

Board Policy

Code No. 503.1

STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

The Board of Directors believes inappropriate student conduct causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment, interferes with the rights of others, or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, personnel, and visitors on school premises. Appropriate classroom behavior allows teachers to communicate more effectively with students.

Students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately at all times, in keeping with their level of maturity. Respect for the authority vested in school employees, regard for public property, and consideration for the rights and welfare of other students should govern student behavior.

All employees of the District share the responsibility for seeing that student behavior meets standards of conduct that are conducive to learning. The aims of all school disciplinary rules and supervision are:

- To encourage the student to take responsibility for his or her own actions; and
- To gradually increase the student's self-discipline.

Students shall conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school district premises, while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered busses, while attending or engaged in school activities, while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Consequences for the misconduct will be fair and developmentally appropriate.

Students who fail to abide by this policy's expectations, and as outlined in the Parent-Student Handbook, may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the educational program, conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity, conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to participate in or obtain their education, conduct that is violent or destructive, or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere. Disciplinary measures, include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation, and expulsion.

A student who commits an assault against an employee on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned or school-operated chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school district activities will be suspended by the principal. Notice of the suspension is sent to the Superintendent. Assault for purposes of this section of this policy is defined as:

- An act which is intended to cause pain or injury to, or which is intended to result in physical contact which will be insulting or offensive to another, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act; or
- Any act which is intended to place another in fear or immediate physical contact which will be painful, injurious, insulting or offensive, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act; or

- Intentionally points any firearm toward another or display in a threatening manner any dangerous weapon toward another.

The act is not an assault when the person doing any of the above and the other person are voluntary participants in a sport, social or other activity, not in itself criminal, when the act is a reasonably foreseeable incident of such sport or activity, and does not create an unreasonable risk of serious injury or breach of the peace.

Removal from the classroom means a student is sent to the building principal's office. It shall be within the discretion of the person in charge of the classroom to remove the student.

Detention means the student's presence is required during non-school hours for disciplinary purposes. The student can be required to appear prior to the beginning of the school day, after school has been dismissed for the day or a non-school day. Whether a student will serve detention and the length of the detention shall be within the discretion of the licensed employee disciplining the student, and/or the principal.

Suspension means either an in-school suspension, an out-of-school suspension, a restriction from activities, or loss of eligibility, or a suspension on non-school days. An in-school suspension means the student will attend school but will be temporarily isolated from one or more classes while under supervision. The student may not attend school activities or may not participate in a contest of extracurricular activities. An in-school suspension will not exceed ten days.

An out-of-school suspension means the student is removed from the school environment, which includes school classes and activities. An out-of-school suspension will not exceed ten days.

A restriction from school activities means a student will attend school and classes but will not attend or participate in school activities.

Probation means a student is given a conditional suspension of a penalty for a definite period of time, not to exceed ten days, in addition to being warned and/or reprimanded for misconduct. The conditional suspension shall mean the student must meet the conditions and terms for the suspension of the penalty. Failure of the student to meet these conditions and terms shall result in immediate reinstatement of the penalty.

Expulsion means an action by the Board to remove a student from the school environment, which includes, but is not limited to, classes and activities for a period of time set by the Board.

Following the suspension of a special education student, an informal evaluation of the student's placement may take place. The Individual Education Program (IEP) is evaluated to determine whether it needs to be changed or modified in response to the behavior that led to the suspension.

If a special education student's suspensions, either in or out of school, equal ten days on a cumulative basis for that school year, a behavior manifestation of determination meeting will take place to determine the cause of the behavior. This meeting will consist of the entire IEP team.

Student Behavior and Discipline

Inappropriate student conduct causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment, interferes with the rights of others, or may present a threat to the health and safety of students, personnel, and visitors. When participating in sanctioned or non-sanctioned demonstrations, students shall conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school district premises.

Students who fail to abide by this board policy may be disciplined for conduct that disrupts or interferes with the educational program, conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity, conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to participate in or obtain their education, conduct that is violent or destructive, or conduct that interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere. Disciplinary measures, include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation, and expulsion.

Legal Reference: [Goss v. Lopez](#), 419 U.S. 565 (1975).

Brands v. Sheldon Community School District, 671 F. Supp. 627 (N.D. Iowa 1987).

Sims v. Colfax Comm. School Dist., 307 F. Supp. 485 (Iowa 1970).

Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972).

Board of Directors of Ind. School Dist. of Waterloo v. Green, 259 Iowa 1260, 147 N.W.2d 854 (1967).

[Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 282.3, 282.4, 282.5; 708.1.](#)

[281 I.A.C. 12.3\(6\)](#)

Cross Reference:

501	<i>Student Attendance</i>
502	<i>Student Rights and Responsibilities</i>
504	<i>Student Activities</i>
603.3	<i>Special Education</i>
903.5	<i>Distribution of Materials</i>

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