

STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

It is the policy of the Rice Lake Area School District, pursuant to s. 118.13 of Wisconsin Statutes, and PI9, that no person on the basis of sex, race, religion, age, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability may be denied admission to any school in this District or be denied participation in, denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational, or other program.

In addition, it is the policy of the Rice Lake Area School District that no person on the basis of gender identity or gender expression, be denied admission to any school in this District or be denied participation in, denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against in any curricular, extracurricular, pupil services, recreational, or other program. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

The District shall maintain a Student Code of Conduct that has been approved by the Board of Education and can be found in the student handbook. At a minimum, the Student Code of Conduct shall set forth (1) any rules of conduct for students that the Board of Education wishes to establish; and (2) standards and procedures surrounding the possible removal of a student from their class due to the student's conduct.

In addition to the rules found in the Student Code of Conduct, the Board of Education authorizes the District Administrator, and any of their appropriately-licensed administrator designees, to set forth additional rules of conduct for students. Further, subject to administrative oversight and to the extent consistent with applicable law and with the District's policies, procedures, and more formal rules of conduct for students, school staff are permitted to issue and reasonably enforce situation-specific conduct directives for students that support the provision of a safe and productive school environment.

Administrative Responsibilities

The District Administrator, building principals, and other licensed administrators serving in an instructional capacity are jointly responsible for the day-to-day management and oversight of student conduct and discipline matters in the schools. The District Administrator and building principals shall:

1. Ensure that time and resources are dedicated to all of the following elements of the process of managing student behavior: teaching expected behaviors to students, notifying students of prohibited conduct, reinforcing positive behaviors, providing appropriate behavioral interventions, and imposing/enforcing disciplinary sanctions and other reasonable consequences for misconduct.
2. Ensure that the District incorporates the management of student behavior as a topic within the District's professional development plan for staff.
3. Evaluate practices and data with regard to student conduct and discipline in order to identify strengths and areas for improvement in the District's policies and practices.

Expectations for Staff and Other Adults Who Supervise Students and Student Activities

All District employees and all other authorized agents of the District who teach, supervise, or otherwise work directly with students ultimately share in the responsibility for the day-to-day implementation of the District's policies, procedures, rules, and directives related to student conduct and discipline. In carrying out their respective responsibilities, the Board of Education expects such employees and agents to comply with the following additional policy guidelines:

1. Such employees and agents are expected to model appropriate behaviors for students in connection with school-related activities, including modeling appropriate responses to conflict.
2. Rules and expectations for student conduct and any sanctions for misconduct shall be implemented and enforced, at a minimum, lawfully, without bias or favoritism, and in a non-discriminatory and non-arbitrary manner.
3. Students shall be informed within 24 hours of the reason(s) for any disciplinary sanctions and shall have the opportunity to provide their viewpoint regarding the situation.
4. Timely communication with a student's parent or guardian regarding student conduct and discipline shall be a priority; and, in connection with matters such as disciplinary removals from class and suspensions from school, such communication is also a legal requirement.

Expectations for Students

The Board of Education expects all students to follow the rules and expectations that are established for student conduct and to demonstrate a developmentally-appropriate level of personal responsibility and accountability for their actions. These rules and expectations apply to all school functions and activities whether held during school hours or after regular school sessions and wherever they are held.

Legal Ref: 115.787 (3); 118.13, 118.16(4)(c), 118.164; 118.305; 118.31; 120.13(1), WSS; PI 9.03(1) WAC; Federal Laws: Individuals with Disabilities Education Act; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Cross Ref: 411 Rule Student Discrimination Complaint Procedures; 370 Rule Guidelines for Activities; 442 Rule Student Code of Conduct and Discipline

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