

Hastings Area Public Schools - ISD 200
School Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, July 14, 2021
Work Session
District Office - Board Room

- I. **Items for Discussion**
 - a. Strategic Planning
 - b. Discipline Policy



506 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that all members of the school community work collaboratively to create a safe, supportive, and equitable school climate through the use of positive discipline practices. Effective positive discipline stresses student self-direction, decision-making, and responsibility. Students have the right to be safe and free from threatening situations on school property, at school activities, and in district vehicles. Therefore, the school district will take appropriate disciplinary action when students fail to adhere to the Code of Student Conduct established by this policy.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

1. All students have the right to an education and the right to learn.
2. The School Board recognizes that individual responsibility and mutual respect are essential components of the educational process. Students must conduct themselves in an appropriate manner in order to maintain a climate where learning can take place with minimal interference.
3. The District believes that a positive and equitable learning environment is essential for students to thrive academically and developmentally.
4. This discipline policy is adopted in accordance with and subject to the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56.
5. The Board recognizes that no policy will cover all situations. Therefore, the building administrator(s) or designee will make a determination of the violation and/or consequences/disciplinary action when student actions are not specifically addressed. All actions by an administrator/designee will be made on a case-by-case basis.

III. AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

- A. The School Board. The school board holds all school personnel responsible for the maintenance of order within the school district and supports all personnel acting within the framework of this discipline policy.
- B. Superintendent. The superintendent shall establish guidelines and directives to carry out this policy, hold all school personnel, students, and parents responsible



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for conforming to this policy, and support all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The superintendent shall also establish guidelines and directives for using the services of appropriate agencies for assisting students and parents. Any guidelines or directives established to implement this policy shall be submitted to the school board for approval and shall be attached as an addendum to this policy.

- C. Principal. The school principal is given the responsibility and authority to formulate building rules and regulations necessary to enforce this policy, subject to final school board approval. The principal shall give direction and support to all school personnel performing their duties within the framework of this policy. The principal shall consult with parents of students conducting themselves in a manner contrary to the policy. The principal shall also involve other professional employees in the disposition of behavior referrals and shall make use of those agencies appropriate for assisting students and parents. A principal, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- D. Teachers. All teachers shall be responsible for providing a well-planned teaching/learning environment and shall have primary responsibility for student conduct, with appropriate assistance from the administration. All teachers shall enforce the Code of Student Conduct. In exercising the teacher's lawful authority, a teacher may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- E. Other School District Personnel. All school district personnel shall be responsible for contributing to the atmosphere of mutual respect within the school. Their responsibilities relating to student behavior shall be as authorized and directed by the superintendent. A school employee, school bus driver, or other agent of a school district, in exercising his or her lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.
- F. Parents or Legal Guardians. Parents and guardians shall be held responsible for the behavior of their children as determined by law and community practice. They are expected to cooperate with school authorities and to participate regarding the behavior of their children.
- G. Students. All students shall be held individually responsible for their behavior and for knowing and obeying the Code of Student Conduct and this policy.
- H. Community Members. Members of the community are expected to contribute to the establishment of a positive atmosphere at events sponsored by the school district or held on school district property. See School Board Policy 903 (Visitors to School District Buildings and Sites) for additional information.



IV. STUDENT RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES

Hastings Public Schools strives to create a safe and welcoming place for all students. All of us help create this positive and respectful learning environment.

- A. While each school’s approach may differ in details, the table below offers a summary of the responsibilities we share to create a positive school and district culture:

	Students	Parents/ Guardians	All Hasting Staff
Beliefs	Believe that you have the capacity to be your best self. -Belief that you are important -Belief that you can do big things	Believe your child has the capacity to be their best self...	Believe staff have the capacity to support students in being their best selves...
Positive Relationships	Actively build and maintain positive relationships with staff and students.	Build and maintain a positive relationship with staff at the school. Build and maintain a positive relationship with staff at the school.	Build and maintain positive relationships with all students and their families.
Respect	Respect yourself, the learning environment, other students, their parents/ guardians, families and all staff.	Respect and support the learning environment and emphasize the importance of being prepared for school. Respect and support the learning environment and emphasize the importance of being prepared for school.	Develop a learning community and a respectful environment that supports social-emotional and academic success.
Support	Ask for and accept help when you need assistance.	Ask for help when you need assistance. Advocate for your child through regular	Regularly communicate with students and families. Support them when



		communication with school staff.	they ask for assistance.
Attendance	Go to school everyday on time, ready to learn, and give your best effort	Make sure your child arrives at school everyday on time and prepared to learn.	Create a welcoming environment. Have high expectations for all students.
Expectations and Procedures	Learn and follow school expectations and procedures	Learn and talk with your child about the expectations and procedures at their school	Teach, model, and reinforce school expectations and procedures. Follow the school-wide discipline plan
Technology Use	Use technology and equipment in a responsible way.	Review the technology agreement with your child.	Tailor instruction for student voice and choice within a technology rich learning environment.
Learn	Personalize your learning by bringing your creativity to your assignments.	Encourage your child's passion to learn and grow toward their own goals for college and career.	Provide personalized, engaging and academically appropriate instruction, including culturally responsive teaching that represents and invites students' identities.
Safety	Conduct yourself in a manner to ensure your safety and the safety of others.	Contact your child's school if you observe or are aware of potentially unsafe activities or conditions.	Create and monitor safe conditions in the school environment.



- B. In addition to collective expectations and responsibilities, specific student Rights, Opportunities and Responsibilities are outlined in the table below.

