



STUDENTS: Conduct

Positive Behavior

I. Purpose

- A. To establish standards that teach positive skills and promote behaviors supportive to academic success.

II. Definitions

The following definitions apply to this rule:

- A. *Discipline* – teaching students how to make good choices by using good decision-making skills and known consequences when students choose to behave inappropriately.
- B. *Disciplinary Responses* – consequences that include suspension, assignment to alternative programs, or expulsion.
- C. *Interventions* – supports identified to assist in the changing of behaviors.

III. Standards

- A. The goal in the discipline process is to maintain safe, orderly, and nurturing learning environments that are conducive to positive learning experiences in all schools so that all students will reach expected achievement standards.
- B. Disciplinary responses shall focus on prevention and/or modification of unacceptable student behavior with support services and appropriate interventions.
- C. Parent/guardian support shall be solicited to help students behave appropriately and succeed academically. The discipline process shall be proactive with the emphasis on teamwork.

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- D. School administrators shall take appropriate disciplinary action as outlined in Superintendent's Rule 5550, *Disruptive Behavior*.

III. Implementation

- A. Each school principal will create and implement a schoolwide positive behavior plan that include the following:
1. High expectations for staff and students;
 2. High impact actions leading to progress of all student groups;
 3. Alignment with targets and goals;
 4. Parent/guardian and community engagement;
 5. Relevant professional development for teachers/staff;
 6. Data analysis for decision-making;
 7. Monitoring and evaluation of implementation and results;
 8. Follow-up actions;
 9. Communication of planning processes, plan, and results; and
 10. Cultural competencies.

Legal References: *Annotated Code of Maryland, Education Article §7-305, Suspension and Expulsion*
COMAR 13A.08.01.11, *Disciplinary Action*

Related Policies: Board of Education Policy 5000, *Students*
Board of Education Policy 5500, *Conduct*
Board of Education Policy 5120, *Attendance and Excuses*
Board of Education Policy 5520, *Student Dress Code*
Board of Education Policy 5540, *Alcoholic Beverages, Controlled Dangerous Substances, intoxicants, Prescription and Nonprescription Drugs*
Board of Education Policy 5550, *Disruptive Behavior*
Board of Education Policy 5551, *Gang Activity and Similar Destructive or Illegal Behavior*
Board of Education Policy 5560, *Suspension, Assignment to Alternative Programs, or Expulsion*
Board of Education Policy 5561, *School Use of Reportable Offenses*

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Board of Education Policy 5580, *Bullying, Harassment, or Intimidation*

Board of Education Policy 5600, *Students' Rights and Responsibilities*

Board of Education Policy 5590, *Students' Expressions*

Board of Education Policy 6202, *Telecommunication Access to Electronic Information, Services, and Networks*

Board of Education Policy 6701, *Extracurricular Activities*

Rule

Superintendent of Schools

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