



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING

Board of Education Special Meeting AT Tuesday, August 4, 2026

Virtual

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
F. Bogle-Assegai
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Board of Education Special Meeting - June 27, 2026 2
F. Bogle-Assegai
3. Old Business
 - A. Policies for a Second Reading and Possible Adoption
T. Youngberg
 1. Transportation - 3541 5
T. Youngberg
 2. Student Dress Code - 5132 17
T. Youngberg
 3. Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process - 5114 23
T. Youngberg
4. Adjournment
F. Bogle-Assegai



Board of Education Special Meeting – Board Retreat
Saturday, June 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
134 Norwood Road
West Hartford, CT 06117

Attendance: L. Easmon, Chair	Present
T. Mack-Mohammed	Absent (<i>joined by phone from 2:01 – 2:59 p.m.</i>)
F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary	Present
K. Dunbar	Present
L. Simone	Absent
C. Jones	Present (<i>left at 2:49 p.m.</i>)
H. Frydman	Absent

Also Present: A. Crumbie, Attorney for the Bloomfield Board of Education
T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools
L. Lamenzo, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership
D. Greco, Director of Accounting
G. Martinez, Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

L. Easmon determined a quorum was present and the Bloomfield Board of Education special meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m.

2. New Business

A. Ice Breaker

The group elected to forgo the icebreaker activity.

B. Policy Development and Oversight

Jody Goeler, Senior Policy Associate at the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) provided a presentation on "Effective Board Policy Governance" at the Board Retreat. The presentation outlined the critical importance of maintaining updated district policies to ensure legal compliance, protect operational continuity, and prevent administrative distractions caused by outdated guidance. Mr. Goeler emphasized that the Board's role is to govern the strategic "what" and "why" of policy, while the Superintendent is responsible for operationalizing these goals through administrative regulations. To maintain an effective policy framework, the presentation detailed a structured policy review cycle—consisting of auditing gaps, segmenting study into a three-year calendar, drafting and studying updates, and final adoption—and delineated the distinct responsibilities of the policy subcommittee, the full board, and the superintendent in executing this process. The session concluded with Mr. Goeler highlighting a few policy examples.

A break was provided from 10:18 a.m. to 10:34 a.m.



C. Department Update

Departmental updates were provided by Lisa Lamenzo, Executive Director of Teaching, Learning, and Leadership, Domenic Greco, Executive Director of Finance and Operations, and Grace Martinez, Executive Director of Talent Management & Community Partnerships. Each department shared accomplishments for the 2025-2026 school year and goals for the 2026-2027 school year.

A break was provided from 11:45 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.

D. Strategic Planning and Next Steps

Superintendent Dr. Tracy Youngberg presented the End of Year Report and led a discussion regarding the district's strategic planning and next steps process. The presentation reviewed the district's progress toward establishing key developmental strategic goals, analyzing year-end performance milestones, identifying the next steps for establishing a new five-year strategic plan, which will include working with a consultant to facilitate the planning process.

Dr. Youngberg outlined the sequential framework for the next phase of the planning process, highlighting data metrics and the work to either integrate with or redefine the district's Portrait of a Graduate. The Board engaged in a discussion regarding the alignment of these strategic objectives with current administrative resources, implementation timelines, and accountability metrics designed to track student and institutional success moving forward.

The Board members discussed gathering community input and using various platforms to collect information.

A lunch break was provided from 12:15 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

E. Old Business

1. Second Reading and Possible Adoption of Policies

Due to time constraints, the agenda item regarding a second reading of policies was tabled and will be revisited during a special virtual meeting to be scheduled at a later date.

F. Discussion of the Superintendent's Contract (discussion proposed for Executive Session)

A motion was made by L. Easmon and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Bloomfield Board of Education to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the Superintendent's Contract. They further invited Attorney Crumbie to participate.

L. Easmon	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye
C. Jones	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.



The Board members convened into Executive Session at 2:01 p.m. and returned to public session at 2:49 p.m. (*Clovis Jones departed at 2:49 p.m.*)

G. Possible Action on the Superintendent's Contract

A motion was made T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai for the Bloomfield Board of Education to amend the contract for Dr. Tracy Youngberg to include the following:

- Vacation carryover from 35 to 37 days
- Vacation payout from 15 to 25 days
- Accumulated sick leave from 220 to 240 hours
- Holidays from 12 to 15 days (13 regular and 2 floating holidays)
- Health insurance coverage after employment for 30 days
- Salary increase of 3%
- Incentive bonus between 3%-5% of salary (based on target set by the Board of Education)
- Extension of contract through June 30, 2029

L. Easmon	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Aye
F. Bogle-Assegai	Aye
K. Dunbar	Aye

The motion passed unanimously 4-0-0.

3. Adjournment

At 2:59 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by K. Dunbar and seconded by F. Bogle-Assegai to adjourn.

The motion was passed unanimously 4-0-0.

F. Bogle-Assegai, Secretary

T. Youngberg, Superintendent of Schools

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(a)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Statement of Policy

The Board of Education will provide transportation for students under provisions of state law and regulations. In determining the provision of transportation, the superintendent of schools shall consider the guidelines contained in this policy and shall administer the operation so as to:

1. provide for the safety of students.
2. supplement and reinforce desirable student behavior patterns.
3. assist disabled students appropriately.
4. enrich the instructional program through carefully planned field trips as recommended by the staff.

Definitions

1. **"School transportation"** means the procedure, program, or implemented plan by which a pupil is transported to and/or from school from his/her residence or the bus stop at public expense, whether by use of publicly owned equipment or by contract. Such transportation shall be over public roads approved by the municipality or private roads approved pursuant to C.G.S. Section 10-220c.
2. **"Walking distance"** means the linear measure of a prescribed or authorized pedestrian route between the pupil's residence and his/her school from a point at the curb or edge of a public or private road nearest the pupil's residence to a point at the entrance of the school, or a safe entrance to the school grounds located within one hundred feet of the school building entrance or the bus pick-up area, or the route from the point on the public thoroughfare nearest the residence to the school bus or vehicle embarkation point established by the Bloomfield Board of Education.
3. **"One mile walking distance"** means a reasonable measurement of a route to be traversed extending from the point of measurement at least 5,280 feet, but not more than 5,380 feet.
4. **"Grade K"** means kindergarten, or a school program appropriate to a beginning pupil.
5. **"Hazard"** means a thing or condition, as prescribed in this policy under "Hazardous Conditions" that affects the safety of pupils walking to and from school and/or a designated bus pick-up area.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(b)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Definitions (continued)

6. **"Sidewalk"** means a portion of the landscape right of way approximately three feet wide, usually parallel to the traffic lanes which may be paved or unpaved, and marked by curbing, drainage ditch, grass area or fencing; apart from and independent of any white line safety markings along the street pavement.
7. **"Raised walk area"** means a portion of the landscape right of way approximately three feet wide, usually parallel to the traffic lanes which may be paved or unpaved, distinguished by some elevation above the street pavement level and marked by curbing, drainage ditch, grass area or fencing; apart from and independent of any painted safety markings along the street pavement.
8. **"Pupil"** means any individual of school age enrolled in a public or nonprofit private school located within the school district or contiguous school district as the case may be.

Provision of Transportation

Transportation by private carrier may be provided whenever such practice is more economical than using school district-owned/leased vehicles. If parents volunteer, and the administration permits, parents may be reimbursed for transportation of eligible students whenever such practice is more economical or convenient for the school district.

In determining the provision of transportation for resident public and eligible private school students, the following guidelines regarding walking distances will be considered. Distance measurements will be based on the most direct route from the student's home beginning at a point at the curb or edge of a public road or highway nearest the home to the edge of the school property or bus pickup areas.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Limit</u>
K-2	X mile
3-5	X miles
6-8	X miles
9-12	X miles

Students living within the stated distance limits will receive transportation when, in the opinion of the Board, it is in the best interests of the district to provide transportation.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(c)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Hazardous Conditions

Priorities in the arrangement of bus routes include: safety, efficiency and the cost factor. Safety factors may vary with pickup and drop off and so be reflected in the bus route regarding service.

