

STUDENT PROTESTS-DEMONSTRATIONS-STRIKES

Established channels of communication and approved procedure exist in the public schools for expressing student opinions, concerns or complaints. To ignore existing channels or to organize student protests in defiance of rules and regulations is a disruption of the normal functioning of the school. Individual or group activism which results in or threatens disruption of the school is prohibited. Any person who willfully disrupts any public school or any public meeting is guilty of a misdemeanor.

It is fallacious to presume that the constitution confers the right to disrupt a school without any legal accountability or to wrongly equate school disruption with free speech or academic freedom. The proposition that if individuals believe their cause is just, they can, with impunity, trample on the rights of others, has been squarely repudiated by the U.S. Supreme Court. In *Cox vs. Louisiana*, the Supreme Court states as follows:

"The rights of free speech and assembly, while fundamental in our democratic society, still do not mean that everyone with opinions or beliefs to express may address a group at any public place and at any time. The constitutional guarantee of liberty implies the existence of an organized society maintaining public order without which liberty itself would be lost in the excesses of anarchy."

Students who willfully disrupt the routine and daily schedule of the school or a school-sponsored event by participating in an individual or group activity(ies) which has as its purpose the encouragement of noncompliance with an existing school policy, regulation or administrative decision will be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate, including notation of their unsatisfactory conduct on the cumulative record. They may also be required to forfeit all recognition, student body participation, honors, awards and scholarships. Any instance of truancy, insubordination, or overt acts of behavior inimical to the welfare of others resulting from their participation will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including arrest.

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NEPN/NSBA Classification: JIJ

Legal Reference: NRS 289.190, 392.463, NCSD Parent/Student Handbook & NCSD
Emergency Action Guide