

Book	Policy Manual
Section	200 Pupils
Title	Student Discipline
Number	218
Status	Active

Legal

[1. 24 P.S. 510](#)

[2. 22 PA Code 12.3](#)

[3. 24 P.S. 1317](#)

4. Pol. 233

5. Pol. 122

6. Pol. 123

[7. 22 PA Code 12.6](#)

[8. 22 PA Code 12.5](#)

[9. 24 P.S. 1338](#)

[10. 22 PA Code 12.4](#)

11. Pol. 103

12. Pol. 103.1

[13. 24 P.S. 1318](#)

14. Pol. 235

[24 P.S. 1302.1-A](#)

[24 P.S. 1303-A](#)

[35 P.S. 780-102](#)

[22 PA Code 10.2](#)

[22 PA Code 10.21](#)

[22 PA Code 10.22](#)

[22 PA Code 10.23](#)

[22 PA Code 10.25](#)

[22 PA Code 12.1 et seq](#)

[22 PA Code 403.1](#)

[20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq](#)

[20 U.S.C. 7114](#)

[34 CFR Part 300](#)

Pol. 113.1

Pol. 113.2

Pol. 218.1

Pol. 218.2

Pol. 222

Pol. 227

Pol. 805

Pol. 815, 815.1, 815.2

Adopted July 25, 2006

Last Revised February 28, 2017

Purpose

The Board acknowledges that student conduct is closely related to learning. An effective educational program requires a safe and orderly school environment; and the effectiveness of the instructional program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The Plum Borough School District believes in the fundamental convictions that all individuals are entitled to equal protection and equal opportunity to civil liberties. Any and all acts and omissions that discriminate against or profess bigotry, hatred or oppression of any race, ethnicity, religion, gender, or sexual orientation undermine our fundamental beliefs and promise of equal protection and justice. The district will not tolerate prejudicial or discriminatory treatment of any student, employee, volunteer, Board Member or visitor.

Authority

The Board shall require each student to adhere to Board policies and the rules and regulations promulgated by the administration and to submit to disciplinary measures appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. School rules and Board policies shall govern student conduct in school, at school-sponsored activities, and during the time spent in travel to and from school.[\[1\]](#)[\[2\]](#)[\[10\]](#)[\[11\]](#)[\[12\]](#)

The Board shall adopt a Discipline Code to govern student behavior.[\[2\]](#)

Guidelines

Rules governing student conduct shall require students to:

1. Conform to reasonable standards of socially acceptable behavior.
2. Respect the rights, person, and property of others.
3. Preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged.
4. Obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.[\[3\]](#)

Any student disciplined by a district employee shall have the right to notice of the infraction and a hearing before the building principal prior to being disciplined, and the student may appeal the discipline determination to the Superintendent or designee.[4]

Off-Campus Activities

This policy shall also apply to student conduct that occurs off school property and would violate the Code of Student Conduct if:

1. There is a link between the proximity or timing of the conduct in relation to the student's attendance at school or school-sponsored activities.
2. The student is a member of an extracurricular activity and has been notified that particular off-campus conduct could result in exclusion from such activities.[5][6]
3. Student expression or conduct materially and substantially disrupts the operations of the school, or the administration reasonably anticipates that the expression or conduct is likely to materially and substantially disrupt the operations of the school.
4. The conduct has a direct link to attendance at school or a school-sponsored activity, such as an agreement made on school property to complete a transaction outside of school that would violate the Code of Student Conduct.
5. The conduct involves the theft or vandalism of school property.

Corporal Punishment

Corporal punishment - a form of physical discipline intended to cause pain and fear, in which a student is spanked, paddled or hit on any part of the body with a hand or instrument. [7]

The Board prohibits the use of corporal punishment to discipline students for violations of district policies, rules or regulations. [8]

In situations where a parent/guardian or the Board prohibits corporal punishment, reasonable force may still be used by teachers and school authorities under any of the following circumstances: to quell a disturbance, to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, for the purpose of self-defense, and for the protection of persons or property. [8]

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall promulgate reasonable and necessary rules and regulations to implement Board policy governing student conduct which:

1. Are not arbitrary, but bear a reasonable relationship to the need to maintain a school environment conducive to learning.[\[2\]](#)
2. Do not discriminate among students.
3. Do not demean students.
4. Do not violate any individual rights guaranteed to students.

The Superintendent or designee shall designate sanctions for the infractions of rules which:

1. Relate in kind and degree to the infraction.
2. Help the student learn to accept responsibility for actions.
3. Are directed to ameliorating any harm caused by the student's misconduct.
4. Hold parents/guardians accountable for the actions of their students.

The Superintendent or designee shall prepare guidelines for actions against delinquent children which provide for:

1. Parental conferences.
2. Sequential discipline.
3. Psychological and medical examination.
4. Suspension from school attendance in accordance with Board policy.[\[4\]](#)
5. Referral to juvenile authorities.[\[9\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee shall publish and provide to all staff, students and parents/guardians the rules for student behavior contained in the Discipline Code and the sanctions that may be imposed for violation of those rules. A copy of the Code shall be made available in each school.[\[2\]](#)[\[14\]](#)

The Superintendent or designee may appoint a committee of staff members, students, parents/guardians, and/or community representatives to review periodically the Discipline Code and to recommend modifications.

The building principal shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to the policies, rules and regulations of the district and to the student's due process right to notice, hearing and appeal.[\[3\]](#)[\[13\]](#)

Teaching staff and other district employees responsible for students shall have the authority to take reasonable actions necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where students are within the jurisdiction of this Board including the time required in going to and from their homes, and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.[\[3\]](#)