Access to Records
<p>Rights/Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students’ parents/guardians and eligible students under federal law generally have the right to view their school records according to state and federal laws.• Students have the right to privacy regarding their school records. Any disclosure of information from student records will be consistent with legal requirements and policy established by the school district.• Responsibilities Eligible students are responsible for following established building and district procedures regarding access to their school records.
Attendance and Tardiness
<p>Rights/Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Absence or tardiness of students because of religious holidays and observances shall be recorded as excused absences or tardiness at the written request of the parent/guardian. For more details, see Board Policy 503. <p>Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students and parents/guardians are responsible for following the school’s attendance and tardiness rules and procedures.• Students and parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school (e.g., a written note, phone call) before an absence or upon returning to school after an absence.• Students are responsible for following the school’s procedures, i.e. obtaining a pass from a staff person, when late for class or if there is a need to leave class.• Students and parents/guardians are responsible for notifying the school if the student must leave during the school day. For more details, see Board Policy 503.
Equal Opportunity
<p>Rights/Opportunities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students have the right of equal opportunity, as allowed by law, to participate in all school activities and school education programs for which they are eligible. <p>Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students are responsible for following the rules and procedures of the school-sponsored activity in which they, or others, participate. Students may not discourage, impede or prevent the participation of other students.



Fair Treatment

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to due process, as defined in the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, when involved in a violation of district rules. Included is the opportunity to hear the nature of the violation and to give their account of the situation.
- Students have the right to be informed of all applicable classroom and school rules, expectations and procedures.
- Students have the right to be treated respectfully by district employees and other students.
- Students have the right to be free from unreasonable physical contact from staff and other students. Reasonable force by staff to restrain or correct a student from injuring self or other persons, however, is allowable.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for responding to all directions or questions from staff and for following all laws, policies, rules and expectations that apply to them.
- Students should assume that until a rule or policy is waived, altered, or repealed, it is in full force and effect
- Students are responsible for knowing and following all applicable classroom rules, expectations, and procedures.
- Students are responsible for treating all persons respectfully.
- Students are responsible for respecting the space and freedom of those around them.
- Students are expected to treat the property of others and the district responsibly.
- Students are responsible for refraining from using force or physical contact to inflict harm on another.
- Students are responsible for not engaging in conduct that threatens to physically or mentally injure themselves, other persons or property.

Free Speech and Expression

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to free speech subject to certain Constitutional limitations.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for expressing opinions, publishing written materials and distributing literature in such a manner that is not libelous, obscene, discriminatory or sexually explicit; that does not contain references to alcohol, chemicals, tobacco, or other products that are illegal for use by minors; that does not interfere with the rights of others; that does not materially and substantially disrupt the atmosphere of learning in the school; and that follows school rules and procedures regarding time, place and manner.
- Permission of the school principal is required for distribution or posting of written materials.

Gender Identity

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to be identified by their preferred name, pronoun, and asserted gender



in school records, learning spaces, facilities, and extracurricular activities consistent with Board Policy and procedures. For more information see Board Policy 536.

Responsibilities

- Students must communicate with school staff if their school records are not reflective of their preferred name, pronoun, and/or gender identity.
- School record name and/or gender changes connected to gender identity require submitting updates to the placement office in accordance with Board procedures.

Learning and Academic Work

Rights/Opportunities

- Eligible resident students have the right to a free public education according to state and federal laws.
- Students have the right to attend school and gain an education as provided by law. Attendance at a particular school is a privilege, not a right. For more details, see Minn. Stat. § 120A.36 at revisor.mn.gov/statutes.
- Students have the right to attend school in a safe environment that is free from disruptive behavior by others. Students have the right to experience learning opportunities that reflect their cultural experiences in a non-racist, non-sex-biased, gender and disability fair manner. Students have the right to make up school work missed during any excused absence.
- When absent for an extended period as a result of a medical issue, students have the right to necessary home/hospital instruction as regulated by state guidelines.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for daily attendance, for completing class assignments on time, and for bringing appropriate materials required for class use.
- Students are responsible for behaving in such a manner that supports learning for all, does not pose a potential or actual danger to themselves or others, and is not disruptive to the learning process for others.
- Students are responsible for respecting the cultural experiences shared by their peers.
- Students are responsible for obtaining and completing make-up work assigned for periods of absence.
- Avoid inaccuracies in publications.

Medications

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to receive medications and medical procedures that must be administered during the school day in order for a student to attend school consistent with Board policy and procedure. For more information see Board policy 516.

Responsibilities

- Families are responsible for communicating with the school nurse or other school staff about changes in medications or medical procedures when they must be administered during the school day.
- Students are responsible for cooperating with school staff regarding medications and medical procedures to be administered during the school day.



Non-Discrimination/Harassment-Free Environment

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to a learning environment free from discrimination, harassment and violence based on an individual's race, creed, sex, marital status, national origin, age, color, religion, familial status, status with respect to public assistance, sexual or affectional orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or membership or activity in a local commission as defined by Minn. Stat. § 363A.03.
- Students have a right not to be retaliated against for making good faith reports of discrimination, harassment, or violence.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for treating other students and district employees respectfully and in a manner that does not discriminate or harass an individual based on protected class.
- Students are responsible for reporting to staff (i.e., teacher or principal) incidents of bullying, discrimination, harassment, violence or retaliation that they have experienced or of which they are aware.

Personal Property and Privacy

Rights/Opportunities

- Students generally have a right of privacy in their persons and in their personal property on school district property and at school-sponsored or -associated events.
- According to Minnesota law, students have the right to use school-owned property (e.g., lockers, desks, iPads, ChromeBooks) for storing appropriate items of personal property with the understanding that all school-owned property is within the exclusive control of the school district and may be searched by school authorities for any reason, at any time, without permission, consent or requirement for a search warrant. For more details, see Minn. Stat. § 121A.72, subd. 1 at revisor.mn.gov/statutes/.

