

Board File: JI/JIA

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES/DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

Each student has the opportunity and the right to use school as a means for self- improvement and individual growth. In so doing, he/she is expected to conduct him or herself in a manner compatible with the school's function as an educational facility, and in accordance with District policies and regulations concerning student conduct and discipline, including but not limited to the grounds for suspension, expulsion and classroom removal in policy JKD/JKE. Conduct that disrupts or threatens to disrupt the operation of a school, that interferes in any way with the public or private rights of other students or citizens, that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person, or that damages property, will not be tolerated and will result in disciplinary action.

It is the intent of the District to afford vigilant protection of the constitutional freedoms of all school personnel and students, and to guarantee those protections as provided in the Constitution, including the rights of free inquiry and expression, the right to freedom of association, and the right to administrative due process.

Of equal importance is the right of school authorities to prescribe and control, consistent with fundamental and constitutional safeguards, student conduct in the schools, on school grounds, at school sanctioned activities and events, and while being transported in school approved vehicles.

In exercising this right, each building principal, working with his/her staff and with the students, will attempt to achieve the objectives and follow the procedures set forth by District policies and administrative regulations pertaining to the various aspects of student rights, student conduct, and student discipline.

Objectives to be Achieved

The primary objective is the proper recognition and preservation of a student's constitutional rights, and allowance for such rights:

1. Freedom of Expression - Students may freely express their points of view, provided they do not seek to coerce others to join in their way of expression and provided also that they do not substantially disrupt school operations, intrude upon the rights of others, or endanger the health and/or safety of other students or school personnel.
2. Personal Appearance - The Board recognizes that students have a right to express themselves through dress and personal appearance; however, students shall not wear apparel that is deemed disruptive or potentially disruptive to the classroom environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school. General standards applicable to student dress and appearance are deemed necessary to avoid disruption and to maintain a safe and orderly school environment and are in effect and applicable to student dress and appearance in school buildings, on school grounds, or at school activities. These

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general standards are set out in Board File JICA, Student Dress. Participation in voluntary activities may make it necessary to impose specific requirements for grooming and dress, due to the nature of the activity. Gang-related dress is specifically addressed by District Policy JICF, Gang-Related Behaviors and Dress.

3. The Right to Petition - Students are allowed to present petitions to the administration at any time. Collecting signatures on petitions is limited to before and after school hours. No student will be subjected to disciplinary measures of any kind for signing a petition to the administration - assuming that the petition is free of obscenities, libelous statements, personal attack, or advocating disruption which poses a threat to the regular school program, and is within the bounds of reasonable conduct.
4. Student Property - A student's person and/or personal effects in his/her possession (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. Student lockers and desks are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Periodic general inspections of locker contents may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. Locker clean-out sessions will be conducted as determined by the principal. Such clean-outs will be to dispose of waste materials, recover missing books and other school property, and for other reasons as determined by the principal.
5. Textbooks and Library Resources - Students are responsible for the proper care of school textbooks and library resources that are provided for their use. Students who damage or fail to return school textbooks and/or library resources shall be responsible for the cost of replacing them. Student payment of such replacement costs may be enforced by withholding the diploma, transcript, or grades of any student who fails to return a textbook or library resources or to replace a textbook or library resources damaged by the student at the completion of any semester or school year, and/or by refusing to allow the student to participate in any school graduation or continuation ceremony. Before these methods of enforcement are implemented with respect to any student, the school shall make other reasonable efforts to obtain payment for the textbook(s) or library resource(s). If the school determines that a student is unable to pay the full amount of a textbook or library resource at one time, it may obtain payment through other methods, including but not limited to payment plans or service at the school where the student is enrolled.
6. Student Involvement in School Affairs - While on school grounds, in school facilities, at school-sponsored activities, when being transported in vehicles approved by the District, or off school property when their conduct

has a nexus to school or any District curricular or non-curricular activity or event, students shall comply with District policies and regulations pertaining to student conduct. (See Student Conduct Code, District Policy JIC/JICDA and subcodes.) Students shall have the right to participate, as suitable to their age and maturity, in decision making processes; student government; and student organizations. They shall have the constitutional rights to freedom of assembly and expression, and the right to possess and distribute literature, as set forth in District policies pertaining to student organizations and publications.

Current practice codified 1978

Adopted: date of manual adoption

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LEGAL REF.:

C.R.S. 22-32-110(1)(jj)

CROSS REFS.:

JICE, Student Publications

JIC/JICDA, Student Conduct, and subcodes

JICA, Student Dress

JICF, Gang-Related Behaviors and Dress

JK, Student Discipline, and subcodes

JIH, Searches