



Schertz-Cibolo-Universal City ISD

Student Code of Conduct

2014-2015

TABLE OF CONTENTS

GENERAL OVERVIEW..... 3

- Purpose
- Additional Rules
- General Standards of Student Conduct
- Notice of Disciplinary Action
- Discipline Appeals
- Effect of Student Withdrawal

SCOPE OF DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY.....4

- General Authority
- Searches
- Criminal Conduct

DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS & TECHNIQUES. 5

- Discipline Considerations
- Discipline Management Techniques

GENERAL TYPES OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT..... 8

- Misconduct Involving Others
- Possessing, Using, Giving, Selling, or Buying
 - Prohibited Items
- Misuse of Property
- Technology
- Failure to Follow Rules
- Other Misconduct

REMOVAL FROM CLASSROOM BY TEACHER....13

- Ordinary Teacher Removal
- Formal Teacher Removal
- Placement During Removal

- Procedures for Teacher Removal
- Return to the Classroom

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS).....14

- Reasons for ISS
- Procedure for ISS

OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS).....14

- Reasons for OSS
- Procedure for OSS

DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM (DAEP).....15

- Reasons for Mandatory DAEP Placement
- Reasons for Discretionary DAEP Placement
- Emergency DAEP Placement
- Procedure for DAEP Placement
- Length of DAEP Placement
- Particular Rules for Registered Sex Offenders
- Other DAEP Issues

EXPULSION.....21

- Reasons for Mandatory Expulsion
- Reasons for Discretionary Expulsion
- Emergency Expulsion
- Procedure for Expulsion
- Length of Expulsion
- Other Expulsion Issues
- Expulsion Appeals

DEFINITIONS.....27

GENERAL OVERVIEW

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees adopted this Student Code of Conduct (SCC) to promote a safe, secure, and optimal learning environment for all students. Inside you will find information regarding:

- The District-wide discipline management plan,
- A description of prohibited conduct,
- The disciplinary options, methods, and consequences for preventing and addressing student misconduct, and
- The process the District will follow when administering disciplinary consequences.

If there is a conflict between the SCC and the Student Handbook, the terms of the SCC will control. If there is a conflict between the SCC and District policy, the more recently adopted item will control.

ADDITIONAL RULES

Students may be subject to campus, classroom, extracurricular, and/or organization rules in addition to those found in the SCC. Students may face consequences under these additional rules as well as possible disciplinary action under the SCC. Further, to the extent a student engages in misconduct that is not specifically addressed in the SCC, the student may still be disciplined if the misconduct disrupts or interferes with educational process, learning environment, or school safety.

GENERAL STANDARDS OF STUDENT CONDUCT

In order to promote a positive educational experience for all students, the District expects students to adhere to seven basic standards of conduct: (1) exercise self-control, self-respect, and self-discipline; (2) demonstrate a positive attitude; (3) respect the rights and feelings of others; (4) respect school property; (5) support the learning process; (6) adhere to rules; and (7) promote a safe environment. Because of significant variations in student conduct, it is not always possible for the SCC to address each and every act of student misbehavior. To that end, the District retains discretion to address student misconduct that is inconsistent with these seven standards even though the conduct may not be specifically included in the SCC.

NOTICE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION

Teachers and administrators strive to notify parents/guardians of student conduct concerns as they occur. The campus administrator will contact the parent/guardian by phone or in writing within three school day of becoming aware of misconduct that may result in out-of-school suspension, DAEP placement, or expulsion from school. Failure to send any notice within this time period or as noted elsewhere in the SCC does not preclude imposing a discipline consequence.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

The District does not discriminate against students on the basis of race, sex, national origin, disability, religion, color, or ethnicity when enforcing the provisions of the SCC.

DISCIPLINE OF STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Students eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are subject to discipline in accordance with those laws. For more information about those specific procedures, please contact the Director of Special Education. A student enrolled in a special education program may not be disciplined for bullying, harassment, or making hit lists until an ARD meeting is conducted.

DISCIPLINE APPEALS

Appeals of disciplinary measures should be directed to the student's teacher or campus administrator. Depending on the disciplinary consequence assigned, different complaint procedures may apply. A copy of the appropriate policy is available at the campus or central administration office or online at <http://www.scuc.txed.net>. Timelines for filing appeals stated in the policy will be enforced. Disciplinary consequences will not be delayed or deferred pending the outcome of an appeal.

EFFECT OF STUDENT WITHDRAWAL

Withdrawal from school after a student has been accused of a violation of the SCC will not prevent the District from investigating the alleged violation and, if it is determined that a violation did occur, assessing the appropriate disciplinary consequence and enforcing that consequence should the student re-enroll in the District.

SCOPE OF THE DISTRICT'S DISCIPLINARY AUTHORITY

GENERAL AUTHORITY

In addition to the disciplinary authority established for certain types of offenses as described within the SCC, the District has general disciplinary authority over a student at the following times:

SEARCHES

- At any time during the school day
- While traveling to and from school or school activities on District transportation
- While attending any school-sponsored or school-related activity, regardless of time or location
- As provided in extracurricular or organization handbooks, by-laws, or constitutions
- During lunch periods, including those in which a student leaves the campus
- While on school property
- For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location
- Other off campus conduct as permitted by Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code
- For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school’s real property boundary line
- If the student is a registered sex offender

A student’s clothing, personal property, electronic equipment and method of transportation may be searched when there is reasonable cause to believe the search will reveal articles or materials prohibited by the District. Students are responsible for ensuring that any personal property, method of transportation, or school property used by the student does not contain prohibited items. Policy FNF (Local) allows school property used by the student (such as lockers or desks) to be searched or inspected at any time and without notice. There is no reasonable cause requirement for search of desks or lockers. Students may be disciplined for possession of prohibited items discovered during a search.

Please take note: Nearly every year there is an incident involving a student whose vehicle is found to contain some prohibited item, and the student claims that he/she had no knowledge it was in their vehicle. Students are held responsible for making sure that they check their vehicle before coming onto school property.

CRIMINAL CONDUCT

School administrators will report crimes as required by law and may contact local law enforcement regarding suspected criminal activity. Certain acts of misconduct may constitute criminal offenses in addition to violation of the SCC. Because school discipline is independent of criminal proceedings, disciplinary consequences may not be postponed pending the outcome of any criminal proceeding or affected by the outcome of any criminal proceeding.

DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS & TECHNIQUES

DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS

Using their professional judgment, District employees will consider a variety of factors when administering disciplinary consequences and determining the duration of the consequence, including but not limited to:


**DISCIPLINE
MANAGEMENT
TECHNIQUES**

- the degree of severity and the risk of danger
- the effect of the misconduct
- the age and grade level of the student
- the student's disciplinary history
- legal requirements
- the frequency of the misconduct
- the student's demeanor
- a disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct, to the extent required by state and federal law

When deciding to order the out-of-school suspension, DAEP placement, expulsion, or placement in JJAEP of a student the District will also consider: (1) self-defense (see definitions), and (2) the student's intent (see definitions) or lack of intent at the time of the misconduct.

Discipline is designed to correct student behavior and encourage students to comply with the school rules. The District may use any or a combination of the following strategies or techniques to manage student behavior, prevent or intervene in discipline problem, or address violations of the SCC or campus or classroom rules:

- Verbal correction
- Seating changes
- Parent conferences
- Removal from the classroom
- Contracts to modify student behavior
- Sending the student to the office or other area

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- Assignment of school-related tasks or duties
 - Other methods and consequences as stated in the SCC
 - Calming-down time
 - Demerits or rewards
 - Confiscation of items
 - School probation
 - Restitution or restoration
 - Transfer to a different classroom or campus
 - Loss or restriction of privileges, including transportation privileges, participation or membership in co-curricular or extracurricular activities, and seeking or holding honorary positions
 - Counseling
 - In-school suspension
 - Out-of-school suspension
 - Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP)
 - Expulsion
 - Consequences identified in co-curricular or extracurricular codes of conduct, constitutions, or by-laws
 - Grade reductions as permitted by policy
 - Detention
 - Corporal punishment, unless the student's parent's or guardian has provided a signed statement prohibiting its use
 - Conflict Mediation

GENERAL TYPES OF PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Misconduct identified in the list of prohibited behaviors below will result in the assignment of one or more “Discipline Management Techniques” if the behavior is committed at school, a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or when the District has “Disciplinary Authority” as described in the SCC.

MISCONDUCT INVOLVING OTHERS

- Horseplay, roughhousing, and other playful behavior that, though not intended to harm, presents a reasonable risk of harm and threatens the safety of others
- Fighting (see definitions) or scuffling that does not result in physical pain, illness, or any impairment of a physical condition
- Engaging in conduct that can cause bodily injury (see definitions) or property damage
- Forcing an unwilling person to act or not act or obtaining money or another object of value from an unwilling person through duress, threats, force, extortion, coercion, or blackmail
- Subjecting a student or District employee, official, or volunteer to physical confinement or restraint
- Bullying (see definitions)
- Name-calling, ethnic or racial slurs, or derogatory statements that school employees reasonably believe could substantially disrupt the school environment or incite violence
- Adding any substance, whether harmful or not, without permission to any food or beverages belonging to, in the possession of, or meant to be consumed by another student or District employee, official, or volunteer
- Engaging in harassment (see definitions) toward another student or a District employee, official, or volunteer, including harassment motivated by race, color, religion, national origin, disability, sex, or age
- Engaging in sexual harassment (see definitions) or sexual abuse
- Inappropriate verbal (oral or written), physical, or sexual contact toward another student or a District employee, official, or volunteer regardless of whether it is consensual
- Consensual hugging, touching, or other displays of affection that interfere with, detract, or disrupt the school environment
- Engaging in physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse as a means to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in a current or past dating relationship

**POSSESSING, USING,
GIVING, SELLING, OR
BUYING PROHIBITED
ITEMS**

- Engaging in oral or written threats to cause harm or bodily injury (see definitions) to another student, a District employee, official, or volunteer, or school property, including threats made using the Internet or other computer resources at school. Students may be disciplined for threats made outside of school, including website or internet posting, if the threat causes a material or substantial disruption at school.
- Wrongfully obtaining and using another person’s identifying information or personal data without permissions in order to mislead, defraud, or deceive
- Hazing (see definitions)
- Matches or a lighter
- Tobacco products, including e-cigarettes
- Fireworks or any other pyrotechnic device
- Smoke or stink bombs
- Laser pointers (unauthorized use)
- Pepper spray or other small chemical dispenser sold commercially for personal protection
- “Look-alike” drugs or items attempted to be passed off as drugs, including non-prescription drugs, medications, or herbal or dietary supplements except as permitted by District policy
- Razor blades, box cutters, or chains
- Knives with a blade 3” or less
- Fake or “look-alike” weapons
- Poisons, caustic acids, or other materials that may be toxic to the human body
- BB gun, air gun, or stun gun, paint ball gun, paint ball gun
- Ammunition, shells, bullets, or gunpowder
- Material that is sexually-oriented, pornographic, or reveals a person’s private body parts
- Material, including published or electronic items, that promotes or encourages illegal behavior or could threaten school safety

**MISUSE OF
PROPERTY**

**SAFETY/
DISRUPTION**

- Articles not generally considered to be weapons when the administrator determines that a danger exists or when used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another
- CD or DVD players, cassette players, electronic games, MP3 players, stereo head sets, or other electronic equipment for other than approved use
- Using, displaying, or having in operational mode a paging device, cellular telephone, or telecommunications device (see definitions) at school during the school day
- Stealing from others, including the District
- Committing or assisting in a robbery, theft, or burglary that is not punishable as a felony
- Damaging destroying or vandalizing property owned by others or the District
- Marking District property such as textbooks, lockers, furniture, or equipment with graffiti, tagging, or by other means
- Attempting to start or starting a fire on or in any property owned, used, or controlled by a student, the District, or District employees, officials, or volunteers that does not rise to the level of arson or criminal mischief
- Threatening to use or exhibit a firearm
- Discharging a fire extinguisher, pulling a fire alarm, calling 911, or causing the sprinkler system to activate when there is no smoke, fire, danger, or emergency
- Making or participating in false statements or hoaxes regarding school safety
- Engaging in misbehavior, actions, or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with the school activities or that give school officials reasonable cause to believe that such conduct will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence
- Making false accusations or providing false statements concerning wrongful, unlawful, inappropriate, or illegal conduct alleged to have been committed by another student or District employee, official, or volunteer
- Throwing objects that can cause bodily injury or property damage

