

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON SCHOOL PROPERTY

P5300.70

In seeking proper balance between order and the legitimate expression of dissent, the Board of Education is committed to the management of its schools in a manner that is consistent with the legal and moral rights of all but which neither tolerates nor condones actions or conduct that disrupts the educational process, damages or destroys public property, or is in any way in violation of civil or penal codes.

Nothing herein is intended, nor shall it be construed to prevent or limit communication between and among teachers, students, parents, and administration, or to relieve each school or educational facility of its special responsibility for self regulation in the preservation of public order. The purpose of this policy is not to prevent or restrain controversy and dissent but to prevent abuse of the rights of others and to maintain that public order without which there can be no intellectual freedom and these rules shall be interpreted and applied to that end.

The following acts or conduct leading to or resulting in such acts are prohibited to students, staff members (instructional and non-instructional) and all school visitors, licensees, or invitees:

1. Willful physical injury to any person;
2. Willful damage to real or personal school property or to the property of any person on school premises;
3. Willful disruption of the orderly conduct of classes or of any other school program or activity;
4. Entry upon any portion of the school premises for any purpose other than its authorized uses, i.e. petitions related to a non-school district activity;
5. Theft or appropriation of school property, or the property of any person on the premises of the school;
6. Unauthorized use or possession of files, records, equipment, or other property of the school;
7. Disorderly or indecent conduct or acts with intent to cause violence or acts which interfere with the rights or personal safety of those who are entitled to avail themselves of any of the facilities or services of the school; and
8. Violation of any federal, state, or local law.

The penalties for violating any of the above prohibitions will be as follows:

1. Students will face penalties, depending on the gravity of the offense ranging from:
 - (a) reprimand,
 - (b) after school detention,
 - (c) temporary suspension from school,
 - (d) permanent exclusion from extra-curricular activities to,
 - (e) permanent suspension from school.
2. Staff members (instructional or non-instructional) will face penalties, depending on the gravity of the offense, ranging from
 - (a) reprimand,
 - (b) compulsory restitution,
 - (c) probation,
 - (d) suspension with or without pay, or
 - (e) dismissal.

3. Any visitor, licensee, or invitee who violates any of these prohibitions will have his authorization to remain on the school property withdrawn and shall be directed to leave the premises by the building principal or a designee. The superintendent or principal may impose limitations and restrictions on access to school facilities, including sports venues at which BH- BL students are competing. Restrictions on interactions with school personnel may also be set.
4. Any student, staff member, visitor, licensee, or invitee seen to be in apparent violation of these prohibitions will be warned by the chief school officer or principal or their designees of the possible consequences of their failure to cease and desist from such activity. When the alleged violation of these rules does not cease after such warning, the chief school officer, principal or their designee shall order the removal of the violator from any premises which they occupy in such violation. Necessary police assistance to accomplish the ejection of a violator from school property should be requested by the chief school officer, the principal, or their designee.
5. In addition to those penalties that may be applied by the school officer or a designee, civil authorities will assume responsibility for the investigation of the violation with the intent of prosecuting the violator under the provisions of the appropriate civil or penal laws. Appropriate civil or penal law provisions will take precedence over this policy whenever a conflict may arise. In general, the school district will cooperate with civil authorities in prosecuting violations of the law included in this policy.

The Superintendent will be responsible for the enforcement of this policy and will direct administrators and other personnel to take action in accordance with this policy and will likewise direct each building principal to develop an emergency plan for dealing with any effort to disrupt the orderly conduct of the school.

Revised May 2007

Renumbered from P1530 – September 2015