STUDENT CONDUCT

The Massachusetts General Laws require the School Committee to adopt written policies, rules, and regulations not inconsistent with law, which may relate to study, discipline, conduct, safety, and welfare of all students, or any classification thereof, enrolled in the public schools of the District.

File: JK

The implementation of the general rules of conduct is the responsibility of the Principal and the professional staff of the building. In order to do this, each school staff in the District shall develop specific rules not inconsistent with the law nor in conflict with School Committee policy. These building rules shall be an extension of the District policies by being more specific as they relate to the individual schools, and shall be listed in the respective Student Handbooks.

The purpose of disciplinary action is to restore acceptable behavior. When disciplinary action is necessary, it shall be administered with fairness and shall relate to the individual needs and the individual circumstances.

Students violating any of the policies on student conduct and control will be subject to disciplinary action. The degree, frequency, and circumstances surrounding each incident shall determine the method used in enforcing these policies. Most of the situations which require disciplinary action can be resolved within the confines of the classroom or as they occur by reasonable but firm reprimand, and/or by teacher conferences with the student and/or parents or guardians.

Students with disabilities

Additional procedures and protections are extended to students eligible under the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C 1400 (2004)) or Section 504 (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C.794). The goal of these procedures and protections is to ensure that students are not punished for behavior directly related to their disability. The ultimate objective is for students to remain in school and receive support and instruction to assist them in modifying their behavior and/or provide accommodations for the behavior. Removing students due to their

disability and applying standard disciplinary actions may be counterproductive and a violation of IDEA or 504 protections.

If a situation should arise in which there is no applicable written policy, the staff member shall be expected to exercise reasonable and professional judgment.

SOURCE: MASC

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