

## **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

The Southwest Technology Center Board of Education believes that the primary function of the school is to educate students, not to discipline. The board further believes that students have the right to learn free of unnecessary distractions and to attend a school in which an atmosphere conducive to learning exists. However, education includes establishing norms of acceptable social behavior and assisting students in understanding and attaining those norms. Occasionally, corrective actions are necessary for the benefit of the individual and the school.

The teacher in a public school has the same rights as a parent or guardian to control and discipline a student while the student is in attendance at Southwest Technology Center, in transit to or from Southwest Technology Center, or while attending or participating in any authorized school function. Further, it is the policy of the district that students may be disciplined for any misconduct related to the programs or activities of the district. No teacher or administrator will administer formal discipline to his or her own student on behalf of the school except in cases of disruption in the classroom or common areas. Disciplinary matters concerning students of school employees will be handled by the campus director or the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. The superintendent's student will be disciplined by someone other than the superintendent.

Each student shall be treated in a fair and equitable manner. Disciplinary action will be based on a careful assessment of the circumstances surrounding each infraction. The following are some examples of these circumstances:

- The student's attitude;
- The seriousness of the offense;
- The effect of the offense on other students;
- Whether the offense is physically or mentally injurious to other people;
- Whether the incident is isolated or habitual behavior;
- The manifestation of a disability;
- Any other circumstances which may be appropriately considered.

Standards of behavior for all members of society are generally a matter of common sense. The following examples of behavior are not acceptable in society generally, and in a school environment particularly. The involvement of a student in the kind of behavior listed below will generally require remedial or corrective action. These examples are not intended to be exhaustive and the exclusion or omission of unacceptable behavior is not an endorsement or acceptance of such behavior. When, in the judgment of a teacher or administrator, a student is involved or has been involved in unacceptable behavior, appropriate remedial or corrective action will be taken.

1. Unexcused lateness to school
2. Unexcused lateness to class
3. Contempt or disrespect for authority
4. Cheating on schoolwork
5. Cutting class
6. Leaving school without permission
7. Refusing detention and/or in-school suspension
8. Smoking
9. Truancy
10. Profanity or vulgarity
11. Possessing, selling, or using alcoholic beverages or other mood-altering chemicals
12. Hazing
13. Willful disobedience

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Cont.)**

14. Conduct that jeopardizes the welfare/safety of others or is disruptive to the operation of the school
15. Bus misconduct
16. Stealing
17. Extortion
18. Forgery, fraud, or embezzlement
19. Assault, physical and/or verbal
20. Fighting
21. Possession of weapons or other items with the potential to cause harm
22. Distributing/possessing obscene literature
23. Destroying/defacing school property
24. Striking a teacher or other school employee
25. Racial discrimination including racial slurs or other demeaning remarks concerning another person's race, ancestry, or country of origin and directed toward another student, an employee, or a visitor
26. Sexual Harassment
27. Gang related activity or action
28. Violation of school rules, regulations, or policies
29. Any violation of local, state, or federal statutes

In administering discipline, consideration will be given to alternative methods of punishment to insure that the most effective discipline is administered in each case. In all disciplinary action, teachers and administrators will be mindful of the fact that they are dealing with individual personalities. The faculty may consider consultation with parents of secondary students to determine the most effective disciplinary measure.

In considering alternatives of corrective actions, the faculty/administration of the school district will consider those listed below. However, the school is not limited to these alternative methods, nor does this list reflect an order or sequence of events to follow in disciplinary actions. The board of education will rely upon the judgment and discretion of the administrator and/or faculty member to determine the appropriate remedial or corrective action in each instance.

1. Conference with student
2. Conference with parents (secondary students)
3. Probationary period in-school suspension
4. Detention
5. Referral to counselor/counseling
6. Behavioral contract
7. Changing student's seat assignment or class assignment
8. Temporary removal from class
9. Requiring a student to make financial restitution for damaged property
10. Requiring a student to clean or straighten items or facilities damaged by the student's behavior
11. Restriction of privileges
12. Involvement of local authorities
13. Referring student to appropriate court-related or social agency
14. Removal from class, group, or activity
15. Suspension (short-term or long-term)
16. Other appropriate disciplinary action as required and as indicated by the circumstances

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Cont.)**

Parents/guardians of secondary students and students enrolled in this school district shall be notified at the beginning of each school year that this policy is in effect. A copy of this policy will be made available upon request to parents or guardians of secondary students at any time during the school year.

Parents/guardians of secondary students and students residing in this school district are also advised by means of this policy statement and by the student handbook that students in this district shall have no reasonable expectation of privacy rights towards school officials, in school lockers, desks, or other school property. School personnel shall have access to school lockers, desks, and other school property at any time and no reason shall be necessary for such search. Student property may be searched with reasonable suspicion.

Teachers, parents/guardians of secondary students and students are invited and encouraged to participate in the formulation of disciplinary policies, rules, and regulations by suggesting to administrators appropriate means of discipline for specific infractions.

**REFERENCE:** 10 O.S. §7115  
70 O.S. §6-114  
70 O.S. §24-101.3

**CROSS-REFERENCE:** Policy FOB, Corporal Punishment  
Policy FOC, Detention  
Policy FOD, Suspension of Students  
Policy FOD-IHS-R, In-house Suspension of Students  
Policy FODD, Student Discipline, Out-of-School Actions  
Policy FNC, Student Conduct  
Policy FNF, Search of Students  
Student Handbooks

**Adopted:** January 1994 as policy S-137  
**Revised:** November 1995

*THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW.*