

Regulation 5144: Discipline

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 09/20/2001 | Last Revised Date: 08/22/2019 | Last Reviewed Date: 08/22/2019

School Site-Level Rules

Site-level rules Rules for student discipline shall be developed at each school site and be consistent with state law and Board policies and administrative regulations. In developing these site-level disciplinary rules, each school the principal or designee shall solicit the participation, views and advice of one representative selected by each of the following groups: (Education Code 35291.5)

1. Parents/guardians
2. Teachers
3. School administrators
4. School security personnel, if any
5. Students in grades seven through twelve For secondary schools, students enrolled in the school

Annually, site-level discipline rules shall be reviewed and, if necessary, updated to align with any changes in state law, district discipline policies and regulations, and/or goals for school safety and climate as specified in the district's local control and accountability plan. A copy of the rules shall be filed with the Superintendent or designee for inclusion in the comprehensive safety plan and shall be communicated to students clearly and in an age-appropriate manner.

School rules shall be communicated to students clearly and in an age-appropriate manner.

It shall be the duty of each employee of the school to enforce the school rules on student discipline. (Education Code 35291.5)

Disciplinary Strategies

To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Suspension or expulsion shall be used only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct, except when students' presence causes a danger to themselves or others or they commit a single act of a grave nature or an offense for which suspension or expulsion is required by law, suspension, supervised suspension, or expulsion shall be used only when other means of correction have failed to bring about proper conduct. Disciplinary strategies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Discussion or conference between school staff, and the student, and the student's parents/guardians
2. Referral of the student to the school counselor or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling
3. Convening of a study team, guidance team, resource panel, or other intervention-related team to assess the behavior and develop and implement an individual plan to address the behavior in partnership with the student and the student's parents/guardians
4. When applicable, referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psychoeducational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program (IEP) or a Section 504 plan
5. Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management
6. Participation in a restorative justice program
7. A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the school day on campus
8. Participation in a social and emotional learning program that teaches students the ability to understand and

manage emotions, develop caring and concern for others, make responsible decisions, establish positive relationships and handle challenging situations capably

9. Participation in a program that is sensitive to the traumas experienced by students, focuses on students' behavioral health needs, and addresses those needs in a proactive manner
10. After-school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose students to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups

Recess restriction as provided in the section below entitled "Recess Restriction"

11. Detention after school hours as provided in the section below entitled "Detention After School"
12. Community service as provided in the section below entitled "Community Service"
13. In accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, restriction or disqualification from participation in extracurricular activities
14. Reassignment to an alternative educational environment
15. Suspension and expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation

When, by law or district policy, other means of correction are required to be implemented before a student could be suspended or expelled, any other means of correction implemented shall be documented and retained in the student's records. (Education Code 48900.5)

When a student has been suspended, or other means of correction have been implemented against the student, for an incident of racist bullying, harassment, or intimidation, the principal or designee shall offer both the victim and perpetrator a restorative justice practice suitable to the needs of the students. The principal or designee shall also offer the perpetrator to engage in a culturally sensitive program that promotes racial justice and equity and combats racism and ignorance and shall regularly check on the victim to ensure that the victim is not in danger of suffering from any long-lasting mental health issues. (Education Code 48900.5)

Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules fairly, consistently, and in accordance with the district's nondiscrimination policies.

When disciplining a student who has been identified for special education and related services, the procedures specified in Administrative Regulation 5144.2 - Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities) shall be applied. If a student has not been identified as a student with a disability and the district suspects the behavior that resulted in discipline may be based in an unidentified disability, the district shall conduct an evaluation to determine if the student has a disability which requires an IEP or 504 plan. (U.S.C. 1412(a)(3))

Recess Restriction

A teacher may restrict a student's recess time when he/she believes that this action is the most effective way to bring about improved behavior. When recess restriction involves the withholding of physical activity from a student, teachers shall try other disciplinary measures before imposing the restriction. Recess restriction shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. The student shall be given adequate time to use the restroom and get a drink or eat lunch, as appropriate.
2. The student shall remain under a certificated employee's supervision during the period of restriction.
3. Teachers shall inform the principal of any recess restrictions they impose.

Detention After School

Students may be detained for disciplinary reasons up to one hour after the close of the maximum school day or until the departure of the school bus to which they have been assigned if applicable. (5 CCR 307, 353)

The student shall not be detained unless the principal or designee notifies the parent/guardian.

If a student will miss his/her school bus on account of being detained after school, or if the student is not transported by school bus, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the detention at least one day in advance so that alternative transportation arrangements may be made. The student shall not be detained unless the principal or designee speaks to the parent/guardian.

In cases where the school bus departs more than one hour after the end of the school day, students may be detained until the bus departs. (5 CCR 307, 353)

Students shall remain under the supervision of a certificated employee during the period of detention.

Students may be offered the choice of serving their detention on Saturday rather than after school.