Responsibilities

- Students must not bring onto school district property, or to school-sponsored or -associated events, any item or material that violates school district policy, school rules, or state or federal law, or that would cause, or tend to cause, a disruption or endanger the health or safety of students or other people. Items prohibited include, but are not limited to, stolen goods, weapons and lookalike weapons, and other illegal items.
- When reasonable suspicion exists to believe a student possesses prohibited items or that a search will uncover evidence of a violation of a school rule or of the law, school officials may conduct a reasonable search of a student's person or property.
- Students are responsible for keeping their lockers/desks in good condition and free of any items that are illegal or prohibited.
- The personal possessions of students within a school locker may be searched only when school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence of a violation of law or school rules. As soon as practicable after the search of a student's personal possessions, the school authorities must provide notice of the search to students whose lockers were searched unless disclosure would impede an ongoing investigation by police or school officials. For more details, see Minn. Stat. § 121A.72, subd. 1 at revisor.mn.gov/statutes/.



- Students must respect and maintain school property and the property of others.

Pledge of Allegiance

Rights/Opportunities

- Minnesota law requires all public schools to provide students the opportunity to recite the Pledge of Allegiance at least once a week (unless the School Board votes to waive this requirement).

Responsibilities

- Anyone who does not wish to participate in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance for any personal reasons may elect not to do so, and students must respect another person's right to make that choice. For more details, see Minn. Stat. § 121A.11, subd. 3(b) at revisor.mn.gov/statutes/

Police Interviews

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to be free from interview or interrogation by private parties, such as attorneys and private investigators, during the school day.
- Students have the right to be free from interview or interrogation during the school day by the Hastings Police Department unless the student's building administration determines it is unwise or unsatisfactory for the Hastings Police Department to contact the student outside of school.
- When interviewed during the school day by the Hastings Police Department, students have the right to be interviewed in private and with confidentiality and in the presence of the student's principal or the principal's designee, without interruption and without observance by other school personnel or students. For more details, see Board Policy 519.

Student Dress

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the right to choose their manner of dress and personal grooming unless it presents a clear danger to the student's health or safety, causes an interference with school work or creates classroom or school disruption.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for wearing clothes that are appropriate for school. To maintain a safe learning environment, student dress cannot be a health and/or safety hazard, obscene, sexually explicit or discriminatory. Clothing that displays words or images that communicate a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory is not permitted. Clothing that displays references to alcohol, chemicals, tobacco or other products that are illegal for use by minors is not permitted.
- Students are responsible for abiding by the school principal's mandated minimum standards of cleanliness and neatness. For more details, see Board Policy 504.

Student Government

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the opportunity to form and participate in student government that is open to all of the student body being represented. The purpose of the existence of student government is to represent and to be responsive to the needs of all students.



Responsibilities

- Students are responsible, when forming a student government, for establishing purposeful governing rules. The student government is responsible for communicating with the student body, faculty and administration, and for being aware of and complying with any school district policies affecting the student government procedures.

Technology Usage and Safety

Rights/Opportunities

- Students have the opportunity to access a variety of district technology resources in support of personalized learning.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for using the district technology resources, including iPads, properly and following all district and school rules and procedures.
- Students are responsible for respecting the privacy of other users, and not intentionally seeking information on, obtaining copies of, or modifying files, other data or passwords belonging to other users without permission.
- Students are responsible for maintaining the security of the district technology resources and recognizing and honoring the intellectual property rights of others.
- Students are responsible for immediately disclosing inadvertent access of unacceptable materials or an unacceptable Internet site to an appropriate school district administrator.
- Students are responsible for using the district technology resources without making changes to device operating systems and security profiles or installing any apps other than those authorized by Hastings Public Schools.
- Students are responsible for ensuring that any digital content on district technology resources is school-appropriate.
- Unacceptable use of district technology resources, including e-mail and the Internet, may result in one or more of the following consequences: suspension or cancellation of use or access privileges, discipline under applicable district policies and procedures, or civil or criminal liability under applicable laws. For more details, see Board Policy 524.

Transportation

Rights/Opportunities

- When riding a school bus or van to or from school, a student has the right to a safe ride that is free from intimidation, threat, or harassment.
- Parents/Guardians and students have the right to be informed that transportation service is a privilege that is granted to a student contingent upon appropriate behavior. In accordance with Minnesota Statute § 121A.59, transportation is a privilege, not a right, for eligible students.

Responsibilities

- Students are responsible for adhering to the expected behaviors, set by the Board of Education, while on the school bus and while in school bus loading and unloading areas. Misbehaviors occurring on the school bus will be managed in accordance with the [Rights & Responsibilities Student Handbook](#).
- Parents/Guardians of transported students are responsible for supervising their children until their



children board the school bus in the morning and after their children leave the bus at the end of the school day.

- Students who are involved in serious or repeated incidents of unacceptable student conduct on the school bus or at the school bus stop may have their riding privileges suspended or revoked, including bus transportation for field trips.
- The parent or guardian of a student suspended from transportation is responsible for ensuring that the student travels safely to and from school and that the student arrives at school on time.
- Bus drivers and school staff are responsible for teaching, modeling and reinforcing positive behavioral expectations to all students.