TECHNOLOGY

- Sending, posting or possessing electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, harassing, illegal; including cyberbullying and “sexting” either on or off school property, or that cause a material or substantial disruption at school
- Using any device to copy or capture an image or the content of any District materials (such as tests or exams) without permission of a teacher or administrator
- Making, participating in the making of, transmitting to another via an electronic device, or posting to the Internet a digital video or audio recording of an actual or simulated act that involves conduct prohibited by the Code of Conduct. (Students who are not involved in the prohibited conduct will not be disciplined under this provision so long as they report the incident to a school employee, turn over the recording to a school employee as soon as possible after the incident, and do not provide a copy of the recording to anyone other than the law enforcement or school employees.)
- Using any device or technology that permits recording the voice or image of another in any way that disrupts the educational environment, invades the privacy of others, or to record the voice or image of another without the prior consent of the individual being recorded
- Using any device or technology that permits recording the voice or image of another to take, disseminate, transfer, circulate, exhibit, present, or share audio, images, video, or photos that reveal private parts of the body that are normally covered by clothing (aka sexting)
- Using the name, persona, or image of a student, District employee, or volunteer to create a web page or post one or more messages on a website without the other person’s consent for purposes of harassing, intimidating, embarrassing, or threatening another
- Using email, websites, or electronic devices to encourage illegal conduct, violations of the SCC, or to threaten school safety
- Attempting to or successfully accessing or circumventing passwords or other security-related information of the District, officials, volunteers, employees, or other students by any means
- Attempting to or successfully altering, destroying, interrupting,, or disabling District computer equipment, District data, the data of other users of the District’s computer system, or other networks connected to the District’s system, including uploading or creating computer viruses, worms, or other harmful material
- Copying, downloading, reproducing, distributing, retransmitting, redisplaying, or modifying items from the District’s website

**FAILURE TO
FOLLOW RULES**

- Engaging in any of the above forms of technological misconduct outside of school when such conduct causes a material or substantial disruption at school as determined by the school officials
- Violating dress and grooming criteria
- Being insubordinate or otherwise failing to comply with lawful directives given by school personnel
- Attempting to or successfully evading, avoiding, or delaying questioning by a District employee
- Failing to provide proper identification upon request of a District employee
- Attempting to violate or assisting, encouraging, promoting, or attempting to assist another student in violating the Code of Conduct
- Failing to immediately report to a school employee knowledge of a device, object, substance, or event that could cause harm to self or others
- Unexcused tardiness to class
- Skipping school or class without the District's or parent/guardian's permission
- Leaving class, the campus, or school events without permission
- Violating rules for conduct on school transportation
- Violating rules for operating or parking a motor vehicle on school property
- Violating policies or rules for computer use, Internet access, technology, or other electronic communications or imaging devices
- Violating the District's medications policy regarding prescription and over-the-counter drugs
- Academic dishonesty, including cheating, copying the work of another, plagiarism or unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing an assignment
- Failure to comply with the guidelines applicable to student speakers who are speaking at school-sponsored or school-related events
- Violating other campus or classroom rules for behavior or district policies

**OTHER
MISCONDUCT**

- Using profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures
- Loitering in unauthorized areas
- Falsifying, altering, forging, or destroying school records, passes, other school-related documents, or documents presented to District employees
- Gambling or betting money or other things of value
- Inappropriate exposure of a student's private body parts which are ordinarily covered by clothing, including through such acts as mooning, streaking, or flashing
- Terroristic threat
- Trespassing on District property, or entering any District building or structure after regular District working hours o any day school is not in session. Disciplinary consequences for conduct prohibited by this provision will imposed even if no physical damage is caused to District property as the result of the trespass or unauthorized entry.
- Engaging in online harassment or online impersonation in violation of Texas Penal § 33.07

REMOVAL FROM CLASSROOM BY TEACHER

ORDINARY TEACHER REMOVAL

A teacher may send a student to the administrator's office to maintain discipline in the classroom or when the student engages in behavior that violates the SCC. The administrator may use one or more discipline management techniques to address the behavior.

FORMAL TEACHER REMOVAL

A teacher may remove a student from class when:

- The student's behavior has been documented by the teacher as repeatedly interfering with the teacher's ability to teach or with the learning of other students; or
- The behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach or with the learning of other students

**PLACEMENT DURING
REMOVAL**

**PROCEDURES FOR
TEACHER REMOVAL**

**RETURN TO THE
CLASSROOM**

A teacher must remove a student from class if the student engages in conduct that requires or permits DAEP placement or expulsion under the Texas Education Code.

When a teacher utilizes a formal removal of the student from the classroom, the administrator may place the student in: (1) another appropriate classroom, (2) in-school suspension, (3) out-of-school suspension, or (4) DAEP.

No later than three school days after a teacher has formally removed a student from class, an administrator will schedule a conference with the administrator, the student's parent/guardian, the student, and the teacher. At the conference, the student will be provided an explanation of the basis for removal and be given an opportunity to respond. After the conference, the administrator will render a discipline decision and inform the student and parent/guardian of the consequences.

If the teacher removed the student from class because the student engaged in assault resulting in bodily injury, aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault against the teacher, the student may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's consent.

In other cases where the teacher initiates a formal removal, the student may only be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's consent if the Placement Review Committee that the teacher's class is the best or only alternative.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

REASONS FOR ISS

Students may be placed in ISS for any misconduct listed in any category of the SCC.

**PROCEDURE FOR
ISS**

The student will be informed of the reason for placement in ISS and be given an opportunity to respond before the administrator's decision is final. While in ISS the student will complete assignments from his or her teacher.

OUT -OF -SCHOOL SUSPENSION (OSS)

REASONS FOR OSS

Students may be suspended from school for any misconduct listed in any category of the SCC.

**PROCEDURE FOR
OSS**

The student will be informed of the reason for out-of-school suspension and be given an opportunity to respond before the administrator's decision is final. While the student is suspended, the administrator may place restrictions on the student's participation in school-sponsored or school-related activities. Students may be suspended for a maximum of three school days per behavior violation.