The administration shall consider the following guidelines for hazardous conditions when making decisions regarding the transportation of children:

1. A street or road having an adjacent or parallel sidewalk or raised walk area shall be deemed hazardous when any one of the following conditions exist:
 - a. For pupils under age ten, or enrolled in grades K through 3:
 - i. the absence of a pedestrian crossing light or crossing guard where three or more streets intersect; OR
 - ii. street crossings where there are no stop signs or crossing guards and the traffic count during the time that pupils are walking to or from school exceeds sixty vehicles per hour at the intersection.
 - b. For pupils over age ten, or enrolled in grades 4 through 12, the absence of a traffic light or stop signs or crossing guard at an intersection where three or more streets intersect which has a traffic count which exceeds ninety vehicles per hour during the time that pupils are walking to or from school;
 - c. For all pupils:
 - i. any street, road, or highway with speed limits in excess of forty miles per hour which does not have pedestrian crossing lights or crossing guards or other safety provisions at points where pupils must cross when going to or from school or the bus stop; OR
 - ii. the usual or frequent presence of any nuisance such as open manholes, construction, snow plowed or piled on the walk area making walkways unusable, loading zones where delivery trucks are permitted to park on walkways, commercial entrances and exits where cars are crossing walking areas at speeds in excess of five miles per hour, and the like, including such nuisances which are hazardous or attractive to children.
2. Any street, road, or highway that has no sidewalks or raised walk areas shall be deemed hazardous if any one of the following conditions exist:

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(d)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Hazardous Conditions (continued)

- a. For pupils under age ten, or enrolled in grade K through 3:
 - i. any street, road, or highway possessing a traffic count of sixty or more vehicles per hour at the time that pupils are walking to or from school; OR
 - ii. any street, road, or highway possessing a speed limit in excess of thirty miles per hour.
- b. For all pupils:
 - i. the presence of man-made hazards including attractive nuisances, as stated in 1(c)(ii) above; OR
 - ii. any roadway available to vehicles that does not have a minimum width of approximately twenty-two feet; OR
 - iii. any roadway available to vehicles that, when plowed free of snow accumulations, does not have a minimum width of approximately twenty feet; OR
 - iv. any street, road, or highway where the line-of-sight visibility together with posted speed limits do not permit vehicular braking/stopping in accordance with the Connecticut Drivers Manual or Department of Transportation, Division of Design Standard, or other reasonable standard.
3. Any walkway, path, or bridge in an area adjacent or parallel to railroad tracks shall be considered hazardous unless a suitable physical barrier along the entire pedestrian route is present and fixed between pupils and the track; and any crossing of railroad tracks carrying moving trains during hours that pupils are walking to or from school or to and from a designated bus pick-up area shall be deemed hazardous unless:
 - a. a crossing guard is present; OR
 - b. for pupil under age ten, an automatic control bar is present at crossings; OR
 - c. for pupils over age ten, a bar or red flashing signal light is operational.
4. For pupils in grades K through 4, the following conditions shall be deemed hazardous:

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(e)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Hazardous Conditions (continued)

- a. a lake, pond, stream, culvert, water-way, or bridge shall be deemed a hazard in the absence of a fence or other suitable barrier fixed between the pupil and the water;
OR
 - b. any area adjacent to a roadway, sidewalk, or bridge having a drop of three or more feet per four feet of travel length on either side of the established lanes, in the absence of a fence or other suitable barrier.
5. For pupils in grades K through 8, walking to or from school or the bus stop at any time prior to one-half hour before sunrise or any time one-half hour after sunset shall be deemed hazardous.
6. For all students, walking along any street, road, walkway, sidewalk, or path designated as a walking route which passes through an area which has a history of aggressive acts of molestation resulting in actual or threatened physical harm or moral degradation during the hours when pupils ordinarily walk to or from school shall be deemed hazardous.\

Applicability and Exceptions

- 1. **This policy is applicable to public roads approved and maintained by the municipality or State of Connecticut, or private roads approved for passage of school transportation vehicles in accordance with C.G.S. Section 10-220c.** ~~This policy is applicable to private roads approved for passage of school transportation vehicles in accordance with C.G.S. Section 10-220e.~~
- 2. Special Education pupils and pupils eligible for accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act shall be judged on an individual basis, and appropriate transportation provided.
- 3. The Board of Education may grant an exception to any guideline set forth in this policy where a peculiar condition or combination of conditions renders such condition(s) a hazard based upon reasonable judgment; or where under the circumstances, other conditions exist under which the safety of students necessitates a variance with the guidelines within this policy.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(f)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Access to Bus Stops/Transportation

Parents and/or guardians are responsible for ensuring the safety of their children up until the, point when students board the school bus or other school provided transportation, and after students get off the bus after school. This responsibility includes the selection of walking routes to/from any bus stop and/or the school building and the provision of supervision that is appropriate to the student's age, maturity and conditions along the walking route and/or at the bus stop at all times.

Given that bus pick up times may vary, the Board expects that parents and/or guardians will ensure that their children arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes in advance of any scheduled pick-up time.

Bus drivers are required to maintain a regular time schedule and pupils are required to be at a designated stop on time. Driver will stop only at designated places.

Students in grades PreK through 2 shall be released from school bus transportation only when an authorized adult or parent-designated individual is present at the bus stop. If no authorized individual is present at the time of drop-off, the student shall not be released and shall be returned to the school.

Requests to extend, add or change existing bus routes, or to add or change a bus stop, should be made in writing to the school office or Principal who shall confer with the appropriate personnel, i.e. the district Transportation Coordinator and bus contractor.

Alternate Care Requests

Requests to have a student picked up and/or dropped off at-a home childcare must be made in writing to the Transportation Coordinator. These requests will be honored provided the there is an existing bus route assigned to that location in the district and there is seating space available on the bus. Seating priority will be given to students who residences are located on an existing bus route. (These requests will only be granted for Bloomfield residents for a home or childcare site located in the Town of Bloomfield)

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(g)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Eligibility for Out-of-Town Transportation

Bloomfield Public Schools will not provide transportation to out-of-town schools except as required by State Statutes.

- Any resident of the school district under twenty-one years of age who is not a high school or vocational school graduate and who is attending a state vocational school shall be eligible for transportation.
- A student who is placed by a Planning and Placement Team for special education reasons in either a public or private educational institution out-of-town shall be provided the necessary transportation.

Transportation Dispute and Appeal

When a decision regarding transportation services is disputed, the Board of Education shall provide an appeal process and conduct any required hearing in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §10-186.

Any parent, guardian, student who is 18 years of age or older, or any official responsible for enforcing school attendance laws may appeal a transportation decision by following these steps:

1. The matter shall first be discussed with the Principal of the school to which the student is assigned.
2. If the matter is not resolved at the school level, it shall be referred to the Transportation Coordinator.
3. If the matter remains unresolved, it shall be submitted to the Superintendent of Schools or designee for review.

Any parent, guardian, student who is 18 years old or older, or any official responsible for enforcing school attendance laws may request a hearing in writing if they believe the Superintendent or their designee is not providing required school services—such as transportation—in accordance with Connecticut law or Board regulations. The hearing will be held before the Board of Education or an impartial hearing officer to review the concern and determine whether the required services have been properly provided.

The Board shall hold a hearing within ten (10) days following receipt of such request.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 3541(h)

RE: Transportation - Students

Adopted: 11/12/2002

Revised: 10/6/2015

Revised:

Transportation Dispute and Appeal (continued)

Transportation hearings will be conducted in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes, Section 10-186, and with Connecticut General Statutes, Sections 4-177 to 4-180, inclusive upon written request.

Safety Complaint Procedure

The superintendent of schools shall develop and implement a procedure for the reporting of all complaints relative to school transportation safety and shall cause to be maintained a written record of all such complaints received. (See Policy 3541.5)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-186 Duties of local and regional boards of education.

10-220 Duties of boards of education.

10-221c Development of policy for reporting complaints regarding school transportation safety

14-275b Transportation of mobility impaired students.

14-275c Regulations re school buses and motor vehicles used to transport special Education students.

School District	Elementary (K-5)	Middle School (6-8)	High School (9-12)
West Hartford	1.0 Mile	1.5 Miles	2.0 Miles
Hartford	0.5 – 1.0 Mile*	1.5 Miles	2.0 Miles
Simsbury	0.5 – 0.75 Mile**	1.5 Miles	1.5 Miles
South Windsor	0.3 Mile	0.5 Mile	1.0 Mile
East Hartford	1.0 Mile	1.5 Miles	2.0 Miles

**Hartford uses 0.5 miles for K-1 and 1.0 mile for grades 2-5.*

***Simsbury uses 0.5 miles for Kindergarten and 0.75 miles for grades 1-6.*

Topic:

SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION; BUSING;

Location:

SCHOOLS - TRANSPORTATION;

Scope:

Connecticut laws/regulations;

**OLR RESEARCH REPORT****Connecticut General Assembly**

Allan Green, Director
(860) 240-8400
fax (860) 240-8881
olr@po.state.ct.us

Room 5300
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1691

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH

December 24, 1997 97-R-1438

TO:

FROM: James J. Fazzalaro, Principal Analyst

RE: School Transportation

You asked if the state mandates how municipalities are to determine how far a child must live from school in order to get school bus transportation and if children with special problems, such as attention deficit disorder, fall under these requirements.

SUMMARY

School districts are required by state law to provide transportation for school age children whenever it is "reasonable and desirable" but the law does not specify minimum distances a child must live from school to get transportation. The Department of Education has guidelines that specify such distances and other conditions for school districts to consider in determining their transportation policy, but school districts can use or not use the guidelines at their discretion and each develops its own requirements.

The guidelines specify that pupils with physical handicaps or health conditions rendering them unable to walk to the bus stop or school, as determined by their physician or the school medical advisor, must receive appropriate transportation. The guidelines also state that special education pupils should be judged on an individual basis. A

child such as you describe could fall under these provisions of the guidelines, but it would be up to the school board to make such a determination.

DISTANCE REQUIREMENT

State law establishes numerous duties and responsibilities for local and regional boards of education (CGS § § 10-47, -220). Among them is a duty to "make such provisions as will enable each child of school age, residing in the district to attend some public day school for the period required by law and provide for the transportation of children whenever transportation is reasonable and desirable." Transportation arrangements can include the use of private roads with the owners' consent (CGS § 10-220c). School districts are also obliged to provide the same kind of transportation they provide for public school students to children enrolled in private nonprofit schools when the majority of the children attending these schools are Connecticut residents (CGS § 10-280a, -281).