VI. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- A. The following are examples of unacceptable behavior subject to disciplinary action by the school district. These examples are not intended to be an exclusive list. Any student who engages in any of these activities shall be disciplined in accordance with this policy. This policy applies to all school buildings, school grounds, and school property or property immediately adjacent to school grounds; school-sponsored activities or trips; school bus stops; school buses, school vehicles, school contracted vehicles, or any other vehicles approved for school district purposes; the area of entrance or departure from school premises or events; and all school-related functions, school-sponsored activities, events, or trips. School district property also may mean a student's walking route to or from school for purposes of attending school or school-related functions, activities, or events. While prohibiting unacceptable behavior subject to disciplinary action at these locations and events, the school district does not represent that it will provide supervision or assume liability at these locations and events. This policy also applies to any student whose conduct at any time or in any place interferes with or obstructs the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of the student, other students, or employees.
1. Violations against property including, but not limited to, damage to or destruction of school property or the property of others, failure to compensate for damage or destruction of such property, arson, breaking and entering, theft, robbery, possession of stolen property, extortion, trespassing, unauthorized usage, or vandalism;
 2. The use of profanity or obscene language, or the possession of obscene materials;
 3. Gambling, including, but not limited to, playing a game of chance for stakes;
 4. Violation of the school district's Hazing Prohibition Policy;



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5. Attendance problems including, but not limited to, truancy, absenteeism, tardiness, skipping classes, or leaving school grounds without permission;
6. Violation of the school district's Student Attendance Policy;
7. Opposition to authority using physical force or violence;
8. Using, possessing, or distributing tobacco, tobacco-related devices, electronic cigarettes, or tobacco paraphernalia in violation of the school district's Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices Policy;
9. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicating substances or look-alike substances;
10. Using, possessing, distributing, intending to distribute, making a request to another person for (solicitation), or being under the influence of narcotics, drugs, or other controlled substances (except as prescribed by a physician), or look-alike substances (these prohibitions include medical marijuana or medical cannabis, even when prescribed by a physician, and one student sharing prescription medication with another student);
11. Using, possessing, or distributing items or articles that are illegal or harmful to persons or property including, but not limited to, drug paraphernalia;
12. Using, possessing, or distributing weapons, or look-alike weapons or other dangerous objects;
13. Violation of the school district's Weapons Policy;
14. Violation of the school district's Violence Prevention Policy;
15. Possession of ammunition including, but not limited to, bullets or other projectiles designed to be used in or as a weapon;
16. Possession, use, or distribution of explosives or any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose or intended use of which is to function as an explosive;
17. Possession, use, or distribution of fireworks or any substance or combination of substances or article prepared for the purpose of producing a visible or an audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation;



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18. Using an ignition device, including a butane or disposable lighter or matches, inside an educational building and under circumstances where there is a risk of fire, except where the device is used in a manner authorized by the school;
19. Violation of any local, state, or federal law as appropriate;
20. Acts disruptive of the educational process, including, but not limited to, disobedience, disruptive or disrespectful behavior, defiance of authority, cheating, insolence, insubordination, failure to identify oneself, improper activation of fire alarms, or bomb threats;
21. Violation of the school district's Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy;
22. Possession of nuisance devices or objects which cause distractions and may facilitate cheating including, but not limited to, pagers, radios, and phones, including picture phones;
23. Violation of school bus or transportation rules or the school district's Student Transportation Safety Policy;
24. Violation of parking or school traffic rules and regulations, including, but not limited to, driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property;
25. Violation of directives or guidelines relating to lockers or improperly gaining access to a school locker;
26. Violation of the school district's Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person Policy;
27. Violation of the school district's Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches Policy;
28. Possession or distribution of slanderous, libelous, or pornographic materials;
29. Violation of the school district' Bullying Prohibition Policy;
30. Student attire or personal grooming which creates a danger to health or safety or creates a disruption to the educational process, including clothing which bears a message which is lewd, vulgar, or obscene, apparel promoting products or activities that are illegal for use by minors, or clothing containing objectionable emblems, signs, words, objects, or



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pictures communicating a message that is racist, sexist, or otherwise derogatory to a protected minority group or which connotes gang membership;

31. Criminal activity;
32. Falsification of any records, documents, notes, or signatures;
33. Tampering with, changing, or altering records or documents of the school district by any method including, but not limited to, computer access or other electronic means;
34. Scholastic dishonesty which includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a school assignment or test, plagiarism, or collusion, including the use of picture phones or other technology to accomplish this end;
35. Impertinent or disrespectful words, symbols, acronyms, or language, whether oral or written, related to teachers or other school district personnel;
36. Violation of the school district's Harassment and Violence Policy;
37. Actions, including fighting or any other assaultive behavior, which causes or could cause injury to the student or other persons or which otherwise endangers the health, safety, or welfare of teachers, students, other school district personnel, or other persons;
38. Committing an act which inflicts great bodily harm upon another person, even though accidental or a result of poor judgment;
39. Violations against persons, including, but not limited to, assault or threatened assault, fighting, harassment, interference or obstruction, attack with a weapon, or look-alike weapon, sexual assault, illegal or inappropriate sexual conduct, or indecent exposure;
40. Verbal assaults or verbally abusive behavior including, but not limited to, use of words, symbols, acronyms, or language, whether oral or written, that are discriminatory, abusive, obscene, threatening, intimidating, degrading to other people, or threatening to school property;
41. Physical or verbal threats including, but not limited to, the staging or reporting of dangerous or hazardous situations that do not exist;
42. Inappropriate, abusive, threatening, or demeaning actions based on race, color, creed, religion, sex, marital status, status with regard to public



assistance, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation;

43. Violation of the school district's Distribution of Non School-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees Policy;
44. Violation of the school district's one-to-one device rules and regulations;
45. Violation of school rules, regulations, policies, or procedures, including, but not limited to, those policies specifically enumerated in this policy;
46. Other acts, as determined by the school district, which are disruptive of the educational process or dangerous or detrimental to the student or other students, school district personnel or surrounding persons, or which violate the rights of others or which damage or endanger the property of the school, or which otherwise interferes with or obstruct the mission or operations of the school district or the safety or welfare of students or employees.

