



<b>Book</b>	Policy Manual
<b>Section</b>	200 Pupils
<b>Title</b>	Student Discipline and Code of Conduct
<b>Number</b>	218
<b>Status</b>	Active

## Legal

- [1. 24 P.S. 510](#)
- [2. 22 PA Code 12.3](#)
- [3. 22 PA Code 12.4](#)
4. Pol. 103
5. Pol. 103.1
- [6. 22 PA Code 12.2](#)
7. Pol. 218.1
8. Pol. 218.2
9. Pol. 218.3
10. Pol. 218.4
11. Pol. 218.5
12. Pol. 218.6
13. Pol. 218.7
14. Pol. 218.8
15. Pol. 218.9
16. Pol. 235
17. Pol. 122
18. Pol. 123
19. Pol. 220
- [20. 22 PA Code 10.23](#)
- [21. 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq](#)
22. Pol. 113.1
23. Pol. 113.2
24. Pol. 805.1
- [25. 22 PA Code 12.5](#)
- [26. 24 P.S. 1317](#)
- [27. 24 P.S. 1318](#)
- [28. 24 P.S. 1303-A](#)
- [29. 22 PA Code 10.2](#)
- [30. 35 P.S. 780-102](#)
- [31. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A](#)
- [32. 22 PA Code 10.21](#)
- [33. 22 PA Code 10.22](#)
- [34. 22 PA Code 10.25](#)
- [20 U.S.C. 7114](#)
- [22 PA Code 12.1 et seq](#)
- [22 PA Code 403.1](#)
- [34 CFR Part 300](#)

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### **Purpose**

The Board finds that student conduct is closely related to learning. An effective educational program requires a safe and orderly school environment.

### **Authority**

The Board has authority to establish fair, reasonable and nondiscriminatory rules and regulations regarding the conduct and deportment of all students in the school district during the time they are subject to the supervision and direction of school authorities.[\[1\]\[2\]\[3\]\[4\]\[5\]](#)

The Board has adopted a Code of Student Conduct to govern student behavior. The Code of Student Conduct consists of this policy and the following other policies:[\[2\]\[3\]\[6\]\[7\]\[8\]\[9\]\[10\]\[11\]\[12\]\[13\]\[14\]\[15\]](#)

Policy 218.1 Weapons

Policy 218.2 Terroristic Threats/Acts

Policy 218.3 Aggravated Assault

Policy 218.4 Drugs And Alcohol

Policy 218.5 Student Misbehavior

Policy 218.6 Smoking And Tobacco

Policy 218.7 Student Behavior On School Vehicles

Policy 218.8 Suspension And Expulsion

Policy 218.9 Bullying/Cyberbullying

Each student must adhere to Board policies and the Code of Student Conduct governing school discipline. Students shall not be subject to disciplinary action because of race, gender, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or handicap/disability.[\[16\]\[2\]\[3\]\[4\]\[5\]\[6\]](#)

The Code of Student Conduct and other policies regarding student behavior and discipline apply when students are under the supervision of the school, while they are on school property, while present at school-sponsored or regulated activities wherever occurring, and while traveling to or from school and school-sponsored or regulated activities. In addition, the Code and other policies apply in each of the following circumstances:

1. There is a nexus between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.
2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.[\[17\]\[18\]](#)
3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
4. The conduct has a direct nexus to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the

## Code of Student Conduct.

5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

### **Guidelines**

Any student disciplined by a district employee shall have the right to notice of the infraction.[14]

When a violation of the Code of Student Conduct involves student expression, Policy 220 shall be followed.[19]

Suspensions and expulsions shall be carried out in accordance with Policy 218.8.[14]

In the case of a student with a disability, including a student for whom an evaluation is pending, the district shall take all steps required to comply with state and federal laws and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies.[20][21][22][23][24][5]

### **Corporal Punishment**

The Board prohibits the use of corporal punishment as a form of discipline for students in the district. **Corporal punishment** is the use of physical force such as hitting, spanking or paddling intended to cause pain or fear for the purpose of student discipline.[25]

Reasonable force may still 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.[25]

### **Delegation of Responsibility**

The Superintendent or designee may promulgate rules and regulations to implement Board policy governing student conduct.

The Superintendent or designee shall publish and distribute to all staff, students and parents/guardians 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 of Student Conduct shall be available in each school office and shall be printed in the student handbook and/or posted on the district website.[16][2]

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.[26][27]

Teaching staff and other district employees responsible for students shall have the authority to take reasonable actions necessary to control the 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.[26]

### Referral to Law Enforcement and Reporting Requirements

For reporting purposes, the term **incident** shall mean an instance involving an act of violence; the possession of a weapon; the possession, use, or sale of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia as defined in the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act; the possession, use, or sale of alcohol or tobacco; or conduct that constitutes an offense listed under the Safe Schools Act. [\[28\]](#)[\[29\]](#)[\[30\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall immediately report required incidents and may report discretionary incidents committed by students on school property, at any school-sponsored activity or on a conveyance providing transportation to or from a school or school-sponsored activity to the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school's property, in accordance with state law and regulations, the procedures set forth in the memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement and Board policies. [\[31\]](#)[\[28\]](#)[\[24\]](#)[\[29\]](#)[\[32\]](#)[\[33\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of any student directly involved in an incident as a victim or suspect immediately, as soon as practicable. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the parent/guardian whether or not the local police department that has jurisdiction over the school property has been or may be notified of the incident. The Superintendent or designee shall document attempts made to reach the parent/guardian. [\[24\]](#)[\[29\]](#)[\[34\]](#)

In accordance with state law, the Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report all new incidents to the Office for Safe Schools on the required form. [\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)[\[13\]](#)[\[15\]](#)[\[24\]](#)[\[28\]](#)[\[7\]](#)[\[8\]](#)[\[9\]](#)

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.

Last Modified by Lisa M Brown on June 2, 2016