

Mendocino Unified School District

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| Administrative Regulation 5144 |
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Revised 10/21/99

Approved 5/16/13

Students

Discipline

Site-Level Rules

In developing site-level disciplinary rules, the principal or designee shall solicit the participation, views, and advice of one representative selected by each of the following groups: (Education Code 35291.5)

1. Parents/guardians
2. Teachers
3. School administrators
4. School security personnel, if any
5. For junior high and high schools, students enrolled in the school

Each school shall file a copy of its rules with the Superintendent or designee.

Each school shall review its site-level discipline rules at least every four years.

It shall be the duty of each employee of the school to enforce the school rules on student discipline. (Education Code 35291)

Disciplinary Strategies

To the extent possible, staff shall use disciplinary strategies that keep students in school and participating in the instructional program. Disciplinary strategies may include, but are not limited to:

1. Discussion or conference between school staff and the student and his/her parents/guardians
2. Referral of the student to the school counselor or other school support service personnel for case management and counseling
3. Convening of a study, guidance, resource panel, or other intervention-related team to assess the behavior and develop and implement an individual plan to address the behavior in partnership with the student and his/her parents/guardians
4. When applicable, referral for a comprehensive psychosocial or psychoeducational assessment, including for purposes of creating an individualized education program or a Section 504 plan
5. Enrollment in a program for teaching prosocial behavior or anger management
6. Participation in a restorative justice program
7. A positive behavior support approach with tiered interventions that occur during the school day on campus

8. After-school programs that address specific behavioral issues or expose students to positive activities and behaviors, including, but not limited to, those operated in collaboration with local parent and community groups
9. Recess restriction as provided in the section below entitled "Recess Restriction"
10. Detention after school hours as provided in the section below entitled "Detention After School"
11. Community service as provided in the section below entitled "Community Service"
12. In accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation, restriction or disqualification from participation in extracurricular activities
13. Reassignment to an alternative educational environment
14. Suspension and expulsion in accordance with law, Board policy, and administrative regulation

Recess Restriction

A teacher may restrict a student's recess time only when he/she believes that this action is the most effective way to bring about improved behavior. When recess restriction may involve the withholding of physical activity from a student, the teacher shall try other disciplinary measures before imposing the restriction. Recess restriction shall be subject to the following conditions:

1. The student shall be given adequate time to use the restroom and get a drink or eat lunch, as appropriate.
2. The student shall remain under a certificated employee's supervision during the period of restriction.
3. Teachers shall inform the principal of any recess restrictions they impose.

Detention After School

Students may be detained for disciplinary reasons up to one hour after the close of the maximum school day. (5 CCR 353)

If a student will miss his/her school bus on account of being detained after school, or if the student is not transported by school bus, the principal or designee shall notify parents/guardians of the detention at least one day in advance so that alternative transportation arrangements may be made. The student shall not be detained unless the principal or designee notifies the parent/guardian.

In cases where the school bus departs more than one hour after the end of the school day, students may be detained until the bus departs. (5 CCR 307, 353)

Students shall remain under the supervision of a certificated employee during the period of detention.

Students may be offered the choice of serving their detention on Saturday rather than after school.

Community Service

As part of or instead of disciplinary action, the Board, Superintendent, principal, or principal's designee may, at his/her discretion, require a student to perform community service during nonschool hours on school grounds, or, with written permission of the student's parent/guardian, off school grounds. Such service may include, but is not limited to, community or school outdoor beautification, campus betterment, and teacher, peer, or youth assistance programs. (Education Code 48900.6)

This community service option is not available for a student who has been suspended, pending expulsion, pursuant to Education Code 48915. However, if the recommended expulsion is not implemented or the expulsion itself is suspended, then a student may be required to perform community service for the resulting suspension. (Education Code 48900.6)

Notice to Parents/Guardians and Students

At the beginning of the school year, the Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians, in writing, about the availability of district rules related to discipline. (Education Code 35291, 48980)

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide written notice of the rules related to discipline to transfer students at the time of their enrollment in the district.

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