Walking Distances

School districts are free to make their own decisions with respect to providing transportation, but the department provides guidelines that they can use in whole or in part if they choose to. Under these guidelines, the maximum walking distance from home to school or a prescribed embarkation point for a bus is: **one mile for children under age 10 or enrolled in grades K-3; 1.5 miles for children age 10-14 or enrolled in grades 4-8, middle school, or junior high school; and two miles for children age 14 or over or enrolled in grades 9-12.** Longer walking routes are considered hazardous.

Other Hazardous Circumstances

A walking route may be considered hazardous if it involves a street with an adjacent or parallel sidewalk or raised walk area (a paved or unpaved area at least three feet wide, usually parallel to the road, and distinguished by some elevation above the street level) if one of these conditions exists:

1. for children under age 10 or K-3, the absence of a pedestrian crossing light or crossing guard where three or more streets intersect, and at crossings where there are no stop signs or crossing guards and traffic volume during school walking hours exceeds 60 vehicles an hour;
2. for children over age 10 or grades 4-12, the absence of a traffic light, stop signs, or a crossing guard where three or more streets intersect and the hourly vehicle count during regular walking hours exceeds 90;
3. for all pupils, any street with a speed limit over 40 miles per hour which does not have pedestrian lights or crossing guards or other safety provisions where pupils must cross; or
4. for all pupils, the usual or frequent presence of any nuisance such as open man-holes, construction, plowed or piled snow making the walkways unusable, loading zones where trucks can park on walkways, commercial entrances and exits where cars are crossing at more than five miles per hour, and any nuisance that is hazardous or attractive to children.

Streets Without Sidewalks

A street without sidewalks or raised walk areas is considered hazardous if any of these conditions exists:

1. for pupils under age 10 or K-3, any street on the route has an hourly traffic count of 60 or more when the children are walking to or from school;
2. for all pupils, there are any manmade hazards including attractive nuisances;
3. for all pupils, any roadway has less than a minimum width of 22 feet;

4. for all pupils, any roadway when plowed free of snow accumulation has less than a 20-foot minimum width; and

5. for pupils under age 10, any street has a speed limit of more than 30 miles per hour.

Other Dangerous Situations

A street without sidewalks or raised walk areas is also considered hazardous if line of sight visibility and speed limits precludes vehicle braking and stopping in accordance with the Connecticut Drivers Manual and the Department of Transportation's Design Division design standards. Walkways, paths, or bridges adjacent to railroad tracks are considered hazardous unless a suitable physical barrier exists between pupils and the tracks along the entire pedestrian route. Routes that cross tracks carrying moving trains during normal school walking hours are considered hazardous unless there is a crossing guard, an automatic control bar used by pupils under age 10, or a bar or red flashing light operating when the crossing is used by pupils over age 10. Lakes, ponds, streams, culverts, waterways, or bridges are considered hazards unless a fence or other suitable barrier separates children in grades K-4 from the water.

These situations are also considered hazardous for walking students:

1. for pupils in Grades K-4, the area adjacent to the roadway, walkway, sidewalk, or bridge drops off by three or more feet for each four feet of travel distance on either side and there is no fence or other suitable barrier to protect the children;
2. the street, walk, or path designated as a walking route for all pupils passes through an area which has a history of "aggressive acts of molestation resulting in actual or threatened physical harm or moral degradation" during normal student walking hours; or
3. for children in Grades K-8, walking to or from school or the bus stop occurs 30 minutes before sunrise or 30 minutes after sunset.

The guidelines provide discretion to boards of education to provide exceptions when any peculiar condition or combination of conditions creates a hazard based upon reasonable judgment.

JJF:tjo

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5132(a)

RE: Student Dress Code
Students

Adopted: 3/23/2010
Approved: 10/6/2015
Revised: Date

The Board of Education encourages students to dress in clothing appropriate to the school situation. The primary responsibility for a student's attire resides with the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s). The District is responsible for seeing that student attire does not interfere with the health or safety of any student, that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student and that dress code enforcement does not increase marginalization or suppression of any group based on race, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religion, cultural observance or body type/size.

Restrictions on freedom of student dress may be applied whenever the mode of dress in question:

1. is unsafe either for the student or those around the student.
2. is disruptive to school operations and the education process in general.
3. is contrary to law.

The administration is encouraged to establish any needed regulations consistent with this policy through cooperative planning with staff, students and parents.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules

Bloomfield High School Dress Code



2024-2025

As clear communication is one of the major pillars of Bloomfield High School, it is important that scholars and families recognize the importance of non-verbal communication via student apparel. It is in the spirit of proper communication that students wear clothing that communicates the high expectations that we have for all Bloomfield High School scholars.

Accepted Dress Code

- Clean and properly fitted
- Tops (with fabric in the front, back, and on the sides under the arms)
- Shoes, boots, sneakers, sandals, etc. (no bare feet, or slippers)

Not Permitted

- Clothing with images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity)
- Clothing that reveals undergarments (including midriffs)
- Clothing with hate speech, violence, profanity or pornography
- Clothing with images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class.
- Accessories that could be considered dangerous or could be used as a weapon.
- Sunglasses inside the school building (except for medical reasons).
- Headphones/earbuds during class time (unless indicated in student plan as allowed)
- Pajamas
- Any hat, scarf or head covering, including those that obscure the face (except as a religious observance or for medical reasons, such as a medical face mask).
- No pants hanging below the waistline, exposing buttocks/underwear or shorts worn under pants "No sagging"

***Outerwear worn to school must be placed in student lockers upon arrival (Reference [Board of Education Policy No. 5132\(b\)](#))**

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 5132(a)

RE: Student Dress Code

Approved: Date

This administrative regulation provides guidance to schools regarding the implementation of Board of Education Policy 5132 – Student Dress Code.

Definitions

1. **Attire:** Clothing, including outerwear, headwear, accessories such as scarves or jewelry, and shoes.
2. **Grooming:** Makeup, tattoos, and hair style.
3. **Dress Code:** A set of parameters determined by the District that describes standards for student attire and grooming.

Basic Dress Code

1. **Minimum Safe Attire:** Student attire and grooming must permit the student to participate in learning without posing a risk to the health or safety of any student or school personnel.
 - a. Students must wear clothing including both a shirt with pants or skirt, or the equivalent (dresses, leggings, yoga pants, shorts, sweatpants).
 - b. No shirts exposing the stomach or back or clothing that reveals undergarments (including midriffs)
 - c. No see-through or excessively revealing clothing.
 - d. Shoes which are safe and appropriate for weather, course assignments, athletic and other conditions (no bare feet or slippers).
 - e. Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities, including physical education, science labs, shop and other activities where unique hazards exist. Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms or safety gear.
 - f. The following attire is prohibited:
 - Accessories that could be considered dangerous weapons or could be used as a weapon.
 - Tank tops or sleeveless shirts.
 - Sunglasses inside the school building (except for medical reasons).
 - Headphones/earbuds during class time (unless indicated in student plan as allowed).

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 5132(b)

RE: Student Dress Code

Approved: Date

Prohibited attire continued:

- Pajama pants or sleepwear.
- Any hat, scarf or head covering, including those that obscure the face (except as a religious observance or for medical reasons, such as a medical face mask).
- No pants hanging below the waistline, exposing buttocks/underwear or shorts worn under pants (“no sagging”).
- Clothing may not depict, advertise or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances.
- Clothing may not depict pornography, nudity or sexual acts.
- Clothing may not use or depict hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other protected classification.
- Clothing, including gang identifiers, must not pose a threat to the health or safety of any other student or staff.

Enforcement must accommodate clothing worn by students as an expression of sincerely held religious beliefs (head scarves, for example) and worn by students with disabilities (protective helmets, for example).

3. **Parent Responsibility:** Board Policy #[5132](#) provides: "The responsibility for the student dress code rests primarily with the student and his or her parents or guardians." Parents or guardians are responsible for ensuring student compliance with the school dress code.
4. **Student Responsibility:** All students at all schools are responsible for complying with the district dress code during school hours and school activities.
5. **Staff Responsibility:** To equitably enforce the District dress code, teachers, administrators and all school staff must be notified of the policy at the beginning of the school year with a refresher in early spring in regards to its purpose and spirit, and how to enforce it without shaming students or disproportionately impacting certain student groups. Staff should be guided by the dress code policy and follow the letter and spirit of the District dress code.
6. **Enforcement:** When a school staff member or school administrator discusses a dress code violation with a student, it is recommended that another adult should be present

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

No. 5132(c)

RE: Student Dress Code

Approved: Date

and at least one of the two adults should be the same sex as the student. Unless there is an immediate concern, a student should not be spoken to about a dress code violation in front of other students.

Enforcement is to be consistent with a school's overall discipline plan. Violations should be treated as minor on the continuum of school rule violations. No student is to be disproportionately affected by dress code enforcement because of gender, race, body size or body maturity.

Training for School Administrators, Teachers & Students

A dress code is most effective when school administrators and teachers are trained to understand and embrace the intent of the code, how to apply and enforce the code equitably, and how to talk about the dress code and the reasoning behind it. Therefore:

1. School administrators and teachers should be trained to understand the purpose/spirit of the code, the actual code, and how to enforce with the least impact on student learning and self-confidence.
2. School administrators and teachers must enforce the District dress code consistently. School administration and staff do not have discretion to vary the requirements in ways that lead to discriminatory enforcement.
3. School staff must be trained and able to use student/body-positive language to explain the code and to address code violations.
4. Families and students should be informed of the Student Dress Code Policy through the student handbook, direct communication, and/or a school assembly.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(a)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

The Bloomfield Board of Education is committed to creating a safe, orderly, and supportive learning environment for all students, staff, and visitors. This policy aims to balance the need to maintain safety and order in our schools with progressive discipline and restorative practices, which address and correct inappropriate behavior while promoting accountability, personal growth, and the repair of harm.

