

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES (4.17)

The principal will determine the offense level and consequences for each incident. The principal will consider the severity of the offense, the student's previous behavior, the developmental level of the student, and all other circumstances. The principal will determine the appropriate offense level and consequences based on all relevant information.

DEFINITIONS/PROCEDURES OF DISCIPLINARY TERMS (K-12)

OUT OF SCHOOL SUSPENSION / EXPULSION

63

At-Home Suspension is the last level of suspension. Students will be suspended at home ranging from one to ten days, depending upon the severity and frequency of the infraction. When a student is suspended at home, proper written notices will be sent to the parent/guardian and superintendent. The days a student misses school due to home suspension will count against the student's ten (10) day attendance record. Students who are suspended from school will not attend any school activity until returning to school for class attendance. Students can make up missed class work. Any parent, legal guardian, or person acting as a parent shall have the right to appeal to the superintendent or his/her designee. Examples: Possession/use of weapon, alcohol, drugs, unlawful entry into school buildings, destruction of school property, and any other offense deemed this level by the principal
Consequences: One (1) to ten (10) days At-Home Suspension or recommendation for expulsion at principal's discretion.

BEHAVIORAL CONTRACT A behavioral contract may be made as needed when an individual student's conduct requires it.

DETENTION (6-12) Detention may be held Monday–Thursday of each week. If a student fails to attend the detention assignment, he or she will be given an additional day. Failure to attend each of these days will result in a one-day assignment to In-School Suspension.

SATURDAY SCHOOL (6-12) Supervised study conducted from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION In-School Suspension is an attempt to isolate students who have had severe discipline problems and/or severe enough offenses that suspension from the regular classroom is required. Students in ISS will be responsible for keeping up or making up work from the regular classroom. It will be the individual student's responsibility. If a student is absent the day assigned to ISS, he/she will serve the assignment the next school day. Students assigned to ISS will not attend any activities until the morning after the student's completion of the ISS assignment. Examples: Fighting, physical or verbal abuse, forgery to defraud, threatening, harassment, possession/use of tobacco, or any other offense deemed as this level by the principal.

VERBAL REPRIMAND The first time that a student violates a rule or policy (depending upon the severity of the infraction) he/she may receive a verbal and written warning. The student will be warned of further violations.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT Corporal punishment is a form of discipline approved by the State of Arkansas and the Bald Knob School System. Reasonable discipline may include the administration of corporal punishment (paddling) to any student in the exercise of sound discretion by a certified employee and with principal approval. Corporal punishment can be administered only after alternatives, including, but not limited to, counseling has failed, or in unusual circumstances.

Parents may choose whether their child is given corporal punishment. Upon objection by the parent, the student will be subject to other disciplinary actions. If a parent/guardian objects to his/her child receiving corporal punishment, the parent/guardian must inform the school of his/her objection in writing at the beginning of the school year. In the event of a student enrolling late, the parent/guardian notification should be at the time of enrollment or within the five (5) day time frame for returning the form of acknowledgment/agreement of discipline policies and procedures distributed with the parent bulletin.

The Bald Knob 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.

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.

Reasonable discipline may include the administration of corporal punishment (paddling) to any student in the exercise of sound discretion by a certified employee and with principal approval. Corporal punishment can be administered only after alternatives, including but not limited to counseling, have failed or in unusual circumstances. Corporal punishment will be considered equal to ISS or Suspension when considering eligibility to participate in field trips, or any other privileges that would be denied due to failure to meet behavioral requirements.

If a parent/guardian objects to their child receiving corporal punishment, the parent/ guardian must inform the school of their objection in writing at the beginning of the school year. In the event of a student enrolling late, the parent/guardian notification should be at the time of enrollment or within the five (5) day time frame for returning the form of acknowledgment/agreement of discipline policies and procedures distributed with the Student Handbook. Upon refusal by the student or objection by the parent, the student will be subject to other disciplinary actions.

SUSPENSION (4.30) Students who are not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords. Administrators, therefore, shall strive to find ways to keep students in school as participants in the educational process. There are instances, however, when the needs of the other students or the interests of the orderly learning environment require the removal of a student from school. The Board

authorizes school principals or their designees to suspend students for disciplinary reasons for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) school days, including the day upon which the suspension is imposed. The suspension may be in school or out of school. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs: 1. At any time on the school grounds; 2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; and 3. Going to and from school or a school activity.

A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to that which: 1. Is in violation of school policies, rules, or regulations; 2. Substantially interferes with the safe and orderly educational environment; 3. School administrators believe will result in the substantial interference with the safe and orderly educational environment; and/or 4. Is insubordinate, incorrigible, violent, or involves moral turpitude.

Out-of-school suspension shall not be used to discipline a student for skipping class, excessive absences, or other forms of truancy.

The school principal or designee shall proceed as follows in deciding whether or not to suspend a student. 1. The student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her; 2. If the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence against him/her and be allowed to present his/her version of the facts; and 3. If the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student's re-admittance

65

to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) with lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older prior to the suspension. Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) having lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

Generally, notice and hearing should precede the student's removal from school, but if prior notice and hearing are not feasible, as where the student's

presence endangers persons or property or threatens disruption of the academic process, thus justifying immediate removal from school, the necessary notice and hearing should follow as soon as practicable. It is the responsibility of a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to provide current contact information to the District, which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis upon the suspension of a student. The notification shall be by one of the following means, listed in order of priority: 1. Primary call number; a. The contact may be by voice, voicemail, or text message. 2. An email address; 3. A regular first class letter to the last known mailing address.