DISCIPLINARY ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION PROGRAM

REASONS FOR MANDATORY DAEP PLACEMENT

School-Related. A student must be placed in DAEP for any of the following misconduct if committed while on school property, within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Engages in conduct punishable as a felony.
- Commits an assault (see definitions) resulting in bodily injury (see definitions) to another.
- Sell, gives, delivers, possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana, synthetic marijuana, a controlled substance (see definitions), a dangerous drug (see definitions), or an alcoholic beverage (see definitions) in any amount not punishable as a felony. Students may be expelled for the 2nd infraction occurring in the same school year.
- Commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage if the conduct is not punishable as a felony. Students may be expelled for the 2nd infraction occurring in the same school year.
- Engages in an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals (see definitions). Students may be expelled for the 2nd infraction occurring in the same school year.
- Engages in public lewdness (see definitions).
- Engages in indecent exposure (see definitions).
- Possesses or uses a knife with a blade over 3" up to 5 ½".
- Engages in expellable conduct if the student is between six and nine years of age.
- Engages in federal firearm offense if the student is six years of age or younger.

Off-Campus. A student must be placed in DAEP for the following misconduct while off-campus and not in attendance at a school-sponsored or school-related activity:

- The student receives deferred prosecution for a Title 5 (see definitions) felony offense or aggravated robbery
- A court or jury finds the student engaged in delinquent conduct for a Title 5 felony offense or aggravated robbery

**REASONS FOR
DISCRETIONARY
DAEP PLACEMENT**

- The administrator reasonably believes that the student engaged in a Title 5 felony offense or aggravated robbery

Regardless of Location. A student must be placed in DAEP if the student engages in the following misconduct, regardless of whether the conduct occurred on or off campus:

- Issues a false alarm or report (see definitions) or a terroristic threat (see definitions) involving a public school. Students may be expelled for the 2nd infraction occurring in the same school year.
- Retaliates (see definitions) against any school employee.
- Is involved with a public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang (see definitions), including participating as a member or pledge, or soliciting another person to become a member or pledge.
- Is involved with a criminal street gang (see definitions) or encourages, solicits, enables, or causes another to become a member of a criminal street gang.
- Engages in criminal mischief if the damage is less than \$1,500 but equal to or greater than \$500.
- Is a registered sex offender (see definitions) under court supervision, probation, community supervision, or parole.

Students who are: (1) convicted of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children; or (2) convicted, receive deferred adjudication or deferred prosecution, been found to have engaged in delinquent conduct or conduct in need of supervision, or been placed on probation for either sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against another student assigned to the same campus at the time the offense occurred will be placed in DAEP (or JJAEP as appropriate) on the request of the victim's parents if the victim student does not wish to transfer, and there is only one campus serving that grade level. Placement in this circumstance may be for any length of time considered necessary.

School-Related. A student may be placed in DAEP for any of the following misconduct if committed while on school property, within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Possessing, giving, buying or selling less than a usable amount of stems, seeds, or other pieces of marijuana or synthetic marijuana

**EMERGENCY DAEP
PLACEMENT**

- Possessing, using, selling, buying, or giving paraphernalia (see definitions) related to any prohibited substance, including but not limited to marijuana, synthetic marijuana, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, or an alcoholic beverage
- Abusing the student’s own prescription drug or using it in a way other than prescribed; giving, buying, or selling prescription drug; possessing, using, or being under the influence of another person’s prescription drug.
- Preparing a hit list (see definitions).
- Committing any offense included in the list of “General Types of Prohibited Misconduct” in the SCC.
- Engaging in serious (see definitions) misbehavior that violates this SCC.
- Engaging in online harassment or online impersonation in violation of Texas Penal Code § 33.07

Off-Campus. A student may be placed in DAEP for engaging in the following misconduct while off-campus and not in attendance at a school-sponsored or school-related activity:

- The administrator reasonably believes the student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony (other than a Title 5 felony), and the student’s continued presence in the regular classroom is a threat to the safety of other or is detrimental to the educational process.
- Off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law when the administrator does not learn of the conduct until more than a year passes after the conduct occurred.

Regardless of Location. A student may be placed in DAEP if the student engages in the following misconduct, regardless of whether the conduct occurred on or off campus:

- If the student is a registered sex offender (see definitions) who is not under any form of court supervision. A registered sex offender who is not under any form of court supervision will be placed in regular classes if the student is not a threat to the safety of others, is not detrimental to the educational process, and such placement is not contrary to the best interests of the District’s students.
- Engages in criminal mischief if the damage is less than \$500.

An administrator may order an emergency DAEP placement if the student has been so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher’s ability to teach the class, the learning of other students, or the operation of a school-related or a school-sponsored activity. The reason for emergency placement must also be a reason for which DAEP placement could be ordered on a non-emergency basis. At the time of the emergency placement, the student will be told the reason for the action.

**PROCEDURE FOR
DAEP PLACEMENT**

No later than the tenth day after the date of emergency DAEP placement, the student will be given a conference as required for regular placement in DAEP; see below.

Conference. No later than three school days after the student is removed from class, the administrator will schedule a conference with the administrator, the student's parent/guardian, and the student. The District may conduct the conference and make a discipline decision regardless of whether the student or the student's parent/guardian attends if the District made reasonable attempts to have them attend.

At the conference, the administrator will explain the allegations against the student, inform the student of the basis for the proposed DAEP placement, and give the student an opportunity to explain his or her version of the incident.

If during the term of DAEP placement the student engages in additional misconduct, additional conferences may be conducted and additional discipline may be imposed.

Interim Placement. Until a placement conference can be held, the student may be placed in another appropriate classroom, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the placement conference.

DAEP Placement Order. If the outcome of the conference is to place the student in DAEP, the administrator will issue a DAEP placement order. If the length of placement differs from the guidelines included in the SCC, the DAEP placement order will give notice of the inconsistency.

A copy of the DAEP placement order will be sent to the student and the student's parent/guardian. For those students placed in DAEP for a reason identified in the Texas Education Code, the District will also send the juvenile court a copy of the DAEP placement order no later than the second business day after the placement conference. A copy of the DAEP placement order will be included with any records sent to a school where the student seeks to enroll. The enrolling school district has discretion to enforce the DAEP placement order.

The parent or guardian of a student placed in DAEP shall be given written notice of the student's opportunity to complete coursework required for graduation, at no cost to the student. The notice shall include information regarding all methods available for completing the course work.