Students are expected to comply with school rules and Board policies and may be disciplined for conduct on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity that endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or violates a publicized Board policy. Students may be disciplined for conduct off school grounds if such conduct is seriously disruptive to the educational process and violates Board policy.

Policy Objectives

1. **Ensure Safety and Order:** Maintain a secure and disciplined school environment conducive to learning and free from violence, threats, and disruptive behaviors.
2. **Promote Equity and Fairness:** Apply disciplinary measures in an equitable, consistent, and unbiased manner, ensuring that all students are treated with dignity and respect.
3. **Support Progressive Discipline:** Implement a progressive discipline model that focuses on intervention and prevention strategies to address and correct student behavior before it escalates.
4. **Implement Restorative Practices:** Incorporate restorative practices that emphasize accountability, reparation of harm, and the restoration of relationships within the school community.
5. **Encourage Personal Responsibility:** Foster a sense of personal responsibility and self-discipline in students, helping them to understand the consequences of their actions and to make better choices in the future.
6. **Engage Families and Communities:** Involve parents, guardians, and community members in the disciplinary process to support students in their behavioral and academic growth.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(b)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

Policy Guidelines

1. Clear Expectations and Communication:

- Establish and communicate clear behavioral expectations and the consequences of violating them.
- Ensure that all students, staff, and parents/guardians are aware of the discipline policy and procedures.

2. Progressive Discipline Framework:

- Utilize a tiered approach to discipline that escalates in response to the severity and frequency of the behavior.
- Implement early intervention strategies such as counseling, mentoring, and behavior modification plans to address minor infractions.

3. Restorative Practices:

- Employ restorative practices such as mediation, peer counseling, and restorative circles to address conflicts and repair harm.
- Encourage students to take responsibility for their actions and to actively participate in the resolution process.

4. Consistent and Fair Application:

- Ensure that disciplinary measures are applied consistently and fairly across all student populations.
- Monitor and address any disparities in the application of disciplinary actions to prevent discrimination or bias.

5. Supportive Interventions:

- Provide support services such as counseling, social work, and mental health resources to help students address underlying issues contributing to behavioral problems.
- Develop individualized behavior plans for students with recurring or severe behavioral issues.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(c)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

6. Engagement and Collaboration:

- Engage families in the disciplinary process through regular communication and involvement in restorative practices.
- Collaborate with community organizations and resources to support students and families in addressing behavioral and social-emotional needs.

7. Training and Professional Development:

- Provide ongoing training for staff on progressive discipline, restorative practices, and culturally responsive approaches to student behavior.
- Encourage staff to develop skills in conflict resolution, de-escalation techniques, and positive behavior support.

Review and Accountability

The Bloomfield Board of Education will regularly review the effectiveness of its discipline policy, incorporating feedback from students, staff, parents, and the community. Data on disciplinary actions and their outcomes will be collected and analyzed to ensure continuous improvement and the achievement of policy objectives.

By adopting this balanced approach to discipline, the Bloomfield Public Schools aims to create a school environment where all students can learn, grow, and succeed while feeling safe and supported.

A. Definitions

1. **“Exclusion”** shall be defined as any denial of public-school privileges to a student for disciplinary purposes.
2. **“Removal”** shall be defined as an exclusion from a classroom for all or a part of a single class period, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond ninety (90) minutes.
3. **“In-School Suspension”** means an exclusion from regular classroom activity for no more than five consecutive days, but not exclusion from school, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such in-school suspension was imposed. Such suspensions shall be served in any school building within the Board of Education's jurisdiction.
4. **“Suspension”** means an exclusion from school privileges or from transportation services, provided such exclusion shall not extend beyond the end of the school

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(d)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

year in which suspension was imposed. An out-of-school suspension for students in grades 3-12 shall not exceed ten school days. An out-of-school suspension imposed for children in preschool to second grade shall not exceed five school days.

All suspensions shall be in-school unless the administration determines for any student in grades three through twelve that (1) the student being suspended poses such anger to persons or property or such disruption of the educational process that the student (grades three to twelve) shall be excluded from school during the period of the suspension, or (2) that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate based on evidence of previous disciplinary issues that have led to suspensions or expulsion of the student and efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary issues through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion, including positive support strategies.

A student in grades preschool to two, inclusive, may be given an out-of-school suspension if it is determined by the administration that such suspension is appropriate based on evidence that the student's conduct on school grounds is of a violent or sexual nature that endangers persons. In addition, a person's duty as a mandated reporter to report suspected child abuse or neglect is not limited by this provision.

5. **"Expulsion"** shall be defined as an exclusion from school privileges for any student in grades three to twelve, inclusive, for more than ten (10) consecutive school days and shall be deemed to include but not be limited to, exclusion from the school to which such student was assigned at the time such disciplinary action was taken, provided that assignment to a regular classroom program in a different school in the district shall not constitute a suspension or an expulsion. Such a period of exclusion may extend to the school year following the school year in which the exclusion was imposed, up to one calendar year. To be expelled, the student's conduct must be found to be both violative of a Board policy and either seriously disruptive of the educational process or endangering persons or property. Unless an emergency exists, no student shall be expelled without a formal hearing. Whenever such student is a minor, the notice shall also be given to the parents or guardians of the student at least five business days before such hearing, not including the day of such hearing. If an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible. The notice shall include information concerning the parent's or guardian's and the student's legal rights and concerning legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally and how to access such services. An attorney or other

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(e)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent or guardian of the student shall have the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

6. **“Emergency”** shall be defined as a situation under which the continued presence of the student in the school imposes such danger to persons or property or such disruption of the educational process that a hearing may be delayed until a time as soon after the exclusion of such student as possible.
7. **“Days”** is defined as days when school is in session.
8. **“School-sponsored activity”** is defined as any activity sponsored, recognized, or authorized by the Board of Education and includes activities conducted on or off school property.
9. **“Possess”** means to have physical possession or otherwise to exercise dominion or control over tangible property.
10. **“Deadly weapon”** means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles. A weapon such as a pellet gun and/or airsoft pistol may constitute a deadly weapon if such a weapon is designed for violence and is capable of inflicting death or serious bodily harm.
11. **“Firearm”** as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, means 1) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; 2) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; 3) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or 4) any destructive device. Firearm does not include any antique firearms. For purposes of this definition, “destructive device” means any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas, bomb, grenade, rocket having a propellant charge of more than 4 ounces, missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than ¼ ounce, mine, or device similar to any of the weapons described herein. A “destructive device” does not include an antique firearm; a rifle intended to be used by the owner solely for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes; or any device which is neither designed nor redesigned for use as a weapon.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(f)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

12. **“Vehicle”** means a “motor vehicle” as defined in Section 14-1 of the Connecticut General Statutes, snowmobile, any aircraft, or any vessel equipped for propulsion by mechanical means or sail.
13. **“Martial arts weapon”** means a nunchaku kama, Kesari-fundo, octagon sai, tonfa, or Chinese star.
14. **“Dangerous Drugs and Narcotics”** is defined as any controlled drug in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes §219-240.
15. **“Alternate education”** means a school or program maintained and operated by the Board of Education that is offered to students in a nontraditional setting and addresses their social, emotional, behavioral, and academic needs. Such program must conform to SBE guidelines and conform to C.G.S. 10-15 and 16 (180 days/900 hours).
16. **“Dangerous Instrument”** means any instrument, article, or substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used or attempted or threatened to be used, is capable of causing death or serious physical injury, and includes a “vehicle” or a dog that has been commanded to attack.
17. **“Seriously disruptive of the educational process”** means, as applied to off-campus conduct, any conduct that markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day-to-day operation of a school.

B. Removal from Class

1. All teachers are hereby authorized to remove a student from class when such student causes a serious disruption of the educational process within the classroom.
2. Such teacher shall send the student to a designated area and shall immediately inform the building Principal or his/her designee as to the name of the student and the reason for the removal.

~~No student shall be removed from class more than six (6) times in any year nor more than twice in one week, unless such student is referred to the Building Principal or his/her designee and granted an informal hearing in accordance with the provisions of this policy.~~

3. A school principal or other school administrator shall notify a parent or guardian of a student whose behavior has caused a serious disruption to the instruction of

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(g)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

other students, caused self-harm, or caused physical harm to a teacher, another student, or other school employee not later than twenty-four hours after such behavior occurs. Such notice shall include, but not be limited to, informing such parent or guardian that the teacher of record in the classroom in which such behavior occurred may request a behavior intervention meeting.

Staff members who become aware of behavior that causes a serious disruption to instruction should refer the student to the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), a structured process that provides increasingly targeted academic, behavioral, and social-emotional supports based on student need, and remain actively engaged in supporting the student's progress.

~~Any teacher of record in a classroom may request a behavior intervention meeting with the school's crisis intervention team for any student whose behavior has caused a serious disruption to the instruction of other students or has caused self-harm or physical harm to such teacher, another student, or a staff member in such teacher's classroom. The crisis intervention team shall, upon the request of such teacher and notifying such student's parent or guardian, convene a behavior intervention meeting regarding such student. The participants of such behavior intervention meetings shall identify resources and support to address such students' social, emotional, and instructional needs. Not later than seven days after the behavior intervention meeting, the crisis intervention team shall submit to the parent or guardian of such student, in the dominant language of such parent or guardian, a written summary of such meeting, including, but not limited to, the resources and supports identified.~~

C. Exclusion from Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular Activities

Participation in co-curricular and extracurricular activities is a privilege, not an entitlement. Students involved in such programs are expected to follow all school rules and demonstrate good citizenship. Failure to do so may result in partial or complete exclusion from said activities and programs. Activities include, but are not limited to, athletic programs, musical or drama productions, clubs, field trips, and out-of-state and abroad school trips.

