

Student Disciplinary Processes

This policy shall be used in conjunction with policies adopted by SBDM councils as per [KRS 160.345](#). The council's discipline policies shall provide for involvement of parents in disciplinary situations involving their children.

GOOD DISCIPLINE AS ESSENTIAL

Good pupil discipline is essential to a good school program, and pupil self-discipline should be a primary aim. Without good discipline, school personnel cannot discharge their primary responsibility in the development of individual pupil potentials. Without good discipline, pupils will not realize their greatest potentials for growth.

MUTUAL TRUST AND RESPECT

Primary responsibility for classroom discipline shall rest with the teacher, and every teacher in the system should strive to maintain a classroom in which students are interested in learning and in which mutual trust and respect prevail.

USE OF OTHER PERSONNEL

Study of individual differences, conferences with student and parents, assistance from other teachers, the Principal, and support personnel should be used in helping a pupil improve behavior patterns which are retarding his/her own development or interfering with the rights of others.

SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The authority of the Board in matters of student behavior is not limited to school buildings and grounds or to times when the pupil is on his/her his way to or from school, but extends to any activity which is school-related or school-sponsored, either on or off the school campus.

For further information concerning student disciplinary processes, refer to the Statement on Rights and Responsibilities and Student Code of Conduct.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS

Discipline should not be administered in a manner that is humiliating, degrading, or unduly severe. Teachers should guard against making remarks to other pupils concerning a student's shortcomings. As stated in the Professional Code of Ethics for Kentucky School Certified Personnel, personnel are expected to:

1. Take reasonable measures to protect the health, safety, and emotional well-being of students; and
2. Refrain from subjecting students to embarrassment or disparagement.

Therefore, staff members shall not bully students. As referred to in this policy, bullying refers to intentional, repeated hurtful acts, words or other behaviors that involve an inappropriate and unprofessional imbalance of power. These may include, but are limited to, name calling, teasing, threatening, social exclusion, and cyberbullying. Bullying may be physical, verbal, emotional or sexual in nature.

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JUVENILE COURT RECORDS

Unless an administrator or the Board acts under authority of [KRS 158.150](#), no school, school administrator, teacher, or other school employee shall expel or punish a student based on juvenile court information received by the school. Administrators may act to protect staff and students when the student's conduct, as reflected by the information, indicates a substantial likelihood of an immediate and continuing threat of harm to students or staff. In cases where such actions are necessary, the following provisions shall apply:

1. Restrictions imposed on the student shall represent the least restrictive alternative available and appropriate to remedy the threat.
2. Supporting material shall be documented in the student's records.
3. The student and/or parent/guardian may appeal actions to the Superintendent and/or to the Circuit Court with appropriate jurisdiction.¹

MINOR PROBLEMS

Minor or routine discipline problems should be handled by the classroom teacher and should be referred to the Principal (or appropriate administrator) only after efforts to alleviate the problem have failed and the teacher has had a private conference with the pupil.

SERIOUS PROBLEMS

Serious disciplinary problems shall be promptly reported to the Principal and to the parent(s) of the student. If the teacher has not been successful in solving these problems, a conference should be arranged involving the Principal, the pupil and the teacher. Written referrals shall be used if conferences are impractical.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

Discipline for children and youth with disabilities shall observe, and be in conformity with, federal and state procedures and guidelines.

REFERENCES:

- ¹[KRS 158.153](#)
- [KRS 610.345](#)
- [KRS 158.150](#)
- [KRS 160.290](#)
- [KRS 160.340](#)
- [KRS 160.345](#)
- [KRS 161.180](#)
- P. L. 105-17
- [016 KAR 001:020 KAR 001:020 \(Code of Ethics\)](#)
- Honig v. Doe, U.S., 108 S.Ct. 592 (1988).

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