The length of a student's placement in DAEP will be determined on a case-by case basis using the criteria identified in the "Discipline Considerations" section of this SCC. Mandatory DAEP placement will result in placement for 45-190 school days. Discretionary DAEP placements will result in placement for 30-60 school days. The length of DAEP placement may not exceed one year unless, after review, the District determine the (1) the student is a safety threat, or (2) extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

**COURSEWORK
NOTICE**

**LENGTH OF DAEP
PLACEMENT**

**PARTICULAR
RULES FOR
REGISTERED SEX
OFFENDERS**

Students placed in DAEP at the end of one school year may be required to complete the assigned term at the beginning of the next school year. For DAEP placement to extend beyond the end of the school year, the administrator must determine that: (1) the student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others; or (2) the student has engaged in serious misbehavior (see definitions) that violates the SCC.

If the DAEP placement extends beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is sooner, the student or the student's parent/guardian may participate in a proceeding before the Board or Board's designee as provided in policy FNG (LOCAL). Any decision of the Board is final and may not be appealed.

The general SCC rules for DAEP placement apply to registered student sex offenders (see definitions) except as modified in this section.

Placement. Registered sex offenders will be placed in a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) in lieu of DAEP if: (1) ordered to attend JJAEP by a court, or (2) if permitted by agreement between the District and the JJAEP.

Length of Placement. Registered sex offenders under court supervision will be placed in DAEP for a minimum of 90 school days, which is the equivalent of one semester.

Registered sex offenders who are not under any form of court supervision but are assigned to DAEP must serve a minimum of 90 school days, which is the equivalent of one semester.

Transfers. Registered sex offenders (whether under court supervision or not) that transfer into the District will be required to complete the DAEP assignment assessed by the previous school district, but will receive credit for any time already spent in DAEP.

In making a decision regarding the placement of a registered sex offender that transfers into the District, the District will consider the recommendation of the review committee as described in the "Periodic Review for Sex Offenders" section described below.

Periodic Review for Registered Sex Offenders. After 90 school days in DAEP, the review committee will determine by majority vote and recommend to the Director of Student and Academic Services whether the student should remain in DAEP or be returned to the regular classroom. The Director of Student and Academic Services will follow the committee's decision to return the student to the regular classroom unless the student's presence in the regular classroom is a threat to the District's students.

If the student remains in DAEP, the review committee will re-consider the student's placement before the beginning of the next school year.

OTHER DAEP ISSUES

Appeals for Registered Sex Offenders. DAEP placement may be appealed as described in District policy FNG or FOC. However, the appeal is limited to the factual question of whether the student is required to register as a sex offender under the law. A decision of the district's Board of Trustees is final and may not be appealed.

No Participation in Activities While in DAEP. Students placed in DAEP for any mandatory or discretionary reasons are not allowed to attend or participate in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular or co-curricular activities during the period of DAEP placement. This restriction applies until the student fulfills the DAEP assignment at this or another school district.

Impact on Graduation. For graduating seniors who are in DAEP during the last week of school, the DAEP placement will continue through the last instructional day. The student will be allowed to participate in commencement exercises and related graduation activities unless otherwise specified in the DAEP placement order.

Transportation. A student placed in DAEP will not be provided transportation unless he or she is a student with a disability who has transportation designated as a related service in the student's IEP.

Periodic Review. The District will review a student's DAEP placement and academic status every 120 calendar days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation will be reviewed and a graduation plan will be established. At the review, the student or the parent/guardian will have an opportunity to present reasons for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus. The student may not be returned to the classroom of a teacher who removed the student without that teacher's consent.

Effect of Student Withdrawal. When a student withdraws from school before a DAEP placement order is completed, the District may complete the proceedings and issue a DAEP placement order. If the student re-enrolls in the District during the same or subsequent school year, the District may enforce the DAEP placement order at that time, minus any portion of the placement that was served by the student during enrollment in another district.

If the administrator does not issue a DAEP placement order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings and issue a DAEP placement order.

Student Transfers. Students assigned to DAEP in another Texas district, a Texas open-enrollment charter school, or an out-of-state school district at the time of enrollment into the District will be placed into the District's DAEP to complete the term of their DAEP placement. In order to continue an out-of-state DAEP placement, the basis for the DAEP placement must also be a reason for DAEP placement in the enrolling district. If the out-of-state DAEP placement period exceeds one year, the District will reduce the period of placement so that the total placement does not exceed one year unless the District determines that the student is a threat to the safety of others or extended placement is in the best interests of the student.

Criminal Proceedings. The review and appeal process described below does not apply if the student was placed in DAEP as required by law for conduct occurring on or within 300 feet of school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or for a false alarm or report or terroristic threat involving a public school.

If the District receives notice that prosecution of a student's case was refused and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication, or deferred prosecution will be initiated or a court or jury found the student not guilty or did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision and dismissed the student's case with prejudice, the District will review the student's DAEP placement and will schedule a review with the student's parent/guardian no later than the third day after receiving notice. The student will not be returned to the regular classroom before the review. After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent/guardian, the administrator may only continue the student's DAEP placement if the administration has reason to believe the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of others.

The administrator's decision may be appealed to the Board. In the event of an appeal, at the next scheduled meeting the Board will: (1) review the notice, (2) hear statements from the student, the student's parent/guardian, and the administrator, and (3) confirm or reverse the decision of the administrator.

If the Board confirms the decision of the administrator, the student and the student's parent/guardian have the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom while the appeal is pending.

EXPULSION

REASONS FOR MANDATORY EXPULSION

School-Related. A student must be expelled for any of the following misconduct that occurs on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off:

- Brings to school a firearm, as defined by federal law (see definitions).
- Uses, exhibits, or possesses the following items, as defined by state law: (1) a firearm*, (2) an illegal knife, (3) a club, or (4) a prohibited weapon. (see definitions) *Firearm note: A student will not be expelled solely for using, exhibiting, or possessing a firearm in the following circumstances: (1) at an approved target range facility not located at a school campus, (2) while participating in or preparing for a school-sponsored shooting sports competition, or (3) while participating in or preparing for a shooting sports educational activity sponsored or supported by the Parks and Wildlife Department or a shooting sports sanctioning organization with the Department so long as the firearm is not brought on school property.
- Engages in the following misconduct as defined in the Texas Penal Code: (1) aggravated assault, (2) sexual assault, (3) aggravated sexual assault, (4) arson, (5) murder, (6) capital murder, (7) criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder, (8) indecency with

**REASONS FOR
DISCRETIONARY
EXPULSION**

a child, (9) aggravated kidnapping, (10) aggravated robbery, (11) manslaughter, (12) criminally negligent homicide, or (13) continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children

- Sells, gives, delivers, possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana or synthetic marijuana, a controlled substance (see definitions), a dangerous drug (see definitions), or an alcoholic beverage (see definitions) if the behavior is punishable as a felony
- Commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage if the behavior is punishable as a felony.