D. Actions Leading to Disciplinary Action, including Removal from Class, Suspension, and/or Expulsion

Conduct which may lead to disciplinary action (including, but not limited to, removal from class, suspension, and/or expulsion in accordance with this policy) includes conduct on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity (including on a school bus), and

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(h)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

conduct off school grounds, as set forth above. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Striking or assaulting a student, members of the school staff, or other persons.
2. Theft.
3. The use of obscene or profane language or gestures, the possession and/or display of obscenity or pornographic images, or the unauthorized or inappropriate possession and/or display of images, pictures, or photographs depicting nudity.
4. Violation of smoking, dress, transportation regulations, or other regulations and/or policies governing student conduct.
5. Refusal to obey a member of the school staff, law enforcement authorities, or school volunteers, or disruptive classroom behavior.
6. Any act of harassment based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, disability, national origin, or ancestry.
7. Refusal by a student to identify himself/herself to a staff member when asked, misidentification of oneself to such person(s), lying to school officials or otherwise engaging in dishonest behavior.
8. Inappropriate displays of public affection of a sexual nature and/or sexual activity on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity.
9. A walk-out from or sit-in within a classroom or school building or school grounds.
10. Blackmailing, threatening, or intimidating school staff or students (or acting in a manner that could be construed to constitute blackmail, a threat, or intimidation, regardless of whether intended as a joke).
11. Possession of any weapon, weapon facsimile, deadly weapon, martial arts weapon, electronic defense weapon, pistol, knife, blackjack, bludgeon, box cutter, metal knuckles, pellet gun, air pistol, explosive device, firearm, loaded or unloaded, whether functional or not, or any other dangerous object or instrument. The possession and/or use of any object or device that has been converted or modified for use as a weapon
12. Possession of any ammunition for any weapon described above in paragraph 11.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(i)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

13. Unauthorized entrance into any school facility or portion of a school facility or aiding or abetting an unauthorized entrance.
14. Possession or ignition of any fireworks, combustible or other explosive materials, or ignition of any material causing a fire. Possession of any materials designed to be used in the ignition of combustible materials, including matches and lighters.
15. Unlawful possession, sale, distribution, use, or consumption of tobacco, electronic nicotine delivery systems (e.g. e-cigarettes), vapor products, drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages (or any facsimile of tobacco, drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages, or any item represented to be tobacco, drugs or alcoholic beverages), including being under the influence of any such substances or aiding in the procurement of any such substances. For the purposes of this Paragraph 15, the term “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall mean an electronic device that may be used to simulate smoking in the delivery of nicotine or other substance to a person inhaling from the device and includes, but is not limited to, an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe or electronic hookah and any related device and any cartridge or other component of such device. For the purposes of Paragraph 15, the term “vapor product” shall mean any product that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electronic, chemical, or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size, to produce a vapor that may or may not include nicotine that is inhaled by the user of such product. For the purposes of this Paragraph 15, the term “drugs” shall include, but shall not be limited to, any medicinal preparation (prescription and non-prescription) and any controlled substance whose possession, sale, distribution, use, or consumption is illegal under state and/or federal law.
16. Sale, distribution, or consumption of substances contained in household items, including, but not limited to glue, paint, accelerants/propellants for aerosol canisters, and/or items such as the aerators for whipped cream; if sold, distributed, or consumed for the purpose of inducing a stimulant, depressant, hallucinogenic, or mind-altering effect.
17. Unlawful possession of paraphernalia used or designed to be used in the consumption, sale, or distribution of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, as described in subparagraph (15) above. For purposes of this policy, drug paraphernalia includes any equipment, products and materials of any kind which are used, intended for use or designed for use in growing, harvesting, manufacturing, producing, preparing, packaging, storing, containing or concealing, or injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing controlled drugs or controlled substances into

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(j)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

the human body, including but not limited to items such as “bongs,” pipes, “roach clips,” vials, tobacco rolling papers, and any object or container used, intended or designed for use in storing, concealing, possessing, distributing or selling controlled drugs or controlled substances.

18. The destruction of real, personal, or school property, such as cutting, defacing, or otherwise damaging property in any way.
19. Accumulation of offenses such as school and class tardiness, class or study hall cutting, or failure to attend detention.
20. Trespassing on school grounds while on out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
21. Making false bomb threats or other threats to the safety of students, staff members, and/or other persons.
22. Defiance of school rules and the valid authority of teachers, supervisors, administrators, other staff members, and/or law enforcement authorities.
23. Throwing snowballs, rocks, sticks, and/or similar objects, except as specifically authorized by school staff.
24. Unauthorized and/or reckless and/or improper operation of a motor vehicle on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity.
25. Leaving school grounds, school transportation, or a school-sponsored activity without authorization.
26. Use of or copying of the academic work of another individual and presenting it as the student’s own work, without proper attribution; or any other form of academic dishonesty, cheating, or plagiarism.
27. Possession and/or use of a cellular telephone, Smartphone, mobile or handheld device, or similar electronic device, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity in violation of Board policy and/or administrative regulations regulating the use of such devices.
28. Possession and/or use of a beeper or paging device on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity without the written permission of the principal or his/her designee.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(k)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

29. Unauthorized use of any school computer, computer system, computer software, Internet connection, or similar school property or system, or the use of such property or system for inappropriate purposes.
30. Possession and/or use of a laser pointer, unless the student possesses the laser pointer temporarily for an educational purpose while under the direct supervision of a responsible adult.
31. Hazing, any intentional act that endangers the physical or mental health, safety, or well-being of a student as a condition of initiation into, affiliation with, or membership in a group, team, or organization, regardless of the student's consent.
32. "Bullying" is defined as unwanted and aggressive behavior among children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, that involves a real or perceived power imbalance.
33. Cyberbullying, defined as any act of bullying through the use of the Internet, interactive and digital technologies, cellular mobile telephone, or other mobile electronic devices, or any electronic communications.
34. Acting in any manner that creates a health and/or safety hazard for staff members, students, or the public, regardless of whether the conduct is intended as a joke.
35. Engaging in a plan to stage or create a violent situation for the purposes of recording it by electronic means; or recording acts of violence by electronic means for purposes of later publication.
36. Engaging in a plan to stage sexual activity for the purposes of recording it by electronic means; or recording by electronic means sexual acts for purposes of later publication.
37. Using computer systems, including email, instant messaging, text messaging, blogging or the use of social networking websites, or other forms of electronic communications, to engage in any conduct prohibited by this policy.
38. Use of a privately owned electronic or technological device in violation of school rules, including the unauthorized recording (photographic or audio) of another individual without permission of the individual or a school staff member.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(l)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

E. Scope of the Student Discipline Policy

a. Conduct on School Grounds, on School Transportation or at a School-Sponsored Activity

Students may be disciplined for conduct on school grounds, school transportation or at any school-sponsored activity that endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or violates a publicized policy of the Board.

b. Conduct off School Grounds

Students may be disciplined for conduct off school grounds if such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process and violates a publicized policy of the Board.

In determining whether such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the Administration and the Board of Education may consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to the following factors:

1. whether the incident occurred within close proximity of a school;
2. whether other students from the school were involved or whether there was any gang involvement;
3. whether the conduct involved violence, threats of violence, or the unlawful use of a weapon, as defined in section Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-38, and whether any injuries occurred; and
4. whether the conduct involved the use of alcohol.

In making a determination as to whether such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the Administration and/or the Board of Education may also consider whether such off-campus conduct involved the illegal use of drugs.

F. Mandatory Expulsion

It shall be the policy of the Board to expel a student, in grades preschool, and kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, for one full calendar year if:

1. The student, on grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, was in possession of a firearm, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921*, as amended from time to time, or deadly weapon, dangerous instrument or martial arts weapon, as defined in C.G.S. 53A-

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(m)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

- 3; or the student, off school grounds, did possess such firearm in violation of C.G.S. 29-35 or did possess and use such firearm, instrument or weapon in the commission of a crime; or the student, on or off school grounds offered for sale or distribution a controlled substance, as defined in subdivision (9) of C.G.S. 21a-240, whose manufacture, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting or possessing with intent to sell or dispense, offering or administering is subject to criminal penalties under C.G.S. 21-277 and 21a-278.
2. Such student shall be expelled for one calendar year if the Board of Education or impartial hearing officer finds that the student did so possess or so possess and use, as appropriate, such weapon or firearm, instrument or weapon or did so offer for sale or distribution such controlled substance.
 3. The Board may modify the period of a mandatory expulsion on a case-by-case basis.
 4. A firearm, as defined by C.G.S. 53a-3, includes any sawed-off shotgun, machine gun, rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver, or other weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, a gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon, or metal knuckles.
 5. A student enrolled in a preschool program provided by the Board of Education, state or local charter school or inter-district magnet school shall not be expelled from such school except that a student shall be expelled for one calendar year from such preschool program pursuant to the mandatory expulsion requirement in compliance with the Gun-Free School Act, as described in this section.

