**

Rules governing student conduct shall require students to:

1. Conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior.
2. Respect the rights, person, and property of others.
3. Preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged.

4. Obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.[3]

### Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment is prohibited by law.[4]

Even as corporal punishment is prohibited, reasonable force may be used by teachers and school authorities under any of the following circumstances: to quell a disturbance, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, for the purpose of self-defense, and for the protection of persons or property.[4]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement Board policy governing student conduct which:

1. Are not arbitrary, but bear a reasonable relationship to the need to maintain a school environment conducive to learning.[2]
2. Do not discriminate among students.
3. Do not demean students.
4. Do not violate any individual rights guaranteed to students.

The Superintendent or designee shall designate sanctions for the infractions of rules which:

1. Relate in kind and degree to the infraction.
2. Help the student learn to accept responsibility for actions.
3. Are directed to ameliorating any harm caused by the student's misconduct.
4. Hold parents and guardians accountable for the actions of their students.

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare guidelines for actions against delinquent children which provide for parental conferences, sequential discipline, suspension from school attendance in accordance with Board policy, and referral to juvenile authorities.[5][6][2]

The Superintendent or designee shall publish and provide to all staff, students and parents the rules for student behavior contained in the Code of Student Conduct and the sanctions that may be imposed for violations of those rules. A copy of the Code shall be made available in each main office.[2]

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a committee of staff members, students, Board members, and administrators to review annually the Code of Student Conduct and to recommend modifications.

The Superintendent shall report to the Board the methods of discipline imposed by administrators and incidences of student misconduct, in the degree of specificity required by the Board.

The building principal shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to the policies, rules and regulations of the district and to the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.[\[3\]](#)

Teaching staff and other district employees responsible for students shall have the authority to take reasonable actions necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where students are within the jurisdiction of this Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.[\[3\]](#)

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 510](#)

[2. 22 PA Code 12.3](#)

[3. 24 P.S. 1317](#)

[4. 22 PA Code 12.5](#)

[5. 24 P.S. 1338](#)

6. Pol. 233