

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

FO
(LOCAL)

Student Code of
~~Student Conduct~~

The District's rules of discipline are maintained in the Board-adopted ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct and are established to support an environment conducive to teaching and learning.

Rules of conduct and discipline shall not have the effect of discriminating on the basis of age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, gender, handicap or disability, marital status, religion, veteran status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression, or any other basis prohibited by law.

At the beginning of the school year and throughout the school year as necessary, the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct shall be:

1. Posted and prominently displayed at each campus or made available for review in the principal's office, as required by law; and
2. Made available on the ~~District's website~~District's website¹ and/or as a hard copy to students, parents, teachers, administrators, and others upon request.

Revisions

Revisions to the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct approved by the Board during the year shall be made available promptly to students and parents, teachers, administrators, and others.

**Extracurricular
Standards of
Behavior**

With the approval of the principal and Superintendent, sponsors and coaches of extracurricular activities may develop and enforce standards of behavior that are higher than the District-developed ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct and may condition membership or participation in the activity on adherence to those standards. Extracurricular standards of behavior may take into consideration conduct that occurs at any time, on or off school property.

A student shall be informed of any extracurricular behavior standards at the beginning of each school year or when the student first begins participation in the activity. A student and his or her parent shall sign and return to the sponsor or coach a statement that they have read the extracurricular behavior standards and consent to them as a condition of participation in the activity.

Standards of behavior for an extracurricular activity are independent of the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct. Violations of these standards of behavior that are also violations of the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct may result in independent disciplinary actions.

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A student may be removed from participation in extracurricular activities or may be excluded from school honors for violation of extracurricular standards of behavior for an activity or for violation of the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct.

“Parent” Defined

Throughout the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct and discipline policies, the term “parent” includes a parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control of the student.

General Discipline Guidelines

These guidelines do not replace or supersede FOA(LEGAL), which allows a teacher to remove a student from the classroom. Additionally, these guidelines extend to CNA4(REGULATION) regarding enforcement of student discipline pertaining to student transportation.

A District employee shall adhere to the following general guidelines when imposing discipline:

1. A student shall be disciplined when necessary to improve the student’s behavior, to maintain order, or to protect other students, school employees, or property.
2. A student shall be treated fairly and equitably. Discipline shall be based on an assessment of the circumstances of each case. Factors to consider shall include:
 - a. The seriousness of the offense;
 - b. The student’s age;
 - c. The frequency of misconduct;
 - d. The student’s attitude;
 - e. The potential effect of the misconduct on the school environment;
 - f. Requirements of Chapter 37 of the Education Code; and
 - g. The ~~Code of Student Conduct~~Student Code of Conduct adopted by the Board.
3. No student shall be informally sent home. No student prior to third grade shall be suspended, placed into a disciplinary alternative setting, or expelled, except as required by law. Disciplinary actions that remove students from their school setting shall be used as a last resort for other elementary students in third through fifth grades.

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4. Before a student under age 18 is assigned to detention outside regular school hours, notice shall be given to the student's parent to inform him or her of the reason for the detention and permit arrangements for necessary transportation.

All school-based faculty and staff shall be trained annually in methodologies to provide a positive school climate, crisis prevention, and strategies for de-escalating disciplinary challenges.

Additionally, school-based faculty and staff shall be trained periodically on the issues of equity based on age, race, color, ancestry, national origin, gender, handicap or disability, marital status, religion, veteran status, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression as applied to the population served on that campus. Annually, all school principals shall publicly share disaggregated disciplinary data and the plans for improving school climate/reducing student misbehavior and rectifying inequities.

**Corporal
Punishment**

The Board prohibits the use of corporal punishment in the District. Students shall not be spanked, paddled, or subjected to other physical force as a means of discipline for violations of the ~~Code of Student Conduct~~ Student Code of Conduct.

Physical Restraint

Note: A District employee may restrain a student with a disability who receives special education services only in accordance with law. [See FOF(LEGAL)]

Within the scope of an employee's duties, a District employee may physically restrain a student if the employee reasonably believes restraint is necessary in order to:

- Protect a person, including the person using physical restraint, from physical injury.
- Obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object.
- Protect property from serious damage.
- Remove a student refusing a lawful command of a school employee from a specific location, including a classroom or other school property, in order to restore order or to impose disciplinary measures.

**Video and Audio
Monitoring**

Video and audio recording equipment ~~shall~~ may be used for safety purposes to monitor student behavior on District property.

When video and audio recording equipment is in use, ~~the~~ the District shall post signs notifying students and parents about the District's

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use of video and audio recording equipment. Students shall not be notified when the equipment is turned on.

Use of Recordings The principal shall review recordings as needed, and evidence of student misconduct shall be documented. A student found to be in violation of the District's ~~Code of Student Conduct~~ Student Code of Conduct shall be subject to appropriate discipline.

Access to Recordings Recordings shall remain in the custody of the campus principal and shall be maintained as required by law. A parent or student who wishes to view a recording in response to disciplinary action taken against the student may request such access under the procedures set out by law. [See FL(LEGAL)]

¹ District ~~Code of Student Conduct~~ Student Code of Conduct:
~~<https://www.houstonisd.org/codeofconduct>~~ <https://www.houstonisd.org/families-students/student-requirements-expectations/code-of-conduct>