

CENTRAL BUCKS SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: STUDENT DISCIPLINE

ADOPTED: July 23, 2002

REVISED: October 25, 2011

218. STUDENT DISCIPLINE	
<p>1. Purpose</p>	<p>The Board acknowledges that student conduct is closely related to learning. An effective instructional program requires a safe and orderly school environment; and the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.</p>
<p>2. Authority SC 510 Title 22 Sec. 12.3</p> <p>SC 1303-A Pol. 218.1, 227</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 12.2, 12.3, 12.4</p>	<p>The Board shall require each student to adhere to Board policies and the rules and regulations promulgated by the administration and to submit to disciplinary measures appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. School rules shall govern student conduct in school, at school-sponsored activities, and during the time spent in travel to and from school.</p> <p>The school district and its employees shall implement and enforce any and all statutes or regulations governing student discipline, including but not limited to the Safe Schools Act and statutory provisions governing violence on school property, the possession, use, distribution, and manufacture of controlled substances and look-alike substances.</p> <p>The Board shall adopt a Code of Student Conduct to govern student behavior in school.</p>
<p>3. Guidelines</p> <p>SC 1317</p>	<p>Rules governing student conduct shall require students to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior. 2. Respect the rights, person, and property of others. 3. Preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged. 4. Obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.33</p>	<p>Data regarding disciplinary action(s) may be entered on a student's record when such notation can be used to assist counselors. All such information shall be removed from the student's permanent record when the student leaves this school district.</p> <p>Any student disciplined by a district employee shall have the right to notice of the infraction and a hearing before the building principal.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.5</p>	<p><u>Corporal Punishment</u></p> <p>Corporal punishment may not be imposed upon a student. For the purpose of this policy, corporal punishment shall be defined as excessive physical contact between the employee and student. Examples of excessive force will include, but not necessarily limited to, physical restraint, striking, grabbing, kicking, shoving, and poking.</p>
<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.5</p>	<p>School district employees, may, however, within the scope of their employment, use such amount of force and restraint as is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others or self; to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, for the purpose of self defense; or for the protection of persons or property.</p> <p>A principal or assistant principal, with assistance if necessary, may physically remove a student from an area when the student's behavior is seriously disrupting the school's program.</p>
<p>Pol. 122, 123</p>	<p><u>Off-Campus Activities</u></p> <p>This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would otherwise violate the Code of Student Conduct if any of the following circumstances exist:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The conduct occurs during the time the student is traveling to and from school or traveling to and from school-sponsored activities, whether or not via school district furnished transportation. 2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities. 3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.

SC 1317

Teaching staff members and other employees of the Board having authority over students shall have the authority to take reasonable actions necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of the Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.

CODE OF RIGHTS, RESPONSIBILITIES,
AND STUDENT DISCIPLINE

PHILOSOPHY

The goal of school discipline is to establish and maintain an environment conducive to learning. We believe that this environment is one in which:

1. Everyone has certain rights and specific responsibilities.
2. Firm, positive standards are clearly defined and consistently administered.
3. Self-respect is nurtured, and respect for others is required.
4. Unacceptable behaviors result in appropriate disciplinary consequences.

RIGHTS

The United States of America is a democracy in which the people have certain inalienable rights guaranteed by law. Our children have the right to a public education. In addition all people have the right to mutual respect. These rights involve responsibilities for protecting the rights of others.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Student

Students attend school so that they may learn and develop to their fullest potential. To achieve this each student has the obligation to:

1. Accept responsibility for his or her own actions.
2. Respect the rights of others, including others' rights to secure an education in an orderly environment.
3. Make a sincere effort to achieve excellence in all areas of learning.

4. Acknowledge the authority of teachers, administrators, and other school personnel in matters of discipline and behavior while under the jurisdiction of the school.
5. Obey the rules and regulations made by the school authorities and comply with state and local laws.
6. Understand and follow bus regulations.
7. Respect school property and the property of others.
8. Attend school on a regular basis.
9. Be punctual at all times.
10. Volunteer information in matters affecting the health, safety, and welfare of the school community.
11. Dress and groom to meet community standards of safety, health, and decency.
12. Communicate with his or her parents concerning school progress.
13. Understand and follow this code.

Parent Or Guardian

A cooperative relationship between home and school is essential to each student's successful development and achievement. To achieve this positive relationship, parents/guardians have the obligation to:

1. Teach students self-respect, respect for others, respect for the law and public or private property.
2. Demonstrate a supportive and positive attitude toward education and school personnel; build a good working relationship between home and school.
3. Set realistic standards of behavior and be firm, fair, and consistent in applying them.
4. Help students understand that rules are a necessary part of our society and cooperate with the school in resolving any problem.
5. Insist on prompt and regular attendance.

