

Student Discipline

Introduction/Philosophy/Purpose

The Board of the Green Mountain School District focuses on the educational achievement of each and every student. The District holds high expectations for all students and gives all students the opportunity to achieve personal and academic success. "Discipline" means any action taken by the school district in response to behavioral violations, including exclusionary as well as positive and supportive forms of discipline. The Board intends that this policy and procedure be implemented in a manner that supports positive school climate, maximizes instructional time, and increases equitable educational opportunities.

The purposes of this policy and accompanying procedure include:

- Engaging with school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community in decisions related to the development and implementation of discipline policies and procedures;
- Supporting students in meeting behavioral expectations, including providing for early involvement of parents
- Administering discipline in ways that respond to the needs and strengths of students and keep students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible
- Providing educational services that students need to continue
- Facilitating collaboration between school personnel, students, parents, and families to support successful reentry into the classroom following a suspension or expulsion
- Ensuring fairness, equity, and due process in the administration of discipline
- Providing every student the opportunity to achieve personal and academic success
- Providing a safe environment for all students and for district employees

Rights and Responsibilities/District Commitment

The Board recognizes the negative and disproportionate impact of exclusionary discipline practices and is committed to:

- Identifying and addressing discipline policies and practices that perpetuate educational opportunity gaps;
- Proactively implementing discipline practices that support students in meeting behavioral expectations without losing access to instruction;

The District will observe students' fundamental rights and will administer discipline in a manner that does not:

1. Unlawfully discriminate against a student on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal;
2. Deprive a student of the student's constitutional right to freedom of speech and press, the constitutional right to peaceably assemble and to petition the government and its representatives for a redress of grievances, the constitutional right to the free exercise of religion and to have the student's school free from sectarian control or influence, subject to reasonable limitations upon the time, place, and manner of exercising the right;
3. Deprive a student of the student's constitutional right to be secure in the student's person, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures;
4. Unlawfully interfere in a student's pursuit of an education while in the custody of the school district; or
5. Deprive a student of the student's right to an equal educational opportunity, in whole or in part, by a school district without due process of law.

This District's student discipline policy and procedure is designed to provide students with a safe, healthy, and educationally sound environment. Students are expected to be aware of and comply with this policy and procedure, including behavioral expectations that respect the rights, person, and property of others. Students are also expected to pursue the required course of studies. Students and staff are expected to work together to develop a positive climate for learning.

Development and review

Accurate and complete reporting of all disciplinary actions, including the behavioral violations that led to them, and other forms of discipline the district considered or attempted, is essential for effective review of this policy; therefore, the district will ensure such reporting.

The district will collect