

## VANDALISM PROTECTION

If any pupil shall willfully destroy, cut, deface or damage any school building, equipment or other school property, he shall be liable to suspension or expulsion and his parents or guardian shall be liable for all damages. Pursuant to state law, the district is entitled to recover damages in an amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), plus necessary court costs, from the parents of any minor under the age of eighteen (18) years and over the age of six (6), who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys property belonging to such school district. However, this section shall not apply to parents whose parental control of such child has been removed by court or decree. The action authorized in this section is in addition to all other actions which the district is entitled to maintain and nothing in this section precludes recovery in a greater amount from the minor or from a person, including the parents, for damages to which such minor or other person would otherwise be liable.

Citizens, students and members of the police department are urged by the board to cooperate in reporting any incidents of vandalism in property belonging to the district and the name(s) of the person or persons believed to be responsible. Each employee of the district shall report to the principal of the school every incident of vandalism known to him or her, and, if known the names of those responsible.

The superintendent is authorized to sign a criminal complaint and to press charges against perpetrators of vandalism against school property and is further authorized to delegate authority to sign such complaints to press charges.

In an effort to foster an environment conducive to learning, the district will adhere to the following expectations:

1. A copy of the school district's discipline plan will be distributed to each student enrolled in the district, and the parents, guardian or custodian of such student shall sign a statement verifying that they have been given notice of the discipline policies of their respective school district. The school board shall have its official discipline plan and code of student conduct legally audited on an annual basis to insure that its policies and procedures are currently in compliance with applicable statutes, case law and state and federal constitutional provisions.
2. All discipline plans of school districts will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - a. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in a public school district shall be responsible financially for his or her minor child's destructive acts against school property or persons;

- b. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in a public school district may be requested to appear at school by the school attendance officer or an appropriate school official for a conference regarding acts of the child specified in paragraph (a) of this subsection, or for any other discipline conference regarding the acts of the child;
  - c. Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in the district who refuses or willfully fails to attend such discipline conference specified in paragraph (b) of this section may be summoned by proper notification by the superintendent of schools or the school attendance officer and be required to attend such discipline conference;  
and
  - d. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child enrolled in the district is responsible for any criminal fines brought against such student for unlawful activity occurring on school grounds or buses.
3. Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory-school-age child who (a) fails to attend a discipline conference to which such parent, guardian or custodian has been summoned under the provisions of this section, or (b) refuses or willfully fails to perform any other duties imposed upon him or her under the provisions of this section, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be fined not to exceed Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00).

SOURCE: Jackson Public School District, Jackson, Mississippi  
LEGAL REF: Sections 37-11-19, 37-7-301; 37-11-53; Mississippi Code of 1972  
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