

## **CHAPTER 9: EXTRACURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES**

The District considers its student members of Illinois High School Association (IHSA) and Illinois Elementary School Association (IESA) sanctioned teams and extracurricular activities to be representatives of the school. Participation in extracurricular activities, including but not limited to clubs and interscholastic teams, is a privilege. Because these students represent our school, the standard of student conduct is necessarily high and without exception.

It is the policy of the District that any student engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct — including, but not limited to, the possession or use of alcoholic beverages, drugs, vapes, or look-alike substances; or engaging in illegal or inappropriate behavior that reflects poorly on the District and its educational philosophy and objectives — will be subject to appropriate disciplinary sanctions. These may include, but are not limited to, suspension from the team or club in which the student is currently participating. The disciplinary sanctions and/or suspension will be announced at a conference attended by the principal or designee, team coach or club sponsor, Assistant Principal or designee, student, parent/guardian, student's counselor and the Athletic Director as appropriate.

This Extracurricular and Athletic Activities Code of Conduct applies, where applicable, to all school-sponsored athletic and extracurricular activities that are not part of an academic class nor otherwise carry credit for a grade.

### **School Clubs and Organizations**

Students are strongly encouraged to become involved in school activities. In general, clubs and organizations meet before or after school. Specific information on membership and participation will be in the announcements and posted on the office bulletin board.

### **Requirements for Participation in Interscholastic Athletics**

A student must meet all academic eligibility requirements and have the following fully executed documents on file in the school office before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity (including try-out):

1. A current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse or physician assistant. The preferred certificate of physical fitness is the Illinois High School Association's [Preparticipation Physical Examination Form](#).
2. A permission slip to participate in the specific athletic activity in which the student intends to participate, signed by the student's parent or guardian.
3. Proof that the student is covered by medical insurance. The student must have purchased the student accident insurance or have on file in the Athletic Director's office a form which verifies adequate coverage by a family or group policy. It is understood that the District does not assume financial responsibility for accidents incurred in athletics. It should also be clarified that complete coverage by any single policy is highly improbable; therefore, the policy covering any student-athlete should be fully understood prior to participation. There is a special insurance rider, in addition to student accident insurance, available to cover football players (purchase optional).

4. A signed agreement by the student not to ingest or otherwise use any drugs on the IHSA's most current banned substance list (without a written prescription and medical documentation provided by a licensed physician who performed an evaluation for a legitimate medical condition) and a signed agreement by the student and the student's parent/guardian agreeing to IHSA's Performance-Enhancing Substance Testing Program.
5. A signed agreement by the student and the student's parent/guardian authorizing compliance with the District's Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Program.
6. Signed documentation showing the athlete and their parents received this Extracurricular and Athletic Activities Code of Conduct and understand and agree to abide by its terms and conditions. Signed documentation agreeing to comply with the District's policies and procedures on student athletic concussions and head injuries.

### **IESA / IHSA**

Eligibility for most junior high athletes is also governed by the rules of the Illinois Elementary School Association IESA. Eligibility for most high school athletics is governed by the Illinois High School Association (IHSA). If applicable, these rules will apply in addition to Unit 5's Athletic Code of Conduct. In the case of a conflict between IESA, IHSA, and this Athletic Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

### **Academic Eligibility**

Selection of members or participants in extracurricular and athletic activities is at the discretion of the designated teachers, sponsors, and coaches.

Eligibility will be determined for all students who are involved in extracurricular and athletic activities. In order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular and athletic activities, a student must be doing passing work in at least five (5) classes (25 class hours) per week. Any student failing to meet academic requirements will be suspended from the sport or activity for seven (7) calendar days or until all academic requirements are met, whichever is longer.

If a student-athlete is academically ineligible for four (4) consecutive weeks during their season or academically ineligible for six (6) weeks throughout the season, the head coach and athletic director may remove the student-athlete from the team.

Any student who does not pass at least five (5) classes during a semester will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular and athletic activities the following semester.

### **Procedure for Ineligible Student**

Students declared academically ineligible will not participate in athletic contests. They may be required to practice, required to study at school during practice time, or not allowed to remain at school during practice time. Ineligible students may not dress in uniform for athletic contests; however, they may sit on the bench. An administrator may also require an ineligible student to stay in school when an away game requires an early release from school.

### **Absence from School on Day of Activity**

Athletes must be in attendance for the last half of the school day (last 4 periods) to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular or athletic activity on that day, unless the student is absent due to an excused absence including a mental health day. If a pattern of absence is observed, the student may be

withheld from after-school activities per the discretion of school administration. A student who has been suspended from school is also suspended from participation in all extracurricular and athletic activities for the duration of the suspension.

