

STUDENTS

A. Generally

Students are expected to exhibit behavior that supports a learning environment where maximum achievement can take place in each classroom. All other policies related to the progressive discipline of students will take precedence over the alternatives to out-of-school suspension outlined in this regulation.

B. Criteria for Teachers to Remove Disruptive Students from Class

Teachers may remove a student from class immediately using a Student Referral Form if the student is demonstrating severe, disruptive behavior in the classroom. However, it is expected that teachers will follow progressive in-class discipline procedures prior to the removal of a student from class.

1. The following classroom procedures will be established by each classroom teacher and reviewed with the students at the beginning of the school year:
 - a. Classroom rules will be simply stated and posted in the classroom.
 - b. Parents will be notified of classroom discipline procedures and will return a signed statement that they were notified.
 - c. The classroom discipline plan will be presented to the class, and teachers will model the expected student behaviors.
 - d. The plan will be initiated at the beginning of the school year and implemented consistently throughout the year.
 - e. Classroom teachers will maintain appropriate classroom disciplinary records.
2. The following steps will occur as part of the progressive discipline plan in the classroom prior to the completion of a Student Referral Form.
 - a. A first offense for minor disruption will initiate a warning to the student with anecdotal notation by the classroom teacher.
 - b. The second offense for minor disruptive behavior will result in a short discussion with the student after class and a second anecdotal notation by the classroom teacher.
 - c. The third offense for minor disruptive behavior will require detention after school where applicable and contact with the parent.
3. If the steps outlined above do not correct minor disruptive behavior problems or if

STUDENTS

Alternatives to Out-of-School Suspensions (continued)

a student exhibits severe disruptive behavior, the teacher will initiate a Student Referral Form to the school principal and/or assistant principal.

4. The following steps will occur once the principal and/or assistant principal has received a Student Referral Form from a teacher.
 - a. The principal and/or assistant principal will determine a disciplinary course of action regarding the student.
 - b. Based on the disciplinary action, the teacher may become involved prior to the student returning to the classroom. Examples of ways the teacher could be involved include readmit conferences, student contracts, and further parent involvement.
 - c. Students will be returned to class by the principal and/or assistant principal when deemed appropriate.
 - d. The director for student services will resolve disagreements between the teacher and principal and/or assistant principal regarding the return of students to class.

C. Probation

Students attending Lynchburg City Schools on a probationary status must be aware of the conditions of the probation.

In a conference, the principal or a designee must inform the student and his/her parents or legal guardian of the conditions of the probation.

For the record, a letter signed by the principal, stating conditions of the probation will be mailed to the parents or the legal guardian with a copy on file at the school.

D. In-School Suspension Programs

Such programs are in effect in each secondary school under the direction and supervision of the principal. These programs should offer a meaningful and constructive alternative to out-of-school suspension.

E. Overnight Suspension

A student placed on overnight suspension may return the next school day if the parent(s) or guardian(s) return with the student.

Code of Va., § 22.1-276.2 Removal of students from classes - A. Teachers shall have the initial authority to remove a student for disruptive behavior from a class. For the

STUDENTS

Alternatives to Out-of-School Suspensions (continued)

purposes of this section, "disruptive behavior" means a violation of school board regulations governing student conduct that interrupts or obstructs the learning environment.

B. Each school board shall establish, within the regulations governing student conduct required by §22.1-278:

1. Criteria for teachers to remove disruptive students from their classes;
2. Requirements for incident reports of disruptive behavior to school administrators and any other documentation to support such removals from class;
3. Procedures for the written notification of a student and his parents of any incident report and its contents and for the opportunity to meet with the teacher and school administrators to discuss the student's behavior and the possible consequences if such behavior does not cease;
4. Guidelines for the alternative assignment and instruction of such students and for the duration of such removals; and
5. Procedures for the return of students to class, for teacher participation in any decision by the principal to return a student to the class from which he has been removed, and for the resolution of any disagreements between such principal and teacher regarding such return.

C. The principal shall, unless a student who has been removed from class is suspended or expelled from school attendance, ensure that such student continues to receive an education.

D. Any teacher whose evaluation indicates deficiencies in the management of student conduct may be required by the school board to attend professional development activities designed to improve classroom management and disciplinary skills.

E. Application of this section to students with disabilities shall be in accordance with state and federal law and regulations.

F. This section shall not be construed to limit or restrict other school board policies and regulations for maintaining order in the classroom.

Approved by Superintendent: August 4, 1981

Approved by School Board: June 16, 1998