VII. DISCIPLINARY ACTION OPTIONS

The general policy of the school district is to utilize progressive discipline to the extent reasonable and appropriate based upon the specific facts and circumstances of student misconduct. Hastings Public Schools works to ensure developmentally appropriate, age appropriate, and context appropriate interventions/consequences are applied as uniformly as possible. While the specific form of discipline chosen in a particular case is solely within the discretion of the school district, the district has developed a Matrix which establishes a range of intervention and consequence options commensurate with a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. At a minimum, violation of school district rules, regulations, policies, or procedures will result in discussion of the violation and a verbal warning. The school district shall, however, impose more severe disciplinary sanctions for any violation, including exclusion or expulsion, if warranted by the student's misconduct, as determined by the school district. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following:

- A. Student conference with teacher, principal, counselor, or other school district personnel, and verbal warning;
- B. Confiscation by school district personnel and/or by law enforcement of any item, article, object, or thing, prohibited by, or used in the violation of, any school district policy, rule, regulation, procedure, or state or federal law. If confiscated by the school district, the confiscated item, article, object, or thing will be released only to the parent/guardian following the completion of any investigation or disciplinary action instituted or taken related to the violation.
- C. Parent contact;



- D. Parent conference;
- E. Removal from class;
- F. In-school suspension;
- G. Suspension from extracurricular activities;
- H. Detention or restriction of privileges;
- I. Loss of school privileges;
- J. In-school monitoring or revised class schedule;
- K. Referral to in-school support services;
- L. Referral to community resources or outside agency services;
- M. Financial restitution;
- N. Referral to police, other law enforcement agencies, or other appropriate authorities;
- O. A request for a petition to be filed in district court for juvenile delinquency adjudication;
- P. Out-of-school suspension under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- Q. Preparation of an admission or readmission plan;
- R. Saturday school;
- S. Expulsion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act;
- T. Exclusion under the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act; and/or
- U. Other disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the school district.

VIII. REMOVAL OF STUDENTS FROM CLASS

Removal from class” and “removal” mean any actions taken by a teacher, principal, or other school district employee to prohibit a student from attending a class period or activity period for a period of time not to exceed five (5) days after each occurrence, pursuant to this district discipline policy adopted by the school board. A class period or activity period is defined as a block of time devoted to one subject area or activity.



- A. The teacher of record shall have the general control and government of the classroom. Teachers have the responsibility of attempting to modify disruptive student behavior as appropriate by student developmental level based on each school's discipline procedure and framework such as PBIS, Restorative Practices and Conscious Discipline. When such measures fail, or when the teacher determines it is otherwise appropriate based upon the student's conduct, the teacher shall have the authority to remove the student from class pursuant to the procedures established by this discipline policy.

Grounds for removal from class shall include any of the following:

1. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, including conduct that interferes with a teacher's ability to teach or communicate effectively with students in a class or with the ability of other students to learn;
2. Willful conduct that endangers surrounding persons, including school district employees, the student or other students, or the property of the school;
3. Willful violation of any school rules, regulations, policies or procedures, including the Code of Student Conduct in this policy; or
4. Other conduct, which is at the discretion of the teacher or administration, requires removal of the student from class.

A student must be removed from class immediately if the student engages in assault or violent behavior. "Assault" is an act done with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death; or the intentional infliction of, or attempt to inflict, bodily harm upon another. The removal from class shall be for a period of time deemed appropriate by the principal.

- B. If a student is removed from class more than ten (10) times in a school year, the school district shall notify the parent or guardian of the student's tenth removal from class and make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student's parent or guardian to discuss the problem that is causing the student to be removed from class.
- C. Each building may develop a specific set of procedures for removing a student from class. However, when a building does not have such procedures, the general procedures outlined below, will be expected for staff to follow:
- If a student is removed from class, the teacher, principal, or other District employee will complete a report describing the student's behavior in accordance with the building level procedure.



- Teachers removing students from class are required to direct the student to the school office or other predesignated location and verify his or her arrival as soon as practicable. Teachers will determine whether a student needs to be accompanied to the office, and, if so, make the necessary arrangements.
- The administrator may, at his/her option, assign the student to supervision in another area specially designated for this purpose.
- The student will remain in the custody of the building administrator or his/her designee for the duration of the time prescribed.
- Students removed for more than one class period will receive assignments from the teachers to enable the student to keep up with his/her class work.

D. Procedures for Return of a Student to a Class From Which the Student Was Removed.

1. The student may return to class after a conference with the appropriate administrator, teacher, and/or the parent(s)/Guardian(s). At the time of this conference, a plan of action will be established.
2. Students removed from class will be required to examine and take measures to correct it. (Language specific to each building level framework of behavior interventions- best practices like PBIS, Restitution, Restorative practices).

E. Procedures for Notification.

- Parents/guardians of students removed from class will be notified as soon as practicable of the rule violation that led to the removal, and any conditions for readmission.
- Disabled Students; Special Provisions.
 - In cases involving students receiving special education services, appropriate special education staff will be notified of the removal to determine compliance with the student's IEP and to determine whether further assessment or change in the student's IEP is necessary
 - In cases involving students with suspected disability, the student assistance team or school counselor will be notified and the school's pre-referral intervention process will be followed.

