



# NEW TRIER TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

Board of Education Policy 7-200

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## STUDENTS STUDENT BEHAVIOR

### POLICY

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) prioritize the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and illegal drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and, to the extent possible and practical, provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

As is the case throughout the Board Policy Manual, the term "includes" when used in this policy means "includes, without limitation."

#### When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student may be subject to disciplinary action for engaging in *prohibited student conduct*, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds at any time, including before, during, and after school hours;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct does or reasonably could be foreseen to do any of the following: interfere with, disrupt, or adversely affect the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

#### Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
  - a. Tobacco or nicotine materials, including electronic cigarettes.
  - b. Alcoholic beverages.
  - c. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis, including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish except that medical cannabis infused products may be consumed by students in conformance with Board Policy 7-195.
  - d. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - e. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - f. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions.
  - g. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
  - h. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, which are any substance, including any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance that is not prohibited by this policy: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, substance causing an intoxicating effect, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented the substance to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, causing an intoxicating effect, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
  - i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.
2. Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession. Any drug prescribed by a physician or licensed practitioner must be held in Health Services and administered under the supervision of a school health professional.
3. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon" as that term is defined in the Weapons section of this policy, or violating the Weapons section of this policy.
4. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an

indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Individual teachers may set parameters for use of electronic devices during a class period.

5. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
6. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
7. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff member or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
8. Engaging in any sexual activity, including consensual sexual activity, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the non-disruptive: (a) expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference, or (b) age-appropriate display of affection during non-instructional time.
9. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7-25, *Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Cyber-Bullying, Teen Dating Violence, and Hazing Prohibited*.
10. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
11. Entering or being present on/in school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
12. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.
13. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and School Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
14. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia
15. Violating any criminal law, including assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
16. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the

safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.

17. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
18. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall notify the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior about the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board’s authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

#### Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include any of the following:

1. Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. All day detention. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student’s parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.

9. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:170, *Bus Conduct*.
10. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7:210, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
11. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:220, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
12. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or if the parent/guardian agrees to such transfer. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.
13. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including illegal drugs (controlled substances), “look-alikes,” alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Corporal punishment is prohibited. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

### **Weapons**

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year but not more than 2 calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 921), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 (720 ILCS 5/24-1).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including “look-alikes” of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

### **Re-Engagement of Returning Students**

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. Re-engagement shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

### **Required Notices**

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the Principal or designee shall immediately notify the local law enforcement agency, State Police, and any involved student's parent/guardian. For purposes of these requirements, "school grounds" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

### **Psychotropic or Psychostimulant Medication**

No student may be disciplined because of the refusal of his/her parents or guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

At least once every two years, appropriate certified school personnel will receive in-service training on the current best practices regarding the identification and treatment of attention deficit disorder and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, the application of no aversive behavioral interventions in the school environment, and the use of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication for school-age children.

This policy does not prohibit school medical staff, an individualized educational program team, or a professional worker as defined by Section 5/14-1.10 of the School Code, 105 ILCS 5/14.10, from recommending that a student be evaluated by an appropriate medical practitioner or prohibit school personnel from consulting with the practitioner with the consent of the student's parent or guardian.

**Delegation of Authority**

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other certificated [licensed] educational employees and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Principal, or Assistant Principal is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students found to have engaged in gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

**Student Discipline Advisory Committee**

The Board shall establish and maintain a parent-teacher advisory committee to assist in the development of student discipline policy and procedures.

The Student Discipline Advisory Committee shall be representative of the entire school community. The Student Discipline Advisory Committee shall be comprised of parents, teachers and may also include students and community representatives. Members shall be individuals who have shown an interest in District educational issues and who are willing to commit time to committee work.

The Committee may call upon the Administrative staff of the District to provide the Committee with such information as the Committee deems necessary to carry out its function.

The Committee shall review such issues as student discipline, disruptive classroom behavior and the dissemination of information regarding standards for student conduct.

The Committee shall make an annual written report to the School Board of its findings and recommendations by April each year. The Board shall consider the recommendations of the Committee when reviewing student discipline policy.

**Student Guide Book**

A *Student Guide Book*, including the District disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the student's parents/guardians within 15 school days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

**Student Grievances**

The Board recognizes that most cases of student grievances should and will be settled by means of established channels within the school. Any student, however, who feels compelled to call to

the attention of the administration and the Board the conduct or qualifications of any member of the faculty, the administration, maintenance personnel or other student, shall submit his or her charges or complaints in writing to the Principal or the Secretary of the Board, shall date the complaint and sign his or her name, class, and adviser room as well as his or her home address. Such communications shall include names, dates, times, and full details to facilitate fair and prompt consideration by the administration and the Board of requests or complaints.

LEGAL REF.: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. §7151 et seq.  
Pro-Children Act of 1994, 20 U.S.C. §6081.  
410 ILCS 130/, Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.  
410 ILCS 647/, Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.  
430 ILCS 66/, Firearm Concealed Carry Act.  
105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b, 5/10-20.14, 5/10-20.28, 5/10-20.35, 5/10-20.36, 5/10-21.7, 5/10-21.10, 5/10-22.6, 5/10-27.1A, 5/10-27.1B, 5/24-24, 5/26-12, 5/27-23.7, 5/31-3, and 110/3.10.  
23 Ill.Admin.Code §1.210 and 280.  
105 ILCS 5/22-33

**CROSS REFERENCES: Policy 7-195**

**Adopted: 7/20/94**

**Adopted: 8/24/98**

**Revised: 5/26/15**

**Revised: 7/25/2016**

**Revised: 9/17/2018**

**Revised: 3/18/2019**