

Students

Discipline and Punishment

Policy Statement

The Board of Education (hereinafter "Board") believes that good student behavior in a school is extremely important in creating the kind of educational environment in which students will be able to realize their greatest opportunities for growth. Good discipline habits assume consideration for the rights and privileges of others, cooperation with all personnel in the school community, and basic self-respect as well as respect for real and personal property, pride in one's work and achievement within one's ability.

The development of good discipline practices is an on going interactive process that begins early in a child's life and continues throughout his/her life. The school becomes a critical part of this process because it has the responsibility of teaching and guiding children toward achieving and inculcating good self discipline. However, if the process is to be successful, the school and the home must work together in an effort to help and guide children toward achieving good self discipline.

The purpose of this Discipline Policy is to encourage accountability for one's behavior and to assist students in recognizing and learning the proper decisions which will lead to learning to become an independent and productive member of our democratic society.

In applying reasonable disciplinary measures, administrators and staff are encouraged to use their expertise and knowledge of individual students in light of the facts and circumstances accompanying acts or incidents in question. Such measures may involve, but are not limited to, removal, suspension, or expulsion. Whatever measure is employed, the discipline must always be fair and dignified.

Disciplinary Procedures - Overview

- A. When minor violations occur the usual procedure will be a discussion of the problem with the student and counseling of the student to eliminate repetition of the violation.
- B. Repeated minor occurrences or a serious violation should lead to a parental conference.
- C. When these measures prove ineffective, other disciplinary measures (i.e. - removal from classroom, suspension or expulsion) may be warranted and imposed by the school principal, his/her designee, the Superintendent and/or the Board.

(cf. 5114 – Removal/Suspension/Expulsion)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[4-177](#) through [4-180](#). Contested Cases. Notice. Record.

[10-233a](#) through [10-233f](#). Suspension, removal and expulsion of students.

[21a-240\(9\)](#) Definitions.

[53a-3](#) Definitions.

PA 94-221 An Act Concerning School Discipline and Security.

PA 95-304 An Act Concerning, School Safety

GOALS 2000: Educate America Act, Pub. L. 103-227.

18 U.S.C. 921 Definitions.

Title III - Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Act Sec. 314
Elementary and Secondary Schools Act of 1968, as amended by the Gun Free Schools
Act of 1994
PL 105-17 The Individuals with Disabilities Act, Amendments of 1997
Stafford High School, Student-Parent Handbook and Calendar, 1997-98, pp. 14-18

Policy adopted: September 8, 2003

Policy revised: May 16, 2005