F. Procedures for Detecting and Addressing Chemical Abuse Problems of Students While on School Premises.

1. The District has established a chemical /alcohol abuse pre-assessment



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team (Student Support Teams or Student Intervention Teams) pursuant to Minnesota Statute 121A.26;

2. The District has established teacher reporting procedures to the chemical/alcohol abuse pre-assessment team, pursuant to Minnesota Statute 121A.29

G. Any Procedures Determined Appropriate for Encouraging Early Involvement of Parents or Guardians in Attempts to Improve a Student's Behavior.

1. During the enrollment process, schools will gather as much information from parent(s)/guardian(s) as possible to determine any pre-existing academic, behavioral, or attendance concerns.
2. School administrators will ensure the building is adequately supervised and that a system is in place for reporting behavior concerns, regardless of the time and day.
3. School administration will have a plan for reviewing attendance records on a regular basis and then act on the attendance concerns in accordance with the appropriate county truancy program.
4. Schools will establish a structure for teachers to discuss student behavior concerns that is clearly communicated and followed up by administration.
5. Schools must have a team including administration, counselors, the school nurse, and other staff as available to review student academic, attendance, behavior and social/emotional concerns.
6. Staff will intervene and support students early on as behavior concerns are surfacing.
7. Schools will work with chemical health support staff to assess student behavior and determine whether or not chemical issues are present.
8. In conjunction with the Special Education process, schools will have regularly scheduled meetings to consider whether students with academic, behavioral, or social/emotional concerns might need to be assessed for special education services.
9. A formal structure will be created to share information as students transition between schools and grades to assist in continuous support and intervention.
10. Schools will communicate with parent/guardian about academic progress and encourage parents/guardians to assist in identifying concerns.



IX. DISMISSAL

- A. “Dismissal” means the denial of the current educational program to any student, including exclusion, expulsion and suspension. Dismissal does not include removal from class.

The school district shall not deny due process or equal protection of the law to any student involved in a dismissal proceeding which may result in suspension, exclusion or expulsion.

The school district shall not dismiss any student without attempting to provide alternative educational services before dismissal proceedings, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property.

- B. Violations leading to suspension, based upon severity, may also be grounds for actions leading to expulsion, and/or exclusion. A student may be dismissed on any of the following grounds:

1. Willful violation of any reasonable school board regulation, including those found in this policy;
2. Willful conduct that significantly disrupts the rights of others to an education, or the ability of school personnel to perform their duties, or school sponsored extracurricular activities; or
3. Willful conduct that endangers the student or other students, or surrounding persons, including school district employees, or property of the school.

C. Suspension Procedures

1. “Suspension” means an action by the school administration, under rules promulgated by the School Board, prohibiting a student from attending school for a period of no more than ten (10) school days; provided, however, if a suspension is longer than five (5) school days, the suspending administrator shall provide the superintendent with a reason for the longer term of suspension. This definition does not apply to dismissal for one (1) school day or less where a student with a disability does not receive regular or special education instruction during that dismissal period.
2. If a student’s total days of removal from school exceed ten (10)



cumulative days in a school year, the school district shall make reasonable attempts to convene a meeting with the student and the student's parent or guardian before subsequently removing the student from school and, with the permission of the parent or guardian, arrange for a mental health screening for the student at the parent or guardian's expense. The purpose of this meeting is to attempt to determine the student's need for assessment or other services or whether the parent or guardian should have the student assessed or diagnosed to determine whether the student needs treatment for a mental health disorder.

3. Each suspension action may include a readmission plan. The plan shall include, where appropriate, a provision for implementing alternative educational services upon readmission which must not be used to extend the current suspension. A readmission plan must not obligate a parent or guardian to provide psychotropic drugs to their student as a condition of readmission. School administration must not use the refusal of a parent or guardian to consent to the administration of psychotropic drugs to their student or to consent to a psychiatric evaluation, screening, or examination of the student as a ground, by itself, to prohibit the student from attending class or participating in a school-related activity, or as a basis of a charge of child abuse, child neglect, or medical or educational neglect. The school administration may not impose consecutive suspensions against the same student for the same course of conduct, or incident of misconduct, except where the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property or where the school district is in the process of initiating an expulsion, in which case the school administration may extend the suspension to a total of fifteen (15) days.
4. A child with a disability may be suspended. When a child with a disability has been suspended for more than five (5) consecutive days or ten (10) cumulative school days in the same year, and that suspension does not involve a recommendation for expulsion or exclusion or other change in placement under federal law, relevant members of the child's IEP team, including at least one of the child's teachers, shall meet and determine the extent to which the child needs services in order to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals in the child's IEP. That meeting must occur as soon as possible, but no more than ten (10) days after the sixth (6th) consecutive day of suspension or the tenth (10th) cumulative day of suspension has elapsed.
5. The school administration shall implement alternative educational services when the suspension exceeds five (5) days. Alternative educational services may include, but are not limited to, special tutoring, modified curriculum, modified instruction, other modifications or adaptations, instruction through electronic media, special education services as



indicated by appropriate assessments, homebound instruction, supervised homework, or enrollment in another district or in an alternative learning center under Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 selected to allow the student to progress toward meeting graduation standards under Minn. Stat. § 120B.02, although in a different setting.