6. Encourage students to develop good health habits and to take pride in their appearance.
7. Encourage students to develop good study habits and take pride in school work and assignments.
8. Encourage students to bring home promptly all school communications. Respond to them as necessary.
9. Assume responsibility for any financial obligations incurred by their student in school. This includes lost books, damages to property, etc.
10. Monitor students' progress in school.
11. Understand and support this code.

Teacher

Every teacher works with the future generation. In view of this responsibility teachers have the obligation to:

1. Promote a climate of mutual respect and dignity.
2. Plan and conduct a program of instruction which will make students eager to learn.
3. Promote and strengthen the students' self-esteem.
4. Seek cooperative relationships with parents/guardians for the benefit of students; keep parents/guardians informed of their child's progress.
5. Distinguish between minor misconduct and major problems requiring the principal's assistance.
6. Set a good example in regard to dress, behavior, and language.
7. Handle individual infractions privately and avoid punishing the group for misbehavior of one or two.
8. Listen to students, be sensitive to changing behavior patterns, and provide students with opportunities to discuss their problems.

9. Maintain professional ethics in relationships with students, parents/guardians, other teachers, and administrators.
10. Teach and encourage students to obtain their full potential.
11. Present and enforce this code in the school and in school-related activities.

Principal

As the educational leader of the school, the principal sets the disciplinary climate for the school, not only for students but for staff as well. The principal has the obligation to:

1. Develop within the school a sound and healthy atmosphere of mutual respect.
2. Evaluate the instructional program to provide a superior education in the school.
3. Be available to students, parents/guardians, staff, and community in the role of educational leader.
4. Develop procedures which reduce the likelihood of students misconduct.
5. Work with students, parents/guardians, and staff to formulate school regulations.
6. Help staff members evaluate their own procedures and attitudes in relation to their actions within the classroom.
7. Establish necessary building security.
8. Assume responsibility for the dissemination and enforcement of the Code of Rights, Responsibilities and Student Discipline and insure that all discipline cases referred are resolved promptly.
9. Comply with pertinent state laws and regulations governing hearing, suspensions, and students' rights.
10. Insure fair and consistent application of this districtwide Code of Rights, Responsibilities and Student Discipline.

<p>SC 1302.1A, 1303-A</p> <p>Pol. 805</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>District Administration</u></p> <p>As the educational leaders of the school system, the Superintendent, assistant superintendent, and supervisors have the obligation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Reinforce the indicated responsibilities of the principals.2. Recommend to the Board of School Directors appropriate policies and actions to achieve optimum conditions for positive learning.3. Maintain and review an effective code supportable by students, parents/guardians, staff, and community. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Community</u></p> <p>The school is not a separate entity but rather an integral part of the community. Community members have an obligation to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Follow all established rules and regulations while using school facilities.2. Be an active and informed member of the school community.3. Be consistent in dealing with youth.4. Be aware of and support this code. <p>When conduct so warrants, the building principal shall, in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct and the memorandum of understanding, contact the police department who has jurisdiction over the school's property.</p> <p>The memorandum of understanding shall provide procedures for local law enforcement response including, but not limited to, investigation of the incident, interrogation and custody of the student.</p> <p><u>Required Reports</u></p> <p>The Superintendent shall report to the Board the methods of discipline imposed by administrators and incidences of student misconduct, in the degree of specificity required by the Board.</p>
---	---

218. STUDENT DISCIPLINE - Pg. 9

<p>SC 1303-A Pol.218.1, 218.2, 222, 227</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall annually, by July 31, report to the Office of Safe Schools on the required form all new incidents that occurred on school property and involved conduct including, but not limited to, acts of violence, weapons, terroristic threats, controlled substances, alcohol or tobacco.</p>
<p>SC 1303-A</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall annually, no later than July 1, submit the prepared Office of Safe Schools report to the police department with jurisdiction over the school building for review and comparison with police incident data. Discrepancies shall be resolved in accordance with the procedures outlined in the memorandum of understanding.</p>
	<p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1302.1-A, 1303-A, 1317, 1318</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.1 et seq., 403.1</p> <p>No Child Left Behind Act – 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114</p> <p>Board Policy – 103, 122, 123, 218.1, 218.2, 222, 227, 233, 235, 805</p>