

Descriptor Term:

JCD

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

ISSUE DATE: **1-5-04**

REVISED: **6-20-11**

In implementing conduct and personal appearance regulations, it should be kept in mind that the primary responsibility for the conduct and personal appearance of a student rests with the student and the parents. Every effort should be made to impress upon the students and the parents that discipline and order can only be maintained in the school when the school is not used as a vehicle for disruptive influences. In carrying out school regulations, students, parents, teachers and the administrative staff should observe the following:

1. Administrators and teachers shall hold students to strict account for disorderly conduct or misconduct at any school, on the way to and from school, on the playgrounds during recess, at school meetings, programs, functions and activities, and upon school buses. The Superintendent or principal/school administrator of any school may suspend any pupil from school for good cause.

Any suspension of student for more than five (5) days shall be forwarded to the Superintendent and Board of Education for review.

2. The superintendent or the principal/school administrator of a school shall have the power to suspend a pupil for any reason for which such pupil might be suspended, dismissed or expelled by the Board of Education, but such action of the superintendent or principal shall be subject to review by and the approval or disapproval of the Board of Education. The following steps should be followed by the parents should they wish to appeal a decision made by the administrator: Step 1 - appeal to the Assistant Superintendent for the Attendance Center. Step 2 - appeal to the Superintendent. Step 3 - appeal to the School Board.

3. Courts have ruled that teachers must maintain their effectiveness and respect in order to perform their duties as a teacher. The effectiveness and respect must be maintained on or off the school premises and during or after school hours. (ref. MS Code 37-11-21)

4. The School Safety Act of 2001 provides a procedure for disciplining students whose behavior, as determined by the principal or designated administrator of each school, seriously interferes with the school environment as defined by the Act. The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement this procedure in the Jackson County School District. These provisions of the School Safety Act of 2001 are cumulative and in addition to existing district discipline procedures.

The superintendent or principals are authorized to institute appropriate disciplinary action including immediate suspension and/or recommendation for expulsion, if warranted, of any student for disorderly conduct or misconduct including but not limited to, the following:

Descriptor Term:

JCD

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

ISSUE DATE: **1-5-04**
REVISED: **6-20-11**

- a. Fighting
- b. Disorderly conduct
- c. Harassment, intimidation or threats
- d. Disruption of school operations, functions, purposes or activities
- e. Disobedience
- f. Disrespect
- g. Insubordination
- h. Insulting language
- i. Insulting behavior
- j. Obscene Language or Gestures
- k. Vandalism
- l. Malicious mischief
- m. Theft or damage to Public or Private Property. Restitution shall be made within a reasonable period of time. If restitution is not made, students will not be allowed to attend school until complete restitution is made, the days missed will be unexcused, and work missed cannot be made up.
- n. Unauthorized use of school property
- o. Unauthorized entry of school premises
- p. Loitering
- q. Use of tobacco
- r. Student attempting to sell or distribute an object or substance which has not been authorized for sale or distribution by the administration.
- s. Public display of affection
- t. Chewing gum on campus

Possession of:

- a. Fireworks, explosives or incendiary materials
- b. Knives, firearms, slingshots, or any item which would readily lend itself for the use as a weapon
- c. Pornographic materials
- d. Contraceptives
- e. Stolen property
- f. Tobacco
- g. Cards or gambling paraphernalia
- h. Noise making devices (this includes radios, tape players, and televisions)
- i. Other disruptive materials
- j. Other materials, possession of which is punishable by law
- k. Chewing gum
- l. All of the above will apply to students who are transported on a school bus

- 5. Students will be recommended for expulsion for the remainder of the semester for the following offenses:
 - a. Use of alcoholic beverages
 - b. Under the influence of alcoholic beverages

Descriptor Term:

JCD

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

ISSUE DATE: **1-5-04**
REVISED: **6-20-11**

- c. Use of illegal drugs
- d. Under the influence of illegal drugs
- e. Possession of illegal drugs
- f. Possession of alcoholic beverages
- g. Possession of drug paraphernalia
- h. Indecent exposure
- i. Public indecent displays or actions (including in cars parked in the vicinity of any school building or activity).

Any student who brings a firearm to school shall be expelled from school or placed in the Alternative School for a period of not less than one calendar year.

6. Student Search and Seizure -- Courts have ruled that teachers and school administrators are "in loco parentis" of students. This means that teachers and administrators are acting in place of parents during the school day and may do anything a parent would do to maintain discipline. In addition, school officials must protect all students from possible harm. Therefore, courts have ruled that school officials may conduct searches of students when there is reasonable suspicion that the student might possess items that might harm themselves, or other students (drugs or drug paraphernalia, alcohol, weapons, stolen items, tobacco, or any other items that might cause harm to the student or other students). These court rulings were made in order to protect all students from possible harm. "Emerging First and Fourth Amendment Rights of the Student," 1 J. Law and Education 449, 451 (1972). "In re Donaldson" 269 Cal. App. 2nd 509, 75 Cal. Rptr. 220 (1969) "Mercer v. State" 450 S.W. 2nd 715 (1970).

7. A student who is recommended for expulsion will be suspended out of school a minimum of three (3) days or until a hearing is held before the school board. The parent has three (3) days in which to contact the superintendent's office to request to be placed on the agenda.

Should a student who is recommended for expulsion be placed on probation by the school board, the probationary period will be determined by the school board.

The student may be represented at such hearing by counsel of his/her choice. The hearing will be closed to the public to protect the student from adverse effects of any disclosure made at such a hearing.

8. Other disciplinary action may consist of corporal punishment under existing school policy, loss of privileges, lower grade in citizenship, denial of participation in school activities, probation, or a combination of one or more of such actions, including appropriate constructive assignments, depending on the seriousness and circumstances of the offense and the attitude of the student.

Descriptor Term:

JCD

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

ISSUE DATE: **1-5-04**

REVISED: **6-20-11**

As a result of the violence and numerous shootings that have taken place nationally on school campuses, the Jackson County School District feels that it must take action to prevent an incident of this nature from occurring in our district. The following actions will be taken with students making threats to do bodily harm on a school campus or at a school function:

1. Students making threats, to other students, teachers, administrators, other school personnel or in the community that they would like to do bodily harm to someone on the school campus or at a school function will be reported to the sheriff's department. Students making these threats will be recommended to the school board for expulsion. Before the student returns to school, he/she will need to provide school officials with documentation that he/she has undergone counseling and/or psychological evaluation and that he/she poses no threat to students or school personnel.
2. Students who hear other students making threats to do bodily harm to students, teachers, administrators or other school personnel are encouraged to report this to a teacher or a school administrator. The names of students making such reports will be kept in confidence.

School personnel are aware of the unwritten code that you do not "tattle" on a fellow student, but feel that, when the lives of one or more students, teachers, administrators or other school personnel are threatened, this code does not apply. Students who withhold such information could face disciplinary action.

Legal Reference: MS Code Section 37-11-29
Elementary and Secondary Education School Act of 1965
Amendment (Gun-Free School Act)