6. The school administration shall not suspend a student from school without an informal administrative conference with the student. The informal administrative conference shall take place before the suspension, except where it appears that the student will create an immediate and substantial danger to self or to surrounding persons or property, in which case the conference shall take place as soon as practicable following the suspension. At the informal administrative conference, a school administrator shall notify the student of the grounds for the suspension, provide an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and the student may present the student's version of the facts. A separate administrative conference is required for each period of suspension.
7. After school administration notifies a student of the grounds for suspension, school administration may, instead of imposing the suspension, do one or more of the following:
 - a. strongly encourage a parent or guardian of the student to attend school with the student for one day;
 - b. assign the student to attend school on Saturday as supervised by the principal or the principal's designee; and
 - c. petition the juvenile court that the student is in need of services under Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C.
8. A written notice containing the grounds for suspension, a brief statement of the facts, a description of the testimony, a readmission plan, and a copy of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56, shall be personally served upon the student at or before the time the suspension is to take effect, and upon the student's parent or guardian by mail within forty-eight (48) hours of the conference. (See attached sample Notice of Suspension.)
9. The school administration shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parent or guardian of the suspension by telephone as soon as possible following suspension.
10. In the event a student is suspended without an informal administrative conference on the grounds that the student will create an immediate and



substantial danger to surrounding persons or property, the written notice shall be served upon the student and the student's parent or guardian within forty-eight (48) hours of the suspension. Service by mail shall be complete upon mailing.

11. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the student may be suspended pending the school board's decision in an expulsion or exclusion proceeding, provided that alternative educational services are implemented to the extent that suspension exceeds five (5) days.

D. Expulsion and Exclusion Procedures

1. "Expulsion" means a school board action to prohibit an enrolled student from further attendance for up to twelve (12) months from the date the student is expelled. The authority to expel rests with the school board.
2. "Exclusion" means an action taken by the school board to prevent enrollment or re-enrollment of a student for a period that shall not extend beyond the school year. The authority to exclude rests with the school board.
3. All expulsion and exclusion proceedings will be held pursuant to and in accordance with the provisions of the Minnesota Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§121A.40-121A.56.
4. No expulsion or exclusion shall be imposed without a hearing, unless the right to a hearing is waived in writing by the student and parent or guardian.
5. The student and parent or guardian shall be provided written notice of the school district's intent to initiate expulsion or exclusion proceedings. This

notice shall be served upon the student and his or her parent or guardian personally or by mail, and shall contain a complete statement of the facts; a list of the witnesses and a description of their testimony; state the date, time and place of hearing; be accompanied by a copy of the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56; describe alternative educational services accorded the student in an attempt to avoid the expulsion proceedings; and inform the student and parent or guardian of their right to: (1) have a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel at the hearing; (2) examine the student's records before the hearing; (3) present evidence; and (4) confront and cross-examine witnesses. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).



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6. The hearing shall be scheduled within ten (10) days of the service of the written notice unless an extension, not to exceed five (5) days, is requested for good cause by the school district, student, parent, or guardian.
7. All hearings shall be held at a time and place reasonably convenient to the student, parent, or guardian and shall be closed, unless the student, parent, or guardian requests an open hearing.
8. The school district shall record the hearing proceedings at district expense, and a party may obtain a transcript at its own expense.
9. The student shall have a right to a representative of the student's own choosing, including legal counsel, at the student's sole expense. The school district shall advise the student's parent or guardian that free or low-cost legal assistance may be available and that a legal assistance resource list is available from MDE. The school board may appoint an attorney to represent the school district in any proceeding.
10. If the student designates a representative other than the parent or guardian, the representative must have a written authorization from the student and the parent or guardian providing them with access to and/or copies of the student's records.
11. All expulsion or exclusion hearings shall take place before and be conducted by an independent hearing officer designated by the school district. The hearing shall be conducted in a fair and impartial manner. Testimony shall be given under oath and the hearing officer shall have the power to issue subpoenas and administer oaths.
12. At a reasonable time prior to the hearing, the student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative shall be given access to all school district records pertaining to the student, including any tests or reports upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based.
13. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to compel the presence of any school district employee or agent or any other person who may have evidence upon which the proposed dismissal action may be based, and to confront and cross-examine any witnesses testifying for the school district.
14. The student, parent or guardian, or authorized representative, shall have the right to present evidence and testimony, including expert psychological or educational testimony.



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15. The student cannot be compelled to testify in the dismissal proceedings.
16. The hearing officer shall prepare findings and a recommendation based solely upon substantial evidence presented at the hearing, which must be made to the school board and served upon the parties within two (2) days after the close of the hearing.
17. The school board shall base its decision upon the findings and recommendation of the hearing officer and shall render its decision at a meeting held within five (5) days after receiving the findings and recommendation. The school board may provide the parties with the opportunity to present exceptions and comments to the hearing officer's findings and recommendation provided that neither party presents any evidence not admitted at the hearing. The decision by the school board must be based on the record, must be in writing, and must state the controlling facts on which the decision is made in sufficient detail to apprise the parties and the Commissioner of Education (Commissioner) of the basis and reason for the decision.
18. A party to an expulsion or exclusion decision made by the school board may appeal the decision to the Commissioner within twenty-one (21) calendar days of school board action pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 121A.49. The decision of the school board shall be implemented during the appeal to the Commissioner.
19. The school district shall report any suspension, expulsion or exclusion action taken to the appropriate public service agency, when the student is under the supervision of such agency.
20. The school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each expulsion or exclusion within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the action to the Commissioner. This report must include a statement of alternative educational services given the student and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion. The report must also include the student's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status. The dismissal report must include state student identification numbers of affected students.
21. Whenever a student fails to return to school within ten (10) school days of the termination of dismissal, a school administrator shall inform the student and his/her parent or guardian by mail of the student's right to attend and to be reinstated in the school district.