Regardless of Location. A student must be expelled if the student engages in the following misconduct, regardless of whether the conduct occurred on or off campus:

- Retaliates against a school employee or volunteer by committing a state-mandated expellable offense.
- Issues a false alarm or report (see definitions) or a terroristic threat (see definitions) involving a public school for the 2nd time in the same school year.

School-Related. A student may be expelled for any of the following offenses that occur on school property, within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the District’s real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Commits an assault (see definitions) resulting in bodily injury to a school employee or volunteer.
- Engages in deadly conduct (see definitions).
- Engages in serious (see definitions) misbehavior that violates this SCC while the student is placed in DAEP.
- Sells, gives, delivers, possesses, uses, or is under the influence of any amount of marijuana, a controlled substance, dangerous drug, or alcoholic beverage, if it is the 2nd infraction in the same school year and the conduct is not punishable as felony.
- Commits a serious act while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage if it is the 2nd infraction in the same school year and the conduct is not punishable as felony.
- Engages in misconduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals (see definitions) if it is the 2nd infraction in the same school year.

Three Hundred Feet. Additionally, a student may be expelled for any of the following offenses that occur within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the District's real property boundary line:

- Possesses a firearm, as defined by federal law (see definitions).
- Uses, exhibits, or possesses the following items, as defined by state law: (1) a firearm*, (2) an illegal knife, (3) a club, or (4) a prohibited weapon. (See definitions) *See Firearm Note in mandatory expulsion section above.
- Engages in the following misconduct as defined in the Texas Penal Code: (1) aggravated assault, (2) sexual assault, (3) aggravated sexual assault, (4) arson, (5) murder, (6) capital murder, (7) criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder, (8) indecency with a child, (9) aggravated kidnapping, (10) aggravated robbery, (11) manslaughter, (12) criminally negligent homicide, or (13) continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children.

Regardless of Location. A student may be expelled if the student engages in the following misconduct, regardless of whether the conduct occurred on or off campus:

- Commits aggravated assault, sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, murder, capital murder, criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder, aggravated robbery against another student.
- Retaliates against a school employee or volunteer by committing an assault (see definitions) resulting in bodily injury.
- Breach of computer security
- Engages in criminal mischief if the damage is \$1,500 or more.
- Commits a state-mandated expellable offense on the school property of another Texas school district or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of another Texas school district.

Title 5 Felonies Regardless of Location. In addition to the expellable conduct listed above, a student may also be expelled and placed in Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program if the student:

- is arrested for a Title 5 felony offense (see definitions),
- is charged with engaging in a Title 5 felony offense,
- received deferred adjudication or deferred prosecution for a Title 5 felony offense,

**EMERGENCY
EXPULSION**

**PROCEDURE FOR
EXPULSION**

- is on probation for a Title 5 felony offense,
- was found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct for a Title 5 felony offense,
- has been referred to a juvenile court for delinquent conduct based on a Title 5 felony offense, or
- was convicted of a Title 5 felony offense;

and the administrator determines the student’s presence in the regular classroom either threatens the safety of other students or teachers, is detrimental to the educational process, or is not in the best interests of the District’s students.

In this circumstance, expulsion to an alternative setting may be ordered regardless of: (1) the date on which the conduct occurred, (2) the location at which the conduct occurred, (3) whether the student was enrolled in the District at the time the conduct occurred, or (4) whether the student successfully completed any court disposition requirements regarding the conduct.

A student may be subject to an expulsion under this circumstance until: (1) the student graduates from high school, (2) the charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor, (3) the student completes the terms of the placement, or (4) the District assigns the student to another program. The student will be entitled to the same periodic review afforded to other students in alternate settings. An expulsion ordered in this case is final and may not be appealed beyond the Board of Trustees.

An administrator may order the immediate expulsion of a student if the administrator reasonably believes the emergency expulsion is necessary to protect persons or property from imminent harm. The reason for the emergency expulsion must also be a reason for which expulsion could be ordered on a non-emergency basis. At the time of the emergency expulsion, the student will be told the reason for the action. No later than the tenth day after the date of emergency expulsion, the student will be given a hearing as required for a regular expulsion; see below.

Hearing. Students alleged to have committed an expellable offense will receive a hearing before the hearing officer within a reasonable time following the alleged misconduct. The student’s parent/guardian will be informed of the basis for the proposed expulsion and be invited in writing to attend the hearing. After making an effort to inform the student and parent/guardian of the hearing, the District may hold the hearing regardless of whether the student or the student’s parent/guardian attends. At the hearing, the student is entitled to:

- Representation by an adult, including the student’s parent/guardian, who can provide guidance to the student and who is not an employee of the District;
- An opportunity to question the District’s witnesses; and

**LENGTH OF
EXPULSION**

- An opportunity to testify and to review and present evidence and witnesses in the student’s defense.

Additional proceedings may be conducted and additional discipline may be imposed if the student engages in additional misconduct while the student is already expelled.

Interim Placement. Until an expulsion hearing can be held, the student may be placed in another appropriate classroom, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension or DAEP.

Expulsion Order. If the outcome of the expulsion hearing is that the student will be expelled, the appropriate administrator will issues an expulsion order and provide a copy to the student and the student’s parent/guardian. If the duration of the expulsion differs from the guidelines in the SCC, the expulsion order will give notice of the inconsistency.

The District will send a copy of the expulsion order to the juvenile court no later than the second business day after the expulsion hearing. A copy of the expulsion order will be included with any records sent to a school where the student seeks to enroll. The enrolling school district has discretion to enforce the expulsion order.

The duration of the expulsion will be determined on a case-by-case basis using the criteria identified in the “Discipline Considerations” section of this SCC. Mandatory expulsions will result in expulsion for 90-190 school days. Discretionary expulsions will result in expulsion for 45-95 school days. Students who bring a firearm (as defined by federal law) to school will be expelled from the regular classroom for at least one calendar year except as modified by the administrator on a case-by-case basis.