Community Service

As part of or instead of disciplinary action, the Board, Superintendent, principal, or principal's designee may require a student to perform community service during nonschool hours on school grounds or, with written permission of the student's parent/guardian, off school grounds. Such service may include, but is not limited to, community or school outdoor beautification, community or campus betterment, and teacher, peer, or youth assistance programs. (Education Code 48900.6)

Except when suspension or expulsion is required by law, the Superintendent, principal or principal's designee, at his/her discretion, may require a student to perform community service on school grounds during non-school hours instead of imposing other disciplinary action. Such service may include, but is not limited to, outdoor beautification, campus betterment and teacher or peer assistance programs. (Education Code 48900.6)

This community service option is not available for a student who has been suspended, pending expulsion, pursuant to Education Code 48915. However, if the recommended expulsion is not implemented or the expulsion itself is suspended, then the student may be required to perform community service for the resulting suspension. (Education Code 48900.6)

Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians, in writing, about the availability of district rules related to discipline. (Education Code 35291, 48980)

In addition, at the beginning of each school year, the principal or designee shall notify students and parents/guardians, in writing, regarding school rules related to discipline. The Superintendent or designee shall also provide written notice of disciplinary rules to parents/guardians of transfer students and their parents/guardians shall receive such notice upon at the time of their enrollment. (Education Code 35291.5)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State References

5 CCR 307

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[Participation in school activities until departure of bus](#)

5 CCR 353

[Detention after school](#)

Civ. Code 1714.1

[Liability of parent or guardian for act of willful misconduct by a minor](#)

Ed. Code 32280-32289.5

[School safety plans](#)

Ed. Code 35146

[Closed sessions](#)

Ed. Code 35291-35291.5

[Rules](#)

Ed. Code 35291.5

[School-adopted discipline rules](#)

Ed. Code 37223

[Weekend classes](#)

Ed. Code 48900-48926

[Suspension and expulsion](#)

Ed. Code 48980-48985	Parent/Guardian notifications
Ed. Code 49005-49006.4	Seclusion and restraint
Ed. Code 49055	Restorative justice practices
Ed. Code 49056	Recess restriction
Ed. Code 49330-49335	Injurious objects
Ed. Code 49414.4	Opioid misuse; alternative to referral to law enforcement
Ed. Code 49550-49564.5	Meals for needy students
Ed. Code 52060-52077	Local control and accountability plan

Federal References

20 USC 1400-1482	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
29 USC 794	Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Section 504
42 USC 1751-1769j	School Lunch Program
42 USC 1773	School Breakfast Program

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Management Resources References

California Dept of Education Program Advisories	Classroom Management: A California Resource Guide for Teachers and Administrators of Elementary and Secondary Schools, 2000
CSBA Publication	The Case for Reducing Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions, Fact Sheet, April 2014
CSBA Publication	Recent Legislation on Discipline: AB 240, Fact Sheet, March 2015
CSBA Publication	Safe Schools: Strategies for Governing Boards to Ensure Student Success, 2011
CSBA Publication	Providing a Safe, Nondiscriminatory School Environment for Transgender and Gender-Nonconforming Students, Policy Brief, February 2014
CSBA Publication	Maximizing Opportunities for Physical Activity During the School Day, Fact Sheet, November 2009
Fix School Discipline Project	Sample alternative discipline policy
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Resource on Confronting Racial Discrimination in Student Discipline
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Supporting Students with Disabilities and Avoiding the Discriminatory Use of Student Discipline under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
U.S. DOE, Office for Civil Rights Publication	Dear Colleague Letter on the Nondiscriminatory Administration of School Discipline, January 2014
Website	CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services
Website	Public Counsel
Website	U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights
Website	California Department of Education
Website	CSBA

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Cross References

0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0450	Comprehensive Safety Plan
0460	Local Control And Accountability Plan
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures
1312.3	Uniform Complaint Procedures

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3512	Equipment
3512-E PDF(1)	Equipment
3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools
3513.3	Tobacco-Free Schools
3515	Campus Security
3515.3	District Police/Security Department
3515.3	District Police/Security Department
3515.4	Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage
3515.4	Recovery For Property Loss Or Damage
3543	Transportation Safety And Emergencies
4131	Staff Development
4131	Staff Development
4158	Employee Security
4158	Employee Security
4258	Employee Security
4258	Employee Security
4358	Employee Security
4358	Employee Security
5000	Concepts And Roles
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5020	Parent Rights And Responsibilities
5030	Student Wellness
5112.1	Exemptions From Attendance
5112.1	Exemptions From Attendance
5112.5	Open/Closed Campus
5112.5	Open/Closed Campus
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5113.1	Chronic Absence And Truancy
5116.2	Involuntary Student Transfers
5116.2	Involuntary Student Transfers
5125	Student Records
5125	Student Records
5127	Graduation Ceremonies And Activities
5131	Conduct
5131.1	Bus Conduct
5131.1	Bus Conduct
5131.2	Bullying
5131.2	Bullying
5131.4	Student Disturbances
5131.4	Student Disturbances
5131.41	Use Of Seclusion And Restraint

5131.5	Vandalism And Graffiti
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs
5131.6	Alcohol And Other Drugs
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5131.9	Academic Honesty
5132	Dress And Grooming
5132	Dress And Grooming
5137	Positive School Climate
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5141.4	Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting
5142	Safety
5142	Safety
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5144.1	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process
5144.2	Suspension And Expulsion/Due Process (Students With Disabilities)
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.2	Freedom Of Speech/Expression
5145.3	Nondiscrimination/Harassment
5145.6	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.6-E PDF(1)	Parent/Guardian Notifications
5145.7	Sexual Harassment
5145.7	Sexual Harassment
5145.71	Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures
5145.9	Hate-Motivated Behavior
5148.2	Before/After School Programs
5148.2	Before/After School Programs
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145	Extracurricular And Cocurricular Activities
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6145.2	Athletic Competition
6145.2-E PDF(1)	Athletic Competition
6145.8	Assemblies And Special Events
6153	School-Sponsored Trips
6153	School-Sponsored Trips
6159.4	Behavioral Interventions For Special Education Students
6163.4	Student Use Of Technology

6163.4	Student Use Of Technology
6164.2	Guidance/Counseling Services
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