

StudentsConduct/Discipline/PunishmentStudent Conduct

The Board of Education expects that student conduct in the Brookfield Public Schools shall be based on mutual respect and consideration for the rights of others, their property and school property. Students shall be instructed in rules and regulations of acceptable conduct; they shall then be responsible for understanding and complying with the standards of behavior described therein. Any student who fails to comply with the rules and regulations concerning student conduct may be subject to removal, exclusion, suspension or expulsion, a formal police complaint or other disciplinary action deemed appropriate.

A. Areas of Responsibility

1. Board of Education

The Board of Education, formulates policy and holds the Superintendent responsible for the proper conduct and control of students while legally under the supervision and jurisdiction of the school.

2. Superintendent

The superintendent or designee shall implement procedures, rules and regulations to render effective the policies of the Board of Education relating to standards of student conduct.

3. Teachers

Teachers shall be responsible for the instruction of students in rules and regulations of proper conduct, and shall be responsible for effective control of students. The responsibility and authority of any teacher extends to all students of the school district under the assigned supervision of the teacher and to other students so situated with respect to the teacher as to be subject to the teacher's control.

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Areas of Responsibility (Continued)

4. Parents

Parents shall be expected to cooperate with school authorities regarding the behavior of their children. Parents shall be responsible for the misbehavior of their children.

5. Students

Ultimately students are responsible for their own behavior. It is expected that they shall abide by the rules of appropriate conduct as set forth in board policies and individual school handbooks. They shall be held accountable for willful misconduct.

B. Discipline

Good discipline is essential to a school's proper functioning. With it a school can discharge its primary responsibility to educate the students, and students can realize their greatest opportunities for growth.

The following are guides to good discipline:

1. Good discipline is based upon mutual respect between the student and staff.
2. Good discipline is usually positive rather than negative in nature. It consists of keeping students interested and engaged in constructive learning rather than punishing them for doing things that are anti-social.
3. Good discipline is fair, dignified and in good temper.
4. Good discipline stems from a cooperative effort among teachers, administrators, parents, or legal guardians to bring about acceptable school behavior.

In maintaining discipline, teachers must be able to proceed with the assurance that support will be forthcoming from the building administrator, the superintendent and the Board of Education.

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Punishment is the penalty imposed on a student for disobeying a rule or rules set forth in each school's Discipline Code. Corporal punishment, defined as a physical hurt upon a student, shall not be permitted in any of the district's schools. When punishing a student, a teacher shall not use sarcasm, disparaging remarks, sexist or racial comments or scapegoating.

D. Notification of Behavior Code /and Disciplinary Procedures

The Superintendent shall ensure that at the beginning of each school year, the teachers, students and parents or guardians of minor students registered in the district shall be informed of the rules of the district pertaining to student conduct and the consequences for disobeying these rules.

The principal of each school shall take steps to insure that all rules pertaining to the conduct of students are communicated to students at the beginning of each school year, and to transfer students at the time of their enrollment in the school.

cf: 5113, Truancy  
 5114, Removal, Exclusion, Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process  
 5131.1, Bus Conduct  
 5131.21, Violent and Aggressive Behavior  
 5131.5, Vandalism  
 5131.6, Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco  
 5137, Firearms, Weapons, and Dangerous Instruments  
 5145.5, Sexual Harassment

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

52-572 Parental liability for torts of minors. Damage defined.  
 10-221 Boards of Education to prescribe rules.  
 10-233e Notice as to disciplinary policies and action.  
 530-18-18 Use of Reasonable physical force or deadly physical force generally

Policy  
 Revised: 5/1/91  
 Revised: 8/18/99

BROOKFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
 Brookfield, Connecticut