An expulsion will not exceed one calendar year unless, after review, the District determines that: (1) the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to District employees; or (2) extended expulsion is in the best interest of the student.

Students expelled at the end of one school year may be required to complete the term of their expulsion at the beginning of the next school year.

Academic Impact. Students will not receive academic credit for work missed during the period of expulsion unless the student is enrolled in a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) or other District-approved program or as required by IDEA or Section 504.

Participation in Activities. Expelled students are prohibited from being on school grounds or attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities while expelled.

Age Restrictions. Students under the age of ten that engage in expellable behavior will not be expelled, but will be placed in DAEP.

**OTHER EXPULSION
ISSUES**

**EXPULSION APPEAL
PROCESS**

Student Transfers. The District will continue the expulsion of students expelled from another Texas school district or from an out-of-state school district for behavior that is also a reason for expulsion in the enrolling district, until the term of expulsion has been served. If the out-of-state expulsion exceeds one year, the District will reduce the period of the expulsion so that the total expulsion does not exceed one year unless the District determines that the student is a threat to the safety of others or extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Effect of Student Transfer/ Withdrawal. Students who transfer out of this District to another public or private school, including students who withdraw from this District for the purpose of home schooling, will be required upon return to the District to complete the term of expulsion before being allowed to return to the regular campus, unless the student's records indicate the student served the days of expulsion in another district.

Appeal of Expulsion

1. A decision by the Expulsion Hearing Officer to expel a student may be appealed to the Superintendent and then to the Board of Trustees.
2. The appeal must be in writing and filed with the Superintendent within three calendar days of the expulsion order.
3. The appeal must state the basis for the appeal and what remedy the student or parent is seeking. After the appeal is received, the Superintendent will render appeal decision within three business days. If the student or parent wants to appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board of Trustees, the appeal must be in writing and filed with the Superintendent within three calendar days of the Superintendent's decision. The Superintendent will place the appeal hearing on the agenda of the next available regular Board meeting for which notice can properly be posted.
4. The Board will review the record of the expulsion hearing in closed session, but the parent/guardian may request in writing that the appeal be heard in open session. The District retains the right to determine whether the appeal will be presented in open or closed session in accordance with the Texas Open Meetings Act and other applicable law.
5. A copy of the hearing exhibits offered by the District, student and the hearing officer, the expulsion order and the superintendent's decision, will comprise the record of the proceedings. A copy of the record of the proceeding will be distributed to the Board member, the parent/guardian and the District's representative prior to the appeal hearing.
6. No new evidence, including witnesses or documents, will be permitted or considered by the Board.
7. A copy of the record of the proceeding will be distributed to the Board members, the parent and the District's representative prior to the appeal hearing.

8. The Board will review the record of the expulsion due process hearing, and will allow the student's representative and the District's representative ten minutes each to address the Board about the appeal. Each side will have the opportunity for a five minute rebuttal.
9. The Board will base its decision solely on the record of the proceedings and any statements made by the parties during the appeal hearing. After deliberation outside the presence of the parties, the Board will make and communicate its decision orally at the conclusion of the presentation. If the Board does not announce a decision during the Board meeting, then expulsion is upheld.
10. Disciplinary consequences will not be deferred pending the outcome of the appeal process.

DEFINITIONS

ABUSABLE VOLATILE CHEMICALS: Those substance as defined in Texas Health and Safety Code §485.001.

AGGRAVATED ROBBERY: Aggravated robbery is defined in part by Texas Penal Code 29.03(a) when a person commits robbery and: (1) Causes serious bodily injury to another; (2) Uses or exhibits a deadly weapon; or (3) Causes bodily injury to another person or threatens or places another person in fear of imminent bodily injury or death, if the other person is 65 years of age or older, or a disabled person.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE: Those substances defined in Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code § 1.04.

ARMOR-PIERCING AMMUNITION: Handgun ammunitions that is designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor and to be used primarily in pistols and revolvers or other firearms.

ASSAULT: For student discipline purposes, intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another.

BODILY INJURY: Physical pain, illness, or impairment of a physical condition.

BULLYING: Bullying is when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the district and a school district's board of trustees or the board's designee determines that the behavior: (1) has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or (2) is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

This conduct is considered bullying if it:

1. Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator who is engaging in bullying and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct ; and
2. Interferes with a student’s education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.

CHEMICAL DISPENSING DEVICE: A device other than a small chemical dispenser sold commercially for personal protection that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of dispensing a substance capable of causing an adverse psychological or physiological effect on an individual.

CLUB: An instrument specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with the instrument, including a blackjack, nightstick, mace, and tomahawk.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE: Substance as defined in Chapter 481 of the Texas Health & Safety Code or 21 U.S.C. § 801 et seq.

CRIMINAL STREET GANG: Three or more persons having a common identifying sign or symbol or an identifiable leadership which continuously or regularly associate in the commission of criminal activities.

CYBERBULLYING: The use of any electronic communication device to engage in bullying or intimidation.

DANGEROUS DRUG: Substance as defined in Chapter 483 of the Texas Health and Safety Code.

DEADLY CONDUCT: Recklessly engaging in conduct that places another in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or by knowingly discharging a firearm in the direction of an individual, habitation, building, or vehicle.

EXPLOSIVE WEAPON: Any explosive or incendiary bomb, grenade, rocket, or mine that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage, or for the principal purpose of such a loud report as to cause undue public alarm or terror. It includes a device designed, made or adapted for delivery or shooting an explosive weapon.

FALSE ALARM OR REPORT: Knowingly initiating, communicating, or circulating a report of a present, past or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that is known to be false or baseless and that would ordinarily: (1) cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies; (2) place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or (3) prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, or place of assembly.

FIGHTING: Two or more persons engaged in any mutual violent or physically aggressive contact toward each other such as scuffling, pushing, shoving, or hitting.

FIREARM (Federal law): (1) any weapon, including a starter gun, that will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (2) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (3) any firearm muffler or firearm weapon; or (4) any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade.

FIREARM (State law): Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile through a barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance or any device readily convertible to that use.

FIREARM SILENCER: Any device designed, made, or adapted to muffles the report of a firearm.

GANG: An organization, combination, or association of persons composed wholly or in part of students that: (1) seeks to perpetuate itself by taking in additional members on the basis of the decision of the membership rather than on the free choice of the individual, or (2) that engages in illegal and/or violent activities. In identifying gangs and associated gang attire, signs, or symbols, the District will consult with laws enforcement authorities.

