Grand Rapids Public Schools

Board Policies & Rules

The policies and administrative rules of the Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, Kent County, Michigan, are the result of a combined effort of the professional staff of the Michigan Association of School Boards (MASB), the Board of Education, and the District's staff.

The staff of MASB has written the policy and rule model and integrated into that model the valid policies and procedures selected by the District at the time of the first draft. After forwarding the first draft a MASB staff member and selected staff members of the District worked in consort to edit all of the proposed policies and rules resulting in preparation of a final draft to be presented to the Board of Education.

The Board has appointed a Policy Committee to review language, laws, and the current environment to update or create a new policy.

Policy 8300: Student Discipline

Board Policies & Rules: *Section 8000: Students*

Corporal Punishment

The Board does not condone the use of force, fear, hitting, paddling, spanking, slapping, or other forms of corporal punishment as an appropriate procedure in scholar discipline punishment.

No employee, volunteer, or contractor of the District will inflict physical pain by hitting, paddling or spanking, or cause to be inflicted, corporal punishment upon a scholar as a means of punishment. Reasonable physical force may be used to maintain order and control in a school or a school-related setting for the purposes of providing an environment conducive to safety and learning.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

The Board subscribes to the philosophy of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) as recommended by the State Board of Education and set forth in the State Board of Education's Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint March 14, 2017, and expects staff will implement its practices.

Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint

As required by state law, the Board hereby adopts as its own policy and expects all employees, contractors, and vendors to comply with the State Board of Education's policy for emergency use Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint March 14, 2017, and its implementing rules, regulations, and guidelines. The Superintendent will ensure that the appropriate level of training on the emergency use of seclusion and restraint is provided to all district personnel, substitute teachers, and those who will have regular contact with scholars.

Disciplinary Measures

The Board approves of the following disciplinary measures for use in the District for those scholars violating the District's scholar code of conduct: deny participation in special school activities; before or after school detention; disciplinary contractual arrangements; out-of-school suspension; in-school suspension; expulsion; graduation ceremonies; and/or disciplinary probation.

The District's administrators may also take disciplinary action against a scholar for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the scholars and/or staff. A scholar who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other scholars or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to, a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, an assault or battery, drug law violations, or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the District will be in accordance with the scholar's appropriate due process rights.

All employees are responsible for the regulation of scholar conduct.

Approved: *June 29, 2009*
Revised: *August 21, 2017; July 29, 2024*
Adopted: *July 29, 2024*

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1311; 380.1312; Michigan State Board of Education Publication, Policy for the Emergency Use of Seclusion and Restraint, March 14, 2017. Sections 1307 through 1307h of the Revised School Code (MCL 380.1307 through 380.1307h)

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