

SCHOLAR CONDUCT

Section I: PURPOSE

The Jackson Public School District Board of Trustees firmly believes that a positive school culture promotes equal educational opportunity and establishes the framework for a safe learning environment. Scholars have a right to a public education, but with this right comes personal responsibility. Education is a process that requires a safe and orderly environment, and scholars have a responsibility to know and to respect the rules and regulations of the school. Scholars are responsible for conducting themselves in an appropriate manner at all times. Scholars who obstruct any teaching, administrative, or extracurricular activity whether in school, on the playground, at a school-related event or activity, or en route to or from school shall be subject to such disciplinary procedures as set forth by the Superintendent.

Parents, legal guardians, or custodians of a compulsory school-age scholar enrolled in a public school in the district shall be responsible financially for his or her minor child's destructive acts against school property or persons.

A parent, guardian, or custodian of a compulsory school age scholar may be requested to appear at school by an appropriate school official for a conference regarding acts of the scholar.

Every teacher is authorized to hold every scholar to a strict accountability for an orderly environment. Every scholar is strictly accountable for any disorderly conduct in school or on the playground at a school-related event or activity, or en route to or from school.

For a proper learning environment to be maintained, each school must implement Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) strategies to define, teach, model, and support appropriate scholar behaviors to maintain positive school environments. Administrators and teachers will make certain that all scholars understand the conduct appropriate for attendance at school and its sponsored activities as well as in the classroom. The Board believes that it is the responsibility of all scholars, teachers, and administrators to see that such a positive learning environment is achieved.

The District will provide a Code of Scholar Conduct and Handbook to every scholar which shall include the acceptable behavior for scholars and the scholar discipline code. It will provide specific information regarding the District's expectations for scholars as well as interventions and dispositions for violations of policies will be explicitly set forth in this document. The Code of Student Conduct and Handbook will describe the expectations for all scholars' consistent and timely attendance, respect for people and property, appropriate dress,

technology usage, scholar activities, scholar records, and the rights to appeal, including grievance procedures.

Section II: DISCIPLINARY OBJECTIVES

The basic objectives of discipline within the school and in each classroom may be described as twofold:

1. To establish and maintain safe and orderly conditions that are conducive to learning
2. To develop, on the part of all scholars, the habits and skills that make each scholar self-directive, self-disciplined and more willing and able to assume the responsibility for proper and acceptable behavior.

Section III: A COMMON SET OF ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIORS FOR SCHOLARS

Scholars in the District are expected to:

1. Attend all classes daily and be punctual in attendance.
2. Come to class prepared and have appropriate working materials.
3. Be respectful of all individuals and property.
4. Act and speak in a safe, respectful, and responsible manner.
5. Dress appropriately and be neatly groomed.
6. Promptly report problems to the teacher, or other supervising adult and parent. If reported to the parent, the parent should contact the principal immediately.
7. Abide by the rules and regulations of the school and each classroom teacher.

Section IV: BREACH OF RULES AND MISCONDUCT

Violations of established school rules, safety regulations, and evidence of inappropriate conduct, considered unacceptable to school officials responsible for the best interest of all scholars in the school may result in disciplinary action. The following list of offenses may cause a scholar to be suspended or expelled. Suspension means a temporary forfeiture of membership in the school. Expulsion is the act of excluding a scholar from school. This list is not intended to include every offense for which a scholar may be suspended or expelled, but the list includes some of the more common offenses considered to be violations of regulations:

- Alcohol Possession
- Bullying
- Bus disturbance
- Coercion/Extortion
- Cyber Bullying
- Disorderly Conduct
- False Accusations
- Fighting/Inflicting Bodily Injury
- Harassment
- Possession, Distribution, and/or Purchase of Drugs and Alcohol
- Profanity Directed toward Staff
- Severe Campus Disturbance
- Stealing
- Threatening/Intimidation
- Trespassing
- Vandalism

Section V: FIGHTING, GANG RELATED FIGHTING, POSSESSION OF DEADLY WEAPONS OR EXPLOSIVES, DESTRUCTION OF SCHOOL PROPERTY, PUBLIC INDECENCY, LEWDNESS, OR EXPOSURE, HARASSMENT, SERIOUS BODILY INJURY, SEXUAL ACTS OR SEXUAL HARASSMENT, STEALING, VANDALISM, SELLING, DISTRIBUTION, OR POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS AND ALCOHOL, AND ASSAULT OR BATTERY OF A STAFF MEMBER

The subject of fighting, gang related fighting, possession of deadly weapons or explosives, destruction of school property, public indecency, lewdness, or exposure, harassment, serious bodily injury, sexual acts or sexual harassment, stealing, vandalism, selling, distribution, or possession of illegal drugs and alcohol, and assault or battery of a staff member are grounds for long-term suspension, alternative school placement, or expulsion.

A scholar will be deemed to be in possession of a deadly weapon when same is carried personally, in locker, in automobile, provided said automobile is otherwise under personal control and incident to school activities or attendance. The school principal may also recommend long-term suspension, alternative school placement, or expulsion for such acts as named above.

Section VI: READMISSION PROCEDURES

1. Scholars who have been expelled, according to Scholar Conduct, Policy JCB, Section V, may request a readmission hearing. Readmission may be granted by the Board twelve (12) months following the effective date of expulsion and upon documented showing that the scholar has participated in successful rehabilitative efforts including but not limited to progress in an alternative school or similar program. Scholars expelled for

offenses other than those identified in JPS Policy JCB, Section V, may also request a readmission hearing eighteen (18) weeks following the effective date of expulsion and upon documented showing that the scholar has participated in successful rehabilitative efforts including but not limited to progress in an alternative school or similar program.

2. Exceptions to the above may be considered if extenuating circumstances exist or determined by appropriate Chief Academic Officer. Requests for exceptions must be submitted in writing.

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