

A = 100-90 B = 89-80 C = 79=70 D = 69-60 F = 59 and below

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be:

A = 5 pts B = 4 pts C = 3 pts D = 2 pts F = 0

Students taking AP and/or IB courses shall receive weighted credit as described in this policy. Credit shall be given for each grading period during the course of the year, but shall be retroactively removed from a student's grade for any course in which the student fails to take the applicable AP exam. Students who do not take the AP exam shall receive the same numeric value for the grade he/she receives in the course as if it were a non-AP course.

Students who transfer into the district will be given weighted credit for the Advanced Placement courses, honors courses approved by the Arkansas Department of Education, and concurrent college courses taken for weighted credit at his/her previous school(s) according to the preceding scale.

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Mountainburg Public Schools may make arrangements with select public schools for alternative education purposes for at-risk students if and at the time a determination mandating such action is necessary.

Grades 5-12

A student may be assigned to the Alternative School rather than being sent home.

A student may also see the need for him/her to be in a more isolated/structured situation in order to be able to concentrate and get their assignments done. This also is a possibility through the Alternative Education Program.

----- Code of Conduct -----

STUDENT DISCIPLINE (4.17)

The Mountainburg Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District's students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

At any time on the school grounds;

- Off school grounds at a school sponsored function, activity, or event; and
- Going to and from school or a school activity.

The District's administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to: a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult; an assault or battery; drug law violations; or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student's appropriate due process rights.¹

The District's personnel policy committees shall annually review the District's student discipline policies, including State and District student discipline data, and may recommend changes in the policies to the Mountainburg School Board. The Board has the responsibility of determining whether to approve any recommended changes to student discipline policies.

The District's student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. Each student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

The District shall develop and provide programs, measures, or alternative means and methods for continued student engagement and educational access during periods of suspension or expulsion.

The superintendent is authorized to modify the penalties set forth in the District's student discipline policies on a case-by-case basis.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

The superintendent shall make a report annually to the Board of Directors on student discipline data, which shall include, without limitation: the number of incidents of bullying reported and the actions taken regarding the reported incidents of bullying.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT (4.18)

Students and staff require a safe and orderly learning environment that is conducive to high student achievement. Certain student behaviors are unacceptable in such an environment and are hereby prohibited by the Board. Prohibited behaviors include, but shall not be limited to the following:

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;
2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;
4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
7. Possession of any paging device, beeper, or similar electronic communication devices on the school campus during normal school hours unless specifically exempted by the administration for health or other compelling reasons;
8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug; (e-cigarettes and similar devices will be confiscated and destroyed)
9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
12. Gambling;
13. Inappropriate student dress;
14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
15. Truancy;
16. Excessive tardiness;
17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability;
18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, "throwing signs" or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
21. Sexual harassment;
22. Bullying;
23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device; and
24. Theft of another individual's personal property.

The Board directs each school in the District to develop implementation regulations for prohibited student conduct consistent with applicable Board policy, State and Federal laws, and judicial decisions.

DEFINITIONS OF VIOLATIONS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS FOR GRADES 5-12

Suspension – Dismissal from school for a period of time, not more than ten (10) days. Days of suspension shall count as UNEXCUSED absences and count against the number of missed days allowed. No makeup work is allowed for days missed due to suspension.

In-School-Detention – Structured program of study where a student is separated from other students. Days served in ISD count as regular attendance days. Special work and/or projects may be assigned. Students must comply with rules of ISD and work on assignments or ISD will be removed as an option. Participation in extracurricular activities is prohibited while in ISD. Exceptions to this allow students to attend athletic or award banquets, graduation, and baccalaureate services accompanied by parents and with consent of the principal. Students in ISD may not attend or participate in school activities while serving their assigned time.

Expulsion – Prohibition of a student from entering the school grounds until the end of the semester, the current school year, or permanently, with loss of credit. Expulsion from school will be determined by the Mountainburg Board of Education.

Last Two Weeks of School – Students who get into trouble during the end of the school year may not have all the discipline options available. If no detention is available, the student may have to choose suspension or ISD. ISD will be extended into the summer so those students may serve all days assigned to them. Students who get into trouble on the last day of school may have to return to ISD after school has been dismissed.

Attribute means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation;

Flagrant Violation means the student violated a serious code of conduct (this could include but is not limited to vulgar language, fighting, physical contact with intent to harm, drinking, smoking, immoral or indecent acts).

Misdemeanor Violation means the student violated a code of conduct that is not considered serious or dangerous (this could include but is not limited to talking without permission, tardy, behaviors that disrupt learning, not following instructions).

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

DISCIPLINARY PLANS OF ACTION PER CAMPUS

The Discipline Policies for each building include rules of conduct and consequences for not following building plans. Consequences will range from a minimum of a phone call to the parents to a maximum of expulsion.

GRADES K - 4

Classroom teachers will develop their own individual age-appropriate classroom rules, since each teacher, out of necessity, must reflect their own personal education priorities and the specific needs of the students in their individual classroom. Therefore, classroom rules may not be consistent from classroom to classroom and from grade to grade. In the event of a major disciplinary problem at school, parents will be notified by a telephone call from their child's classroom teacher and/or a written explanation. Teachers will make every reasonable effort to handle the minor violations before contacting a student's parents and/or making a referral to the office. However, teachers are not expected to put up with disruptions and cases of insubordination. If the situation warrants, the student will be sent to the office whether the parent has been notified or not. Privileges, which may be denied as punishment for poor behavior or failure to comply with classroom and/or school rules, are:

1. Recess (all or part)
2. Non-educational classroom activities
3. Assemblies
4. Non-educational special events
5. Field trips
6. Classroom rewards
7. Eating lunch with the other students

If a referral is flagrant, the student may be suspended.

In accordance with 6-18-507(b)(2) The School District shall not use out-of-school suspension or expulsion for a student in kindergarten through grade five (K-5) except in cases when a student's behavior: (A) Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others; or (B) Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT (Grades K-4) (4.39)

The Mountainburg School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued license as a condition of their employment. at Mountainburg Elementary School.

Prior to the administration of corporal punishment, the student receiving the corporal punishment shall be given an explanation of the reasons for the punishment and be given an opportunity to refute the charges.

All corporal punishment shall be administered privately, i.e. out of the sight and hearing of other students, shall not be excessive, or administered with malice, and shall be administered in the presence of another school administrator or designee who shall be a licensed staff member employed by the District.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a form of discipline for a student who is intellectually disabled, non-ambulatory, non-verbal, or autistic.

OFFENSES WITH CONSEQUENCES THAT DO NOT FOLLOW TIERS

1. Bullying (see page 33)
2. Dress Code (see page 26)
3. Cell Phones (see page 38)
4. Tardies (see page 8)
5. Truancy (see page 7)

TIER 1 OFFENSES

1. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations
2. Inappropriate public displays of affection
3. Skipping class; leaving campus without parental consent and not signing out through the office

TIER 1 CONSEQUENCES

- 1st T1 offense: 1 day of in school detention
- 2nd T1 offense: 2 days of in school detention
- 3rd T1 offense: 3 days of in school detention
- Each additional Tier 1 offense equals an additional day of in school detention up to 10 days
- 11th T1 offense: 1 day out of school suspension
- 12th T1 offense: 2 days out of school suspension
- 13th T1 offense: Flagrant 2 consequences

TIER 2 OFFENSES