### **Athletic Travel**

All students must travel to extracurricular and athletic activities and return home from such activities with the team by use of school approved means of transportation. A written waiver of this rule may be issued by the teacher, sponsor, or coach in charge of the extracurricular or athletic activity or an administrator upon advance written request of a student's parent/guardian and provided the parent/guardian appears and accepts custody of the student. In no case shall a waiver be issued unless the alternate means of transportation anticipated by the waiver will be provided by the parent/guardian. Oral requests shall not be honored and oral permissions shall not be valid.

## **9.10 EXTRACURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT**

This Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular and athletic activities and is enforced 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

This Code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations. A student may be excluded from extracurricular or athletic activities while the school is conducting an investigation into the student's conduct.

Students and their parents/guardians are encouraged to seek assistance from the Student Assistance Program for alcohol or other drug problems. Participation in an alcohol or drug counseling program will be taken into consideration in determining consequences for Code of Conduct violations.

### **The student shall not:**

1. Violate the school rules and School District policies on student discipline including policies and procedures on student behavior;
2. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes);
3. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute tobacco or nicotine in any form;
4. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any product composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form or any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance enhancing drugs or chemicals) or paraphernalia;
5. Use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a look alike weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in athletics, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet;
6. Attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors;
7. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner;

8. Violate any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and reckless driving;
9. Haze or bully other students;
10. Violate the written rules for the extracurricular or athletic activity;
11. Behave in a manner that disrupts or adversely affects the group or school;
12. Be insubordinate or disrespectful toward the activity's sponsors or team's coaching staff; or
13. Falsify any information contained on any permit or permission form required by the extracurricular or athletic activity.

*Hazing* is any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a team or group, regardless of their willingness to participate. Bullying includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

### **Due Process Procedures**

Students who are accused of violating the Code of Conduct are entitled to the following due process:

1. The student should be advised of the disciplinary infraction with which he or she is being charged.
2. The student shall be entitled to a hearing before an appropriate administrator.
3. The student will be able to respond to any charges.
4. The student may provide any additional information they wish for the administrator to consider.
5. The administrator, with the help of other staff members if needed, may interview material witnesses or others with evidence concerning the case.
6. If the administrator finds, after reviewing the evidence, that the violation occurred, sanctions will be imposed on the student as follows:
  - a. Sanctions for violations other than drug and alcohol will be based on the nature of the offense and the number of offenses, and may include suspension from all extracurricular or athletic activities for one of the time periods described below:
    - A specified period of time or percentage of performances, activities or competitions;

- The remainder of the season or for the next season; or
  - The remainder of the student's school career.
- b. Sanctions for alcohol and other drug violations, including tobacco, nicotine in any form, mood-altering or performance enhancing drugs, products composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form, paraphernalia or any other illegal substance, will be based on the following:

#### **First violation**

A violation will be considered a first violation if 365 days have passed since the student's previous violation.

- Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension of one-fifth ( $\frac{1}{5}$ ) of the total number of performances, activities, or competitions or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter. This penalty may be reduced if the student is enrolled in a school-approved alcohol or drug counseling program.
- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one-sixth ( $\frac{1}{6}$ ) of the total number of performances, activities or competitions, or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter.
- The student will be required to practice with the group, regardless of the violation (unless suspended or expelled from school).

#### **Second violation**

- Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension of two-fifths ( $\frac{2}{5}$ ) of the total number of performances, activities, or competitions or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter. To participate again in any extracurricular or athletic activity, the student must successfully participate in and complete a school-approved alcohol or drug counseling program (Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselor) and follow all recommendations from that program.
- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one-third ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ) of the season and all extracurricular group performances, activities, or competitions during this period.
- The student may be required to practice with the group (unless suspended or expelled from school).

### **Third violation**

- Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension from extracurricular or athletic activities for 365 days. To participate again in any extracurricular or athletic activity, the student must successfully participate in and complete a school-approved alcohol or drug counseling program and follow all recommendations from that program.
- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension from all remaining performances, activities, or competitions for the remainder of the season.

7. The appropriate administrator will make a written report of their decision and rationale. The student may appeal the decision to the Principal or Principal's designee.

All students remain subject to all the School District's policies and the school's student/parent handbook.

Coaches may develop additional rules for their respective sports, including conduct expectations. All rules must be approved by the athletic office prior to being shared with student-athletes or parents. Once approved, they will be communicated both verbally and in writing and kept on file in the Athletic Director's office.

The student-athlete agrees to care for and be responsible for school equipment issued and used. Necessary restitution must be made whenever loss or damage is the student-athlete's responsibility.

The student-athlete agrees to comply with all rules and regulations established by the Illinois High School Association and the High School Handbook of the McLean County Unit District No. 5 schools.

A season begins on the first day of practice and continues through the team's final competition. To be eligible for an award, a student-athlete must complete the entire season in good standing, including fulfilling any consequences for athletic code violations, if applicable.

