

## **STUDENT DISCIPLINE**

The Maryetta School Board of Education believes that the school's primary goal is to educate, not to discipline. However, education includes establishing norms of social behavior and assisting students in understanding and attaining those norms. Occasionally, corrective actions are necessary for the benefit of the individual and the school. The teacher in a public school has the same rights as a parent or guardian to control and discipline a child while the child is in attendance, in transit to or from the school, or participating in any authorized school function. Further, it is the policy of the district that students may be disciplined for any misconduct related to the programs or activities of the district. No teacher or administrator will administer formal discipline to his or her own child on behalf of the school except in cases of disruption in the classroom or common areas. Disciplinary matters concerning children of school employees will be handled by the appropriate principal or the superintendent or the superintendent's designee. The superintendent's child will be disciplined by someone other than the superintendent.

Each student shall be treated in a fair and equitable manner. Disciplinary action will be based on a careful assessment of the circumstances surrounding each infraction. The following are some examples of these circumstances:

- The seriousness of the offense;
- The effect of the offense on other students;
- Whether the offense is physically or mentally injurious to other people;
- Whether the incident is isolated or habitual behavior;
- The manifestation of a disability;
- Any other circumstances which may be appropriately considered.

Standards of behavior for all members of society are generally a matter of common sense. The following examples of behavior are not acceptable in society generally, and in a school environment particularly. The involvement of a student in the kind of behavior listed below will generally require remedial or corrective action. These examples are not intended to be exhaustive, and the exclusion or omission of unacceptable behavior is not an endorsement or acceptance of such behavior. When, in the judgment of a teacher or administrator, a student is involved or has been involved in unacceptable behavior, appropriate remedial or corrective action will be taken.

1. Excessive unexcused tardies, absences and/or truancy issues
2. Leaving school without permission
3. Using profanity, vulgar language or obscene gestures
4. Smoking / vaping / tobacco use
5. Inappropriate display of affections on school grounds
6. Stealing
7. Forgery, fraud, or embezzlement
8. Assault, physical and/or verbal
9. Fighting
10. Extortion (or taking anything from another by intimidation)
11. Hazing
12. Bullying (including electronic communication) of students, staff or school officials (see policy FNCD)
13. Distributing obscene literature
14. Destroying/defacing school property
15. Racial discrimination including racial slurs or other demeaning remarks concerning another person's race, ancestry, or country of origin and directed toward another student, an employee, or a visitor
16. Sexual harassment
17. Gang related activity or action

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Cont.)**

18. Cheating
19. Selling, giving, possessing, or delivering to another person:
  - a. Dangerous drugs or drug paraphernalia.
  - b. Marijuana or a controlled substance.
  - c. Alcoholic beverages.
  - d. Volatile chemicals.
  - e. Firearms, weapons, explosives or other items with potential to cause harm.

In administering discipline, consideration will be given to alternative methods of punishment to ensure that the most effective discipline is administered in each case. In all disciplinary action, teachers and administrators will be mindful of the fact that they are dealing with individual personalities. The faculty may consider consultation with parents to determine the most effective disciplinary measure.

In considering alternatives of corrective actions, the faculty/administration of the school district will consider those listed below. However, the school is not limited to these alternative methods, nor does this list reflect an order or sequence of events to follow in disciplinary actions. The board of education will rely upon the judgment and discretion of the administrator to determine the appropriate remedial or corrective action in each instance.

1. Verbal corrections or conference with student
2. Conference with parents
3. "time out" in classroom or removal to calming area
4. Referral to counselor
5. Behavioral contract
6. Changing student's seat assignment or class assignment
7. In-school suspension
8. Corporal Punishment (prohibited for IDEA students by 70 O.S. §13-116.)
9. Detention
10. Requiring a student to make financial restitution for damaged property
11. Requiring a student to clean or straighten items or facilities damaged by the student's behavior
12. Restriction of privileges
13. Involvement of local authorities
14. Referring student to appropriate social agency
15. Out of School Suspension
16. Other appropriate disciplinary action as required and as indicated by the circumstances which may include, but is not limited to, removal from eligibility to participate or attend extracurricular activities as well as removal from the privilege of attending or participating in the graduation ceremony, school dances, Service & Leadership Club, Jr. Advisory Board, and/or class trips.

Parents, guardians, and students enrolled in this school district shall be notified at the beginning of each school year that this policy is in effect. A copy of this policy will be made available on the school district website or upon request to parents or guardians at any time during the school year.

Parents, guardians, and students residing in this school district are also advised by means of this policy statement and by the student handbook that students in this district shall have no reasonable expectation of privacy rights towards school officials, in school lockers, desks, or other school property. School personnel shall have access to school lockers, desks, and other school property at any time and no reason shall be necessary for such search. Student property may be searched with reasonable suspicion.

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE (Cont.)**

Teachers, parents, guardians, and students are invited and encouraged to participate in the formulation of disciplinary policies, rules, and regulations by suggesting to administrators appropriate means of discipline for specific infractions.

**REFERENCE:** 10 O.S. §7115  
70 O.S. §6-114  
70 O.S. §24-101.3

*THIS POLICY REQUIRED BY LAW.*