

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Good discipline in the school is extremely important to the school program. Without good discipline the school cannot discharge its responsibility in the development of citizenship. Without good discipline students cannot realize their greatest opportunities for growth. In maintaining discipline, teachers must be able to proceed with the assurance that support will be forthcoming from the parents, the Principal, the Superintendent, and the School Board.

The school is a community with rules and regulations, and those who would enjoy the rights and privileges it provides must also accept the responsibilities that membership demands, including respect for and obedience to school rules.

Specific Expectations:

Given the broad framework, the School Board expects specifically that students will:

- Conform to reasonable standards of speech and conduct;
- Refrain from violating or impairing the rights of others;
- Not engage in any conduct that deprives other students of an orderly atmosphere for study;
- Be appreciative of the opportunity for education offered to them and regard as a privilege their attendance in the public schools.

In recognition of the students' individual rights, the Board expects school authorities to provide and maintain a suitable environment for learning. It expects that the school administration will do everything in its power to maintain and facilitate the education program so that the individual needs of each student are met to the greatest possible degree.

In order to implement these expectations, the administration has the inherent and statutory responsibility and power to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to remove that privilege of school attendance temporarily from any member of the student body whose conduct is contrary to the best interest of the whole school community.

The administration has the further responsibility to recommend to the School Board the expulsion (dismissal) from school of students for gross misconduct or for neglect or refusal to conform to the reasonable rules and regulations for the school. See RSA 193:13. The Board expects that when the privilege attendance is to be removed or curtailed for a specific period of time, the rights of the student and his/her parents will be recognized, and that provision will be made for proper procedural due process.

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In all disciplinary action teachers should be mindful of the fact they are dealing with individual personalities. A child's personality, disposition, and personal characteristics should be given consideration in prescribing disciplinary action. Each child is deserving of each teacher's very best thinking and most deliberate judgement.

Teachers should guard against making remarks to other pupils concerning a student's shortcomings.

All information concerning the pupil or his or her family background should be held in strictest confidence.

Finally, the responsibility for attendance and proper conduct in the public schools rests with the parent. The School Board recognizes its responsibility to provide whatever services and opportunities are needed to assist the parent in meeting his/her obligations, but rejects the notion that the schools can or should attempt to do this alone.

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