G. Suspension Procedure

Unless an emergency exists, as that term is defined in paragraph A, no student shall be suspended without an informal hearing by the administration, at which such student shall be informed of the reasons for the disciplinary action and given an opportunity to explain the situation, provided nothing herein shall be construed to prevent a more formal hearing from being held if the circumstances surrounding the incident so require. The administration shall then determine whether suspension or in-school suspension is warranted.

**A firearm; currently defined by 18 U.S.C. 921, is any weapon that can expel a projectile by an explosive action and includes explosive devices, incendiaries, poison gases, and firearm frames, receivers, mufflers or silencers.*

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(n)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

If an emergency arises, the hearing outlined above shall be held as soon as possible after the student's exclusion.

Prior to conducting any hearing regarding the suspension of a student, an administrator, school counselor or school social worker at the school in which the student is enrolled, shall contact the local homeless education liaison designated by the local or regional board of education for the school district, pursuant to Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 USC 11431 et seq., as amended from time to time, to determine whether such student is a homeless child or youth, as defined in 42 USC 11343a, as amended from time to time. If it is determined that the student is a homeless child or youth, the administration shall consider the impact of homelessness on the student's behavior during the hearing.

In the case of suspension, the administration shall notify the student's parents and the Superintendent of Schools not later than twenty-four (24) hours of the suspension, including the name of the student who has been suspended and the reason for the suspension. Any student who is suspended shall be given an opportunity to complete any class work, including, but not limited to, examinations that such student missed during the period of his/her suspension.

The administration shall also have the authority to suspend a student from transportation services whose conduct while awaiting or receiving transportation violates the standards set forth in paragraph D, above. The administration shall have the authority to immediately suspend any student from school in the event of an emergency, as that term is defined in paragraph A above.

Out-of-School Suspensions

All suspensions shall be in-school suspensions, except that the Board of Education may authorize the administration of schools under its direction to impose an out-of-school suspension on any student in:

1. Grades preschool to two, if during the informal hearing outlined above, the administration:
 - a. Determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such students based on evidence that such students' conduct on school grounds is behavior that causes physical harm;
 - b. Requires that such students receive services that are trauma-informed and developmentally appropriate and align with any behavioral intervention plan, individualized education program, or plan pursuant to Section 504 of

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(o)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended from time to time, for such student upon such student's return to school immediately following the out-of-school suspension; and

- c. Considers whether to convene a planning and placement team meeting for the purposes of conducting an evaluation to determine whether such student may require special education or related services.

2. Grades three to twelve, inclusive, if, resulting from a due process hearing:

- a. The administration determines that the student being suspended poses such danger to persons or property or such disruption of the educational process (as defined above in section E) that the student shall be excluded from school during the period of suspension.
- b. The administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such student based on evidence of:
 - i. previous disciplinary problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such student; and
 - ii. efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems through means other than out-of-school suspension or expulsion, including positive behavioral support strategies. An in-school suspension may be served in the student's school or any school building under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, as determined by such board.

Length of Suspension Period:

In determining the length of a suspension period, the administration may receive and consider evidence of past disciplinary problems that have led to removal from a classroom, in-school suspension, or expulsion.

An out-of-school suspension shall not exceed ten school days for students in grades 3-12.

An out-of-school suspension shall not exceed five school days for children in preschool through 2nd grade.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(p)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

General provisions:

No student shall be suspended more than ten times or a total of fifty (50) days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, unless such student is granted a formal hearing pursuant to subsections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, section 4-181a, and as outlined in section I below is first granted.

No student shall be placed on in-school suspension more than fifteen times or a total of fifty (50) days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, unless such student is granted a formal hearing pursuant to subsections 4-176e to 4-180a, inclusive, section 4-181a, and as outlined in section I below is first granted.

H. Expulsion Procedures

The Board of Education or Impartial Hearing Officer may, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, expel any student for one or more of the reasons stated in this policy if, after holding a formal hearing, it is in the judgment of the Board of Education that such disciplinary action is in the best interest of the school system.

A special education student's handicapping condition shall be considered before a decision to expel is made. A Planning and Placement Team (PPT) meeting must be held to determine whether the behavior or student actions that violate Board of Education standards set forth in the policy governing suspension and expulsion are the result of the student's handicapping condition.

For any student expelled for the first time and who has never been suspended, except for a student who has been expelled based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, the Board of Education may shorten the length of or waive the expulsion period if the student successfully completes a Board-specified program and meets any other conditions required by the Board. Such Board specified program shall not require the student or the parent/guardian of such student to pay for participation in the program.

Prior to conducting formal hearing, as required by PA 25-93 Section 38 subsection 3, an administrator, school counselor or school social worker at the school in which the student is enrolled shall contact the local homeless education liaison designated by the local or regional board of education for the school district, pursuant to Subtitle B of Title VII of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, 42 USC 11431 et seq., as amended from time to time, to make a determination whether such student is a homeless child or youth, as defined in 42 USC 11343a, as amended from time to time.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(q)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

If it is determined that such student is a homeless child or youth:

- i. The local or regional board of education, or the impartial hearing board established pursuant to subsection (b) of this section, shall consider the impact of homelessness on the behavior of the student during the hearing.
- ii. No such student may be expelled without a plan of interventions and supports to mitigate the impact of homelessness on the behavior of the student.
- iii. If such child or youth has been expelled for a second time, a meeting with the local homeless education liaison shall be provided by the local or regional board of education.
- iv. If such child or youth has been expelled for a second time, a meeting with the local homeless education liaison shall be provided by the local or regional board of education.

Upon receipt of a recommendation for expulsion from the Superintendent of Schools the Board shall, after giving written notice as detailed below in section K Notification, conduct a hearing prior to taking any action on the expulsion of said student, provided however, that in the event of an emergency as defined in this policy, the student may be expelled prior to the hearing but in such case even a hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

An attorney or other advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent/guardian of the student has the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

Expulsion hearings (formal hearings) conducted the Board may appoint Impartial Hearing officer, composed of one or more persons, to hear and decide the expulsion matter, provided that no member of the Board may serve on such a panel.

An attorney or other advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent/guardian of the student has the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

I. Formal Hearings/Due Process

- 1. Any hearing conducted under this paragraph shall at least include the right to:**

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(r)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

- a. Notice prior to the date of the proposed hearing which shall include a statement of the time, place and nature of the hearing and a statement of the legal jurisdiction under which the hearing is to be held and a statement that students under sixteen years old who are expelled and students between sixteen and eighteen who have been expelled for the first time and who comply with conditions set by the Board of Education, must be offered an alternative educational opportunity;
- b. A short and plain statement of the matters asserted, if such matters have not already been provided in a statement of reasons requested by the student;
- c. The opportunity to be heard in the student's own defense;
- d. The opportunity to present witnesses and evidence in the student's defense;
- e. The opportunity to cross-examine adverse witnesses;
- f. The opportunity to be represented by counsel at the parents'/student's own expense; and
- g. Information concerning legal services provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available locally and how to access such services;
- h. The opportunity to have the services of a translator, to be provided by the Board of Education whenever the student or his/her parent or legal guardian do not speak the English language;
- i. The prompt notification of the decision of the Board of Education, which decision shall be in writing if adverse to the student concerned.

2. Record keeping:

The record of the hearing held in any expulsion case shall include the following:

- a. All evidence received and considered by the Board of Education;
- b. Questions and offers of proof, objections, and ruling on such objections;
- c. The decision of the Board of Education rendered after such hearing; and
- d. A copy of the initial letter of notice of proposed expulsion, a copy of any statement of reasons provided upon request, a statement of the notice of

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(s)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

hearing, and the official transcript, if any, or if not transcribed, any recording or stenographic record of the hearing.

3. Rules of evidence at hearings:

Rules of evidence at expulsion hearings shall ensure fairness, but shall not be controlled by the formal rules of evidence, and shall include the following:

- a. Any oral or documentary evidence may be received by the Board of Education, but, as a matter of policy, irrelevant, immaterial, or unduly repetitious evidence may be excluded. In addition, other evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, in-school suspension, suspension, or expulsion may be considered for the length of an expulsion and the nature of the alternative educational opportunity, if any, to be offered;
- b. The Board of Education shall give effect to the rules of privilege by law;
- c. To expedite a hearing, evidence may be received in written form, provided the interest of any party is not substantially prejudiced thereby;
- d. Documentary evidence may be received in the form of copies or excerpts;
- e. A party to an expulsion hearing may conduct cross-examination of witnesses where examination is required for a complete and accurate disclosure of the facts;
- f. The Board of Education may take notice of judicially cognizable facts in addition to facts within the Board's specialized knowledge, provided, however, the parties shall be notified either before or during the hearing of the material noticed, including any staff memoranda or data, and an opportunity shall be afforded to any party to contest the material so noticed;
- g. A stenographic record or tape-recording of any oral proceedings before the Board of Education at an expulsion hearing shall be made, provided, however, that a transcript of such proceedings shall be furnished upon request of a party, with the cost of such transcript to be paid by the requesting party. Findings of fact made by the Board after an expulsion hearing shall be based exclusively upon the evidence adduced at the hearing.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(t)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

J. Expunging Records Suspension:

Whenever a student is suspended pursuant to the provisions of this section, notice of the suspension and the conduct for which the student was suspended shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record.