### **Modification of Athletic or Team Uniform**

Students may request to modify their athletic or team uniform to align with their religious beliefs, cultural values, or personal modesty preferences. All modifications must be approved in advance by the athletic office.

## **9.20 ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL SPONSORED DANCES**

Attendance at school-sponsored dances is a privilege. Only students who attend the school may attend school-sponsored dances, unless the principal or designee approves a student's guest in advance of the event. A guest must be "age appropriate," defined as at least freshmen in high school and under the age of 21. Students and guest must present their student ID or photo ID to be admitted to dances.

For Homecoming and Prom dances at the high schools, students may invite ONE guest and must complete the "Guest Permission Form" and have it approved by one of the Assistant Principals in

advance. Only pre-registered guests with photo ID will be admitted to these dances. This may apply at other dances as determined by building administration.

All school rules, including the school's discipline code and dress code are in effect during school-sponsored dances. Students who violate the school's discipline code will be required to leave the dance immediately and the student's parent/guardian will be contacted. The school may also impose other discipline as outlined in the school's discipline code.

### **Good Night Rule**

Once a student leaves a school activity (dances, sporting events, etc.) they will not be readmitted to the activity and must leave the school grounds. Violators will be subject to arrest for loitering or trespassing.

### **9.30 STUDENT ATHLETE CONCUSSIONS AND HEAD INJURIES**

Student athletes must comply with Illinois' Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies and bylaws of the Illinois High School Association<sup>1</sup> before being allowed to participate in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student who was removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

## STUDENTS

### 7.190 Student Behavior

The goals and objectives of this policy are to provide effective discipline practices that:

1. ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff;
2. maintain a positive, weapons-free and drug-free learning environment;
3. keep school property and the property of others secure;
4. address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and
5. teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society.

#### When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in prohibited student conduct, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

#### Prohibited Student Conduct

The school administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, or nicotine pouches.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, selling, or offering for sale, alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, bartering, selling, or offering for sale:
  - a. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, hashish, and medical cannabis unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*).
  - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
  - d. Any prescription medication when not prescribed for the student by a physician licensed practitioner, when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions or without following *Board policy 7.270*

and its implementing procedures including without limitation failing to have a completed and signed "School Medication Authorization Form" on file, failing to keep medication in the original container, giving other students medication, or taking improper doses of medication. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited unless the student is authorized to be administered a medical cannabis infused product under *Ashley's Law*.

- e. Any non-prescription medication without following *Board policy 7.270* and its implementing procedures.
- f. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
- g. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
- h. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
- i. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

- 4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a knife, a "*weapon*" as that term is defined in the ***Weapons*** section of this policy, or a look-alike weapon, or violating the ***Weapons*** section of this policy.
- 5. Using or possessing an electronic mobile device including but not limited to a cellular phone or watch, video or audio recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), digital or mp3 player, laptop, netbook, iPad, tablet, or other similar electronic devices in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs or video in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, eavesdrop (e.g. surreptitiously record a conversation), or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, sexting, which for purposes of this Policy is the act of creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing sexually explicit messages, images, or videos electronically, through the use of a computer or electronic mobile device. Sexting also includes creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing *indecent visual depictions, non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images, and non-consensual dissemination of sexually explicit digitized depictions*, as defined in State law.

Students are allowed to possess and use electronic mobile devices in school, provided they do not cause a disruption, and are not used, seen or heard during instructional time unless:

- a. the supervising teacher grants permission;
  - b. use of the device is provided in a student's 504 plan or individualized education program (IEP); or
  - c. it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
  7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
  8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, using a writing service and/or emerging technologies such as generative artificial intelligence technology in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
  9. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
  10. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault.
  11. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7.185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*.
  12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, or relocating personal or school property or another person's personal property.
  13. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
  14. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus or at any school activity.
  15. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truant.
  16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
  17. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
  18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
  19. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.

20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that, interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term “*possession*” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; or d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board’s authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student’s parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

### Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures may include, without limitation, any of the following:

1. Notifying parents/guardians.
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. Detention provided the student’s parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.
8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration may use this option as an alternative to another disciplinary measure giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board Policy 7.220, *Bus Conduct*.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board Policy 7.200, *Suspension Procedures*. A student who has been suspended is prohibited from being

on school grounds and at school activities during the period of the suspension.

12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed two calendar years in accordance with Board Policy 7.210, *Expulsion Procedures*. A student who has been expelled is prohibited from being on school grounds and at school activities during the period of expulsion.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in [Article 13A](#) or [13B of the School Code](#).

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and/or expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension and/or expulsion. In addition to the above list of disciplinary measures, juvenile authorities or other law enforcement may be notified whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

Corporal punishment is prohibited in all circumstances. *Corporal punishment* is defined as a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain upon a student in response to the student's unacceptable behavior or inappropriate language, with an aim to halt an offense, prevent its recurrence, or set an example for others. It includes slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions, or intentional infliction of bodily harm. Corporal punishment does not include reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for students, staff, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property.

#### Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Neither isolated time out, time out, nor physical restraint shall be used to discipline or punish a student. These methods are only authorized for use as permitted in [105 ILCS 5/10-20.33](#), State Board of Education rules ([23 Ill. Admin. Code 1.280](#), [1.285](#)), and the District's procedure(s).

#### Weapons

A student who uses, possesses, controls, or transfers one of the following weapons at school, on school grounds, on a school bus, at any school-sponsored activity or event, or at any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for at least one (1) calendar year but not more than two (2) calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18, of the United States Code ([18 U.S.C. § 921](#)), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act ([430 ILCS 65/](#)), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012 ([720 ILCS 5/24-1](#));
2. Ammunition;
3. A knife with a blade of at least 3 inches, switchblade knife, ballistic knife, billy club, brass knuckles, other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, or any object listed in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 1961 ([720 ILCS 5/24-1](#));
4. A look-alike firearm; or
5. Any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the

Superintendent or designee, and the Superintendent or designee's determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis. The Superintendent or designee may grant an exception to this policy, upon the prior request of an adult supervisor, for students in theatre, cooking, ROTC, martial arts, and similar programs, whether or not school-sponsored, provided the item is not equipped, nor intended, to do bodily harm.

This policy's prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Students should report suspected possession or use of such items to any counselor, teacher, or administrator.

### Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

### Required Notices

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that the staff member:

1. observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision;
2. observes, or has reason to suspect that, any person on school grounds is or was involved in a drug-related incident; or
3. observes a battery committed against any staff member or is subject to a battery.

"*School grounds*" includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1,000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Upon receiving a report of 1, above, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. In addition, upon receiving a report on any of the above 1-3, the Building Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee and any involved student's parent/guardian.

Upon receiving a report on any of the above 1-3, the Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. The Superintendent or designee shall also report these incidents to the Ill. State Board of Education through its web-based School Incident Reporting System as they occur during the year and no later than July 31 for the preceding school year.

### Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed educational employees, and any other persons (whether or not a licensed employee) providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a

classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, Associate Building Principal, or Assistant Building Principal is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 days for safety reasons.

#### Student Handbook

The Superintendent or designee, with input from the parent-teacher advisory committee, shall prepare disciplinary rules implementing the District's disciplinary policies. These disciplinary rules shall be presented annually to the Board for its review and approval.

A student handbook, including the District's student disciplinary policies and rules, shall be distributed to the students' parents/guardians within 15 days of the beginning of the school year or a student's enrollment.

Incorporated

by Reference: 7.190-AP4 (Use of Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint)

#### LEGAL REF.:

[20 U.S.C. §7971](#), Pro-Children Act of 2004.

[20 U.S.C. §7151](#) *et seq.*, Gun Free Schools Act

[105 ILCS 5/10-20.5b](#), [5/10-20.14](#), [5/10-20.28](#), [5/10-20.36](#), [5/10-21.7](#), [5/10-21.10](#), [5/10-22.6](#), [5/10-27.1A](#), [5/10-27.1B](#), [5/22-33](#), [5/22-100](#), [5/24-24](#), [5/26-12](#), [5/27-23.7](#) and [5/31-3](#).

[105 ILCS 110/3.10](#), Critical Health Problems and Comprehensive Health Education Act.

[410 ILCS 130/](#), Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Pilot Program.

[410 ILCS 647/](#), Powdered Caffeine Control and Education Act.

[430 ILCS 66/](#), Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

[23 Ill. Admin. Code §§1.280](#), [1.285](#).

CROSS REF.: 2.150 (Committees), 2.240 (Board Policy Development), 5.230 (Maintaining Student Discipline), 6.110 (Programs for Students At Risk of Academic Failure and/or Dropping Out of School and Graduation Incentives Program), 7.70 (Attendance and Truancy), 7.130 (Student Rights and Responsibilities), 7.140 (Search and Seizure), 7.150 (Agency and Police Interviews), 7.160 (Student Appearance), 7.170 (Vandalism), 7.180 (Prevention and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment), 7.185 (Teen Dating Violence Prohibited), 7.200 (Suspension Procedures), 7.210 (Expulsion Procedures), 7.220 (Bus Conduct), 7.230 (Misconduct by Students with Disabilities), 7.240 (Conduct Code for Participants in Co-Curricular Activities), 7.270 (Administering Medicines to Students), 7.310 (Restrictions on Publications; Elementary and Junior High Schools), 7.315 (Restrictions on Publications; High Schools), 8.30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School Property)

Adopted: December 12, 1989

Reviewed: March 2025

Amended: April 16, 2025

**Community Unit School District No. 5, McLean and Woodford Counties, Illinois**

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