The District shall keep a log of contacts attempted and made to the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis.

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of OSS.

During the period of their suspension, students serving out-of-school suspensions not be permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference or when necessary as part of the District's engagement or access to education program.

During the period of their suspension, students serving in-school suspension shall not attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension.

Suspensions initiated by the principal or his/her designee may be appealed to the Superintendent, but not to the Board.

Suspensions initiated by the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

EXPULSION (4.31) After a student has continually violated school policies and/or has committed a severe infraction, he/she will be suspended for ten (10) days, and a recommendation for the student to be expelled from school for the remainder of the semester will be made to the superintendent of schools and Board of Education. Prior to a child's admission to any Arkansas public school,

the parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding, A.C.A. 6-18-208 (Repl. 1993), amended by Act 574 of 1995.

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate, or where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment or would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be

66

expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

The President of the Board, Board attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the District administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis, or student if age 18 or older, requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, or representative will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses that gave rise to the

recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted. However, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of expulsion. The District's program shall include offering an expelled student an opportunity for enrollment in digital learning courses or other alternative educational courses that result in the receipt of academic credit that is at least equal to credit the expelled student may have received from the District if the student had not been expelled.

GRADES K-5 Violations of discipline policy will be dealt with according to the seriousness of the offense, the student's past behavior record, and/or the frequency of violations. Administrators may use discretion in determining and

resolving fights, classroom disturbances, obscene words, and gestures. A school resource officer may counsel with any student who commits a threatening or bullying act to another. Each classroom teacher has an assertive discipline plan that outlines acceptable behaviors. Most behavior problems will be handled at this level.

Violations of discipline policy will be dealt with according to severity of action and/or the frequency of violations.

67

LEVEL 1 OFFENSES Disrespect to student, failure to follow instructions, profanity, dress code violation, distraction caused by inappropriate or accidental use of cell phone or other electronic device, misbehavior at extracurricular events or any other offense deemed this level by the principal.
CONSEQUENCES: Min: Conference with principal. Max: Corporal Punishment

LEVEL 2 OFFENSES Disrespect to staff, refusing to cooperate, obscene gestures, and out of assigned area, throwing rocks, repeated level 1 offenses or any other offense deemed this level by the principal. **CONSEQUENCES:** Min: Lunch Detention. Max: In School Suspension (ISS)

LEVEL 3 OFFENSES Fighting, encouraging a fight, truancy, physical or verbal abuse, forgery to defraud, threatening/harassment, bullying, possession/use of tobacco, missing detention or repeated level 2 offenses or any other offense deemed as this level by the principal. **CONSEQUENCES:** Min: In School Suspension (ISS). Max: Suspension (OSS)

LEVEL 4 OFFENSES: Possession/use of a weapon, possession/use/under the influence of alcohol or drugs, unlawful entry into school building and/or destruction of school property, verbal or physical abuse of a school employee, physical battery/assault, sexual activity, or repeated level 3 offenses or any other offense deemed as LEVEL 4 by the principal. **CONSEQUENCES:** Min: Suspension (OSS). Max: Expulsion. **Offenses that involve a threat or safety issue of any kind will also require a conference with the student, the principal, and the school resource officer to ensure that the student is aware of the severity of his/her action and the safety issue that it could pose during school hours.

GRADES 6-12

LEVEL 1 OFFENSES Disrespect to student, failure to follow instructions, dress code violation, check-in/out procedure violation, 4th tardy, first cell phone violation, or any other offense deemed this level by the principal.

CONSEQUENCES: Detention; student placed at next level. For a minimum of one detention to ten detentions limit.

LEVEL 2 OFFENSES Disrespect to staff, profanity, obscene gestures, and out of assigned area or any other offense deemed this level by the principal.

CONSEQUENCES: ISS for a minimum of one day to a maximum of ten days; student placed at next level.

LEVEL 3 OFFENSES Repeated cell phone violation, encouraging a fight, horseplay, truancy, physical or verbal abuse, forgery to defraud, threatening/harassment, bullying, possession/use of tobacco, insubordination, academic fraud, racial slurs, missing multiple detention assignments or Saturday school or any other offense deemed as this level by the principal. **CONSEQUENCES:** One (1) to ten (10) days ISS: After the maximum assignments have been served the student will be placed at next level for all level three offenses.

LEVEL 4 OFFENSES Fighting, possession/use of a weapon, possession/use/under the influence of alcohol or drugs, unlawful entry into school building and/or destruction of school property, verbal or physical abuse of a school employee, continual violation of cell phone policy, insubordination, physical battery/assault, theft, sexual activity, serious threat of violence, or any other offense deemed as LEVEL 4 by the principal. **CONSEQUENCES:** One (1) to ten (10) days At-Home Suspension; or recommendation for expulsion. Any physical battery will receive a minimum three (3) day suspension.

68

If a student has accumulated 10 days of in school suspension or 10 days of out of school suspension during the school year, then a disciplinary hearing will be held before the superintendent or designee. Based on evidence and relevant circumstances, the superintendent will make a determination regarding future discipline for the student. Action may include but is not limited to authorizing

building level administration to exceed the previously mentioned discipline limits or to make recommendation for expulsion.