X. ADMISSION OR READMISSION PLAN



A school administrator shall prepare and enforce an admission or readmission plan for

any student who is excluded or expelled from school. The plan may include measures to improve the student's behavior, including completing a character education program consistent with Minn. Stat. § 120B.232, Subd. 1, and require parental involvement in the admission or readmission process, and may indicate the consequences to the student of not improving the student's behavior. The readmission plan must not obligate parents to provide a sympathomimetic medication for their child as a condition of readmission.

XI. NOTIFICATION OF POLICY VIOLATIONS

Notification of any violation of this policy and resulting disciplinary action shall be as provided herein, or as otherwise provided by the Pupil Fair Dismissal Act or other applicable law. The teacher, principal or other school district official may provide additional notification as deemed appropriate.

In addition, the school district must report, through the MDE electronic reporting system, each physical assault of a school district employee by a student within thirty (30) days of the assault. This report must include a statement of the alternative educational services or other sanction, intervention, or resolution given to the student in response to the assault and the reason for, the effective date, and the duration of the exclusion or expulsion or other sanction, intervention, or resolution. The report must also include the student's age, grade, gender, race, and special education status.

XII. STUDENT DISCIPLINE RECORDS

The policy of the school district is that complete and accurate student discipline records be maintained. The collection, dissemination, and maintenance of student discipline records shall be consistent with applicable school district policies and federal and state law, including the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, Minn. Stat. Ch. 13.

XIII. DISABLED STUDENTS

Students who are currently identified as eligible under the IDEA or Section 504 will be subject to the provisions of this policy, unless the student's IEP or 504 plan specifies a necessary modification.

Before initiating an expulsion or exclusion of a student with a disability, relevant members of the child's IEP team and the child's parent shall, consistent with federal law, conduct a manifestation determination and determine whether the child's behavior was (i) caused by or had a direct and substantial relationship to the child's disability and (ii) whether the child's conduct was a direct result of a failure to implement the child's IEP. If the student's educational program is appropriate and the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability, the school district will proceed with discipline – up to and



including expulsion – as if the student did not have a disability, unless the student’s educational program provides otherwise. If the team determines that the behavior subject

to discipline is a manifestation of the student’s disability, the team shall conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such student provided that the school district had not conducted such assessment prior to the manifestation determination before the behavior that resulted in a change of placement. Where a behavioral intervention plan previously has been developed, the team will review the behavioral intervention plan and modify it as necessary to address the behavior.

When a student who has an IEP is excluded or expelled for misbehavior that is not a manifestation of the student’s disability, the school district shall continue to provide special education and related services during the period of expulsion or exclusion.

XIV. OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS

The school district may terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student enrolled under an Enrollment Option Program (Minn. Stat. § 124D.03) or Enrollment in Nonresident District (Minn. Stat. § 124D.08) at the end of a school year if the student meets the definition of a habitual truant, the student has been provided appropriate services for truancy (Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A), and the student’s case has been referred to juvenile court. The school district may also terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student over the age of seventeen (17) enrolled under an Enrollment Options Program if the student is absent without lawful excuse for one or more periods on fifteen (15) school days and has not lawfully withdrawn from school.

XV. DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY

The school district will notify students and parents of the existence and contents of this policy in such manner as it deems appropriate. Copies of this discipline policy shall be made available to all students and parents at the commencement of each school year and to all new students and parents upon enrollment. This policy shall also be available upon request in each principal’s office.

XVI. REVIEW OF POLICY

The principal and representatives of parents, students and staff in each school building shall confer at least annually to review this discipline policy, determine if the policy is working as intended, and to assess whether the discipline policy has been enforced. Any recommended changes shall be submitted to the superintendent for consideration by the school board, which shall conduct an annual review of this policy.



Legal References: Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.02 (Educational Expectations for Minnesota Students)
Minn. Stat. § 120B.232 (Character Development Education)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.26 (School Preassessment Teams)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.29 (Reporting; Chemical Abuse)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.575 (Alternatives to Pupil Suspension)
Minn. Stat. § 121A.582 (Reasonable Force)
Minn. Stat. §§ 121A.60-121A.61 (Removal from Class)
Minn. Stat. § 122A.42 (General Control of Schools)
Minn. Stat. § 123A.05 (Area Learning Center Organization)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. § 124D.08 (Enrollment in Nonresident District)
Minn. Stat. Ch.125A (Students with Disabilities)
Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Medical Cannabis; Definitions)
Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Medical Cannabis; Limitations)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A (Truancy)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260C (Juvenile Court Act)
20 U.S.C. §§ 1400-1487 (Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004)
29 U.S.C. § 794 *et seq.* (Rehabilitation Act of 1973, § 504)
34 C.F.R. § 300.530(e)(1) (Manifestation Determination)

Cross References: MSBA/MASA Model Policy 413 (Harassment and Violence)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 419 (Tobacco-Free Environment; Possession and Use of Tobacco, Tobacco-Related Devices, and Electronic Delivery Devices)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 501 (School Weapons)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 502 (Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 503 (Student Attendance)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 505 (Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored Materials on School Premises by Students and Employees)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 514 (Bullying Prohibition Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 524 (Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Policy)

MSBA/MASA Model Policy 525 (Violence Prevention)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 526 (Hazing Prohibition)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 527 (Student Use and Parking of Motor Vehicles; Patrols, Inspections, and Searches)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 610 (Field Trips)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 709 (Student Transportation Safety Policy)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 711 (Video Recording on School Buses)
MSBA/MASA Model Policy 712 (Video Surveillance Other Than on



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Buses)

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