GRAFFITI: Making marks of any kind on the tangible property of another without the effective consent of the owner. The Texas Penal Code makes it a state jail felony for person who makes marking on a school when the amount of pecuniary loss to the property marked is less than \$20,000.00.

HARASSMENT: Threatening to cause harm or bodily injury to another, engaging in sexually intimidating conduct, causing physical damage to the property of another, subjecting another to physical confinement or restraint, maliciously taking any action that substantially harms another's physical or emotional health or safety, or other conduct prohibited by District policy FFH.

HAZING: Any act, occurring on or off the campus, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purposes of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintain membership in an organization. Consent to or acquiescence in the hazing activity does not excuse the student of responsibility for the misconduct.

HIT LIST: List of people targeted to be harmed using a firearm, knife, or any other object to be used with intent to cause bodily harm.

ILLEGAL KNIFE: A knife with a blade over 5 ½ inches; hand instrument designed to cut or stab another by being thrown; dagger, including but not limited to a dirk, stiletto, and poniard; bowie knife; sword; or spear.

INDECENT EXPOSURE: Those acts defined in Texas Penal Code section 21.08.

INTENT: The design, resolve, or determination with which a person acts. Since intent is a state of mind, it is ordinarily proved through inferences drawn from the act and/or circumstances surrounding the act. Intent includes the conscious objective or desire to engage in the conduct or cause the result, an awareness that the conduct is reasonably certain to cause the result, or disregard of a substantial and justifiable risk when there is an awareness that the circumstances exist or the result will occur.

KNIFE: A bladed hand instrument that is capable of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by cutting or stabbing.

KNUCKLES: Any instrument consisting of finger rings or guards made of a hard substance that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with a fist enclosed in the knuckles.

MACHINE GUN: Any firearm capable of shooting more than two shots automatically, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

PARAPHERNALIA: Any article or device used or intended for use to inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug into the human body, including but not limited to roach clips, rolling papers, needles, baggies with residue, razor blades, or pipes.

POSSESSION: To have in or on: (1) a student's person or in the student's personal property, such as the student's clothing, purse, or backpack; (2) in any vehicle used by the student for transportation to or from school or school-related activities, such as an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle; or (3) any other school property used by the student, such as a locker or desk.

PROHIBITED WEAPONS: A prohibited weapon includes the following items: armor-piercing ammunition, chemical dispensing device, explosive weapon, firearm silencer, knuckles, machine gun, short-barrel firearm, switchblade knife, zip gun, or a tier deflation device.

PUBLIC LEWDNESS: Those acts defined in Texas Penal Code § 21.07.

REASONABLE BELIEF: A determination that misconduct occurred made by the administrator using all available factual and legal information, including information furnished under Article 15.27 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

RETALIATION: Harming or threatening to harm another: (1) on account of their service as a District employee or volunteer, (2) to prevent or delay another's service to the District, or (3) because the person intends to report a crime.

SELF-DEFENSE: To claim self-defense, the student must (1) be without fault in provoking the encounter and not act as the aggressor, and (2) use the minimum force required to remove himself or herself from immediate danger of harm. Actions that escalate or continue the encounter will not be considered self-defense. Interactions prior to the encounter will also be considered.

SERIOUS MISCONDUCT: Any misconduct identified as being punishable with placement in DAEP or expulsion.

SEX OFFENDER: A student required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62 of the Code of Criminal Procedure for an offense committed on or after September 1, 2007. The term does not include a student who: (1) is not longer required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, (2) is exempt from registering as a sex offender under Chapter 62, or (3) receives an early termination of the obligation to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT: Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature that is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's performance; creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment; affects a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an educational program or activity; otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities, or is prohibited by District policy FFH or FNC.


SHORT-BARREL FIREARM: A rifle with a barrel length of less than 16 inches or a shotgun with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun if, as altered, has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

SWITCHBLADE KNIFE: Any knife with a blade that folds, closes, or retracts into the handle or sheath and that opens automatically by pressing a button or other device located on the handle or opens or releases a blade from the handle or sheath by the force of gravity or centrifugal force.

TELECOMMUNICATINS DEVICE: Any type of device that: (1) emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor, or (2) permits the recording, transmission, and/or receipt of messages, voices, images, or information in any format or media, electronic or otherwise. It does not include an amateur radio under control of someone with an amateur radio license.

TERRORISTIC THREAT: Threats to commit any offense involving violence to any person or property with intent to: (1) cause a reaction by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies; (2) place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; (3) prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building, room, place of assembly, place to which the public has access, place of employment or occupation, aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance, or other public place; (4) cause impairment or interruption of public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service; (5) place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or (6) influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of federal government, the state, or political subdivision of the state (including the District).

TIRE DEFLATION DEVICE: Tire deflation device is defined in part by Section 46.01 of the Penal Code as a device, including a caltrop or spike strip, that when driven over, impedes or stops the movement of a wheeled vehicle by puncturing one or more of the vehicle's tires.



TITLE 5 FELONY OFFENSES: Offenses against the person that, depending on the circumstances, may include murder; capital murder; manslaughter; criminally negligent homicide; unlawful restraint; kidnapping; aggravated kidnapping; trafficking of persons; unlawful transport; assault; aggravated assault; sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; improper relationship between educator and student; indecency with a child; injury to a child, and elderly person, or disabled person; abandoning or endangering a child; improper photography or visual recording; coercing, soliciting, or inducting gang membership; deadly conduct; terroristic threat; aiding a person to commit suicide; harassment by a person in a correctional facility; continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children; and tampering with a consumer product

UNDER THE INFLUENCE: When in the employee's professional judgment, the student does not have the normal use of mental or physical faculties likely attributable to the student's use of a prohibited substance. Such impairment may be evidenced by the symptoms typically associated with drug or alcohol use or other abnormal or erratic behavior or by the student's admission. The student need not be legally intoxicated.

USE: With respect to substances, voluntarily injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing a prohibited substance into the body. With respect to objects or devices, putting into action or service or carrying out an actions or purpose with the object or device.

ZIP GUN: A device or combination of devices that was not originally a firearm and is adapted to expel a projectile through a smooth-bore or rifled-bore barrel by using the energy generated by an expulsion or burning substance.