Such notice shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the local or regional board of education if a student graduates from high school, or in the case of a suspension of a student for which the length of the suspension period is shortened or the suspension period is waived pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, such notice shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the local or regional board of education (1) if the student graduates from high school, or (2) if the administration so chooses, at the time the student completes the administration-specified program and meets any other conditions required by the administration pursuant to subsection (e) of Sec. 10-233d., whichever is earlier.

Expulsion:

Whenever a student is expelled, notice of the expulsion and the conduct for which the student was expelled shall be included in the student's cumulative educational record. Such notice, except for notice of an expulsion of a student in grades nine to twelve, inclusive, based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon as described in Sec. 29-38 of the general statutes.

1. shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the board of education if a student graduates from high school, or
2. may be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the board of education before a student graduates from high school if:
 - a. in the case of a student for which the length of the expulsion period is shortened or the expulsion period is waived pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) Sec. 10- 233d., such board determines that an expungement is warranted at the time such student completes the board-specified program and meets any other conditions required by such board pursuant to subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of Sec. 10-233d., or
 - b. such student has demonstrated to such board that the conduct and behavior of such student in the years following such expulsion warrants an expungement. The board of education, in determining whether to expunge such notice, may receive and consider evidence of any subsequent

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(u)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

disciplinary problems that have led to the removal of such student from a classroom, suspension, or expulsion.

K. Notification

1. All students and parents within the jurisdiction of the Board of Education shall be informed, annually, of Board Policy governing student conduct by delivery to each said student of a written copy of said Board Policy.
2. The parents or guardian of any minor student, either expelled or suspended, shall be given notice of such disciplinary action no later than 24 hours after the institution of the period of expulsion or suspension.
3. The notice of an expulsion hearing shall be given at least five (5) business days before such hearing to the student and his/her parents or guardians, if said student is less than 18 years of age shall include information concerning the parent's/guardian's and the student's legal rights and concerning legal services that are provided free of charge or at a reduced rate that are available (CT legal services as a source of such services) and how to access such services. The notification shall reference the maximum number of suspension days before the expulsion days proceed. 5 consecutive days for students in pre-school to second grade, 10 consecutive days for students in grades 3-12, and a statement that an attorney/ advocate may represent any student subject to expulsion proceedings. The parent/guardian of the student shall be notified of the right to have the expulsion hearing postponed for up to one week to allow time to obtain representation, except that if an emergency exists, such hearing shall be held as soon after the expulsion as possible.

L. Stipulated Agreements

In lieu of the procedures used in this section, the Administration and the parents (or legal guardians) of a student facing expulsion may choose to enter into a Joint Stipulation of the Facts and a Joint Recommendation to the Board concerning the length and conditions of expulsion. Such Joint Stipulation and Recommendation shall include language indicating that the parents (or legal guardians) understand their right to have an expulsion hearing held pursuant to these procedures, and language indicating that the Board, in its discretion, has the right to accept or reject the Joint Stipulation of Facts and Recommendation.

If the Board rejects either the Joint Stipulation of Facts or the Recommendation, an expulsion hearing shall be held pursuant to the procedures outlined herein. If the Student

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(v)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

is eighteen years of age or older, the student shall have the authority to enter into a Joint Stipulation and Recommendation on his or her own behalf.

If the parties agree on the facts, but not on the disciplinary recommendation, the Administration and the parents (or legal guardians) of a student facing expulsion may also choose to enter into a Joint Stipulation of the Facts and submit only the Stipulation of the Facts to the Board in lieu of holding the first part of the hearing, as described above. Such Joint Stipulation shall include language indicating that the parents understand their right to have a hearing to determine whether the student engaged in the alleged misconduct and that the Board, in its discretion, has the right to accept or reject the Joint Stipulation of Facts. If the Board rejects the Joint Stipulation of Facts, a full expulsion hearing shall be held pursuant to the procedures outlined herein.

M. Students identified as eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”)

If the Board of Education expels a student who has been identified as eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”), it shall offer an alternative educational opportunity to such student in accordance with the requirements of IDEA, as it may be amended from time to time.

N. Procedures Governing Suspension and Expulsion of Students Identified as Eligible for Services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (“IDEA”)

A. Suspension of IDEA students

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Administration suspends a student identified as eligible for services under the IDEA (an “IDEA student”) who has violated any rule or code of conduct of the school district that applies to all students, the following procedures shall apply:

1. The administration shall make reasonable attempts to immediately notify the parents of the student of the decision to suspend on the date on which the decision to suspend was made, and a copy of the special education procedural safeguards must either be hand-delivered or sent by mail to the parents on the date that the decision to suspend was made.
2. During the period of suspension, the school district is not required to provide any educational services to the IDEA student beyond those which are provided to all students suspended by the school district.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(w)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

B. Expulsion and Suspensions that Constitute Changes in Placement for IDEA Students Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, if the administration recommends expulsion of an IDEA student who has violated any rule or code of conduct of the school district that applies to all students, the procedures described in this section shall apply. The procedures described in this section shall also apply to students whom the administration has suspended in a manner that is considered under the IDEA, as it may be amended from time to time, to be a change in placement:

1. The parents of the student must be notified of the decision to recommend for expulsion (or to suspend if a change in placement) on the date on which the decision to suspend was made, and a copy of the special education procedural safeguards must either be hand-delivered or sent by mail to the parents on the date that the decision to recommend for expulsion (or to suspend if a change in placement) was made.
2. The school district shall immediately convene the student's planning and placement team ("PPT"), but in no case later than ten (10) school days after the recommendation for expulsion or the suspension that constitutes a change in placement was made. The student's PPT shall consider the relationship between the student's disability and the behavior that led to the recommendation for expulsion or suspension, which constitutes a change in placement, in order to determine whether the student's behavior was a manifestation of his/her disability.
3. If the student's PPT finds that the behavior was a manifestation of the student's disability, the Administration shall not proceed with the recommendation for expulsion or the suspension that constitutes a change in placement.
4. If the student's PPT finds that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the Administration may proceed with the recommended expulsion or suspension that constitutes a change in placement.
5. During any period of expulsion or suspension of greater than ten (10) school days per school year, the Administration shall provide the student with an alternative education program in accordance with the provisions of the IDEA.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(x)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

6. When determining whether to recommend an expulsion or a suspension that constitutes a change in placement, the building administrator (or his or her designee) should consider the nature of the misconduct and any relevant educational records of the student.

C. Transfer of IDEA Students for Certain Offenses:

School personnel may transfer an IDEA student to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five (45) school days if the student:

1. Was in possession of a dangerous weapon, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 930(g)(2), as amended from time to time, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, or
2. Knowingly possessed or used illegal drugs or sold or solicited the sale of a controlled substance while at school or at a school-sponsored activity; or
3. Has inflicted serious bodily injury upon another person while at school, on school premises, or at a school function.

The following definitions shall be used for this subsection XII. C.

1. **Dangerous weapon** means a weapon, device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocketknife with a blade of less than 2.5 inches in length.
2. **Controlled substance** means a drug or other substance identified under schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 812(c).
3. **Illegal drug** means a controlled substance but does not include a substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed health-care professional, or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or under any other provision of federal law.
4. **Serious bodily injury** means a bodily injury which involves: (A) a substantial risk of death; (B) extreme physical pain; (C) protracted and obvious disfigurement; or (D) protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(y)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

O. Procedures Governing Expulsions for Students Identified as Eligible under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (“Section 504”)

- A. Except as provided in subsection B below, notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, if the Administration recommends for expulsion a student identified as eligible for educational accommodations under Section 504 who has violated any rule or code of conduct of the school district that applies to all students, the following procedures shall apply:
1. The parents of the student must be notified of the decision to recommend the student for expulsion.
 2. The district shall immediately convene the student’s Section 504 team (“504 team”) for the purpose of reviewing the relationship between the student’s disability and the behavior that led to the recommendation for expulsion. The 504 team will determine whether the student’s behavior was a manifestation of his/her disability.
 3. If the 504 team finds that the behavior was a manifestation of the student’s disability, the Administration shall not proceed with the recommended expulsion.
 4. If the 504 team finds that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student’s disability, the Administration may proceed with the recommended expulsion.
- B. The Board may take disciplinary action for violations pertaining to the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol against any student with a disability who currently is engaging in the illegal use of drugs or alcohol to the same extent that such disciplinary action is taken against nondisabled students. Thus, when a student with a disability is recommended for expulsion based solely on the illegal use or possession of drugs or alcohol, the 504 team shall not be required to meet to review the relationship between the student’s disability and the behavior that led to the recommendation for expulsion.

P. Procedures Governing Expulsions for Students Committed to a Juvenile Detention Center

- A. Any student who commits an expellable offense and is subsequently committed to a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or any other residential placement for such offense may be expelled by the Board in accordance with the provisions of this section. The period of expulsion shall run

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(z)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

concurrently with the period of commitment to a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement.

- B. If a student who committed an expellable offense seeks to return to a school district after participating in a diversionary program or having been detained in a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or any other residential placement and such student has not been expelled by the board of education for such offense under subdivision (A) of this subsection, the Board shall allow such student to return and may not expel the student for additional time for such offense.

Q. Alternative Educational Opportunity

The Board of Education recognizes its obligation to offer any student under the age of sixteen (16) who is expelled, an alternative educational opportunity which shall be equivalent to alternative education, as defined, by C.G.S. 10-74j with an individualized learning plan, (1) if the Board provides such alternative education, or (2) in accordance with the standards adopted by the State Board of Education (by 8/15/17), which includes the kind of instruction to be provided and the number of hours to be provided, during the period of expulsion.

Any parent or guardian of such student who does not choose to have his or her child enrolled in an alternative educational opportunity shall not be subject to the provision of Section 10-184 of the Connecticut General Statutes. Any expelled student who is between the ages of sixteen (16) and eighteen (18), not previously expelled, and who wishes to continue his or her education shall be offered such alternative educational opportunity if he or she complies with conditions established by the Board of Education. other than the one from which the student has been excluded.

Such alternative educational opportunity may include, but shall not be limited to, the assignment of a student (who is seventeen (17) years of age or older) to any such adult education program or placement of such student in a regular classroom program of a school.

Any student participating in an adult education program during a period of expulsion shall not be required to withdraw from school under C.G.S. 10-184. In determining the nature of the alternative education opportunity to be offered under this Section, the Board of Education may receive and consider evidence of past disciplinary issues that have led to removal from a classroom, suspension, or expulsion. The Board of Education is not obligated to provide such alternative educational opportunity to any student eighteen years of age or older.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(aa)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

The Board of Education is also required to offer such alternative educational opportunity, as defined, to any student between the ages of sixteen and eighteen who is expelled because of conduct which endangers persons, and involved the following, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored event:

1. Possession of a firearm, deadly weapon, dangerous instrument, or martial arts weapon, or
2. Offering an illegal drug for sale or distribution.
3. If the Board expels a student for the sale or distribution of a controlled substance, the Board shall refer the student to an appropriate state or local agency for rehabilitation, intervention or job training, or any combination thereof, and inform the agency of its action. If a student is expelled for possession of a firearm, deadly weapon, dangerous instruments (those that can be used to cause death or serious injury), or martial arts weapons, the Board shall report the violation to the local police department.
4. This provision shall not apply to students requiring special education who are described in subdivision (1) of sub-section (e) of C.G.S. 10-76a. The alternative educational opportunity for any such student shall be established by the IEP team (PPT) in accordance with the procedures described above.

R. Other Considerations

1. If a student is expelled, notice of the expulsion and the conduct for which the student was expelled shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record. Such notice, except for the notice of an expulsion of a student in grades nine through twelve, inclusive, based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the Board if the Board determines that the student's conduct and behavior in the years following such expulsion warrants an expungement or if the student graduates from high school.
2. If a student's expulsion is shortened or the expulsion period waived based upon the fact that the student was expelled for the first time, had never been suspended, and successfully completed a Board specified program and/or met other conditions required by the Board, the notice of expulsion shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record if the student graduates from high school or, if the Board so chooses, at the time the student completes the Board specified program and meets any other conditions required by the Board.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(bb)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

3. If a student in grades preschool to eight, is expelled based on possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, the Board may expunge from the students' cumulative education record the notice of the expulsion and the conduct for which the student was expelled if the Board determines that the conduct and behavior of the student in the years following such expulsion warrants an expungement.
4. The Board may adopt the decision of a student expulsion hearing conducted by another school district, provided such Board of Education held a hearing pursuant to C.G.S. 10-233d(a). Adoption of such decision shall be limited to a determination of whether the conduct which was the basis for the expulsion would also warrant expulsion under the policies of this Board. The student shall be excluded from school pending such hearing. The excluded student shall be offered an alternative education opportunity in accordance with item K above.
5. Whenever a student against whom an expulsion hearing is pending withdraws from school and after notification of such hearing but before the hearing is completed and a decision rendered, (1) notice of the pending expulsion hearing shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record and (2) the Board shall complete the expulsion hearing and render a decision.
6. A student expelled for possession of a firearm, deadly weapon, dangerous instrument, or martial arts weapon shall have the violation reported to the local police department.
7. The period of expulsion shall not extend beyond a period of one calendar year. A period of exclusion may extend into the next school year.
8. An expelled student may apply for early readmission to school. Such readmission shall be at the discretion of the Board of Education/Superintendent of Schools (choose which). Readmission decisions shall not be subject to appeal to Superior Court. The Board or Superintendent, as appropriate, may condition such readmission on specified criteria.
9. Any student who commits an expellable offense and is subsequently committed to a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement for such offense may be expelled by the local Board of Education. The period of expulsion shall run concurrently with the period of commitment to a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School, or any other residential placement.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(cc)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

10. Prior to placing any student in an out-of-district placement due to the challenging behavior of such student, the board of education shall conduct a functional behavior assessment of such student and develop or update a behavioral intervention plan for such student.

A functional behavior assessment and a behavioral intervention plan shall not be required if the time required to conduct such assessment or develop or update such plan would put the safety of such student, any other student, or any staff at such student's school at risk.

Not later than two business days following the decision not to conduct such assessment, or develop, or update such plan for such student, the local or regional board of education shall file a notice with the Department of Education of the reasons that such assessment was not conducted, or such plan was not developed or updated.

S. Change of Residence During Expulsion Proceedings

A. Student moving into the school district

1. If a student enrolls in the district while an expulsion hearing is pending in another district, such student shall not be excluded from school pending completion of the expulsion hearing unless an emergency exists, as defined above. The Board shall retain the authority to suspend the student or to conduct its own expulsion hearing.
2. Where a student enrolls in the district during the period of expulsion from another public school district, the Board may adopt the decision of the student expulsion hearing conducted by such other school district. The student shall be excluded from school pending such hearing. The excluded student shall be offered an alternative educational opportunity in accordance with statutory requirements. The Board shall make its determination based upon a hearing held by the Board, which hearing shall be limited to a determination of whether the conduct which was the basis of the previous public school district's expulsion would also warrant expulsion by the Board.

B. Student moving out of the school district:

Where a student withdraws from school after having been notified that an expulsion hearing is pending, but before a decision has been rendered by the Board, the notice of the pending expulsion hearing shall be included on the

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(dd)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

student's cumulative record, and the Board shall complete the expulsion hearing and render a decision. If the Board subsequently renders a decision to expel the student, a notice of the expulsion shall be included on the student's cumulative record.

T. Compliance with Documentation and Reporting Requirements

1. The Board of Education shall include in all disciplinary reports the individual student's state-assigned student identifier (SASID).
2. The Board of Education shall report all suspensions and expulsions to the State Department of Education.
3. If the Board of Education expels a student for sale or distribution of a controlled substance, the Board shall refer such student to an appropriate state or local agency for rehabilitation, intervention, or job training and inform the agency of its action.
4. If the Board of Education expels a student for possession of a deadly weapon or firearm, as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. §53a-3, the violation shall be reported to the local police.

Readmission of Student from a Residential Placement

A District student who has committed an expellable offense who seeks to return to a District school, after participating in a diversionary program or having been detained in a juvenile detention center, the Connecticut Juvenile Training School or any other residential placement, for one year or more, in lieu of expulsion from the District, shall be permitted to return to the appropriate school setting within the District. Further, the District shall not expel the student for any additional time for the offense(s).

Students and parents shall be notified of this policy annually.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[4-176e](#) through [4-180a](#). Contested Cases. Notice. Record, as amended

[10-74j](#) Alternative education (PA 15-133)

[10-222d](#) Safe school climate plans. Definitions. Safe school climate assessments.

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(ee)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

[10-233a](#) through [10-233f](#) Suspension, removal and expulsion of students, as amended by PA 95-304, PA 96-244, PA 98-139, PA 07-66, PA 07-122, PA 08-160, PA 09-82, PA 09-6 (September Special Session), PA 10-111, PA 11-126, PA 14-229, PA 15-96, PA 16-147, PA 17-220, PA 19-91, PA 25-67 and PA 25-93.

[10-233l](#) Expulsion and suspension of children in preschool programs

[19a-342a](#) Use of electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor product prohibited.

[29-38](#) Weapons in vehicles

[53a-3](#) Definitions.

[53a-217b](#) Possession of Firearms and Deadly Weapons on School Grounds.

[53-344b](#) Sale and delivery of electronic nicotine delivery system or vapor products to minors.

[53-206](#) Carrying of dangerous weapons prohibited.

PA 15-96 An Act Prohibiting Out-of-School Suspensions and Expulsions for Students in Preschool and Grades Kindergarten to Two.

GOALS 2000: Educate America Act, Pub. L. 103-227.

Title III - Amendments to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. Sec. 314 (Local Control Over Violence)

Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965 as amended by the Gun Free Schools Act of 1994

P.L. 105-17 The Individuals with Disabilities Act, Amendments of 1997.

Kyle P. Packer PPA Jane Packer v. Thomaston Board of Education.

P.L. 108-446 The Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Bloomfield, Connecticut

BOARD POLICY

No. 5114(ff)

RE: Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process

Adopted: DATE

2004, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq.

18 U.S.C. §921 – Definitions of “firearms”

18 U.S.C. §930(g)(2) – Definition of “dangerous weapon”

18 U.S.C. §1365(h)(3) – Identifying “serious bodily injury”

21 U.S.C. §812(c) – Identifying “controlled substances”

Public Act 24-45 An Act Concerning Education Mandate Relief, School Discipline and Disconnected Youth, Sections 13-14

Public Act 24-93 An Act Concerning Various and Assorted Revisions to the Education Statutes, Section 11 and Section 12

Public Act 25-67 An Act Concerning the Quality and Delivery of Special Education Services in Connecticut (Section 13)

Public Act 25-93 An Act Increasing Resources for Students, Schools and Special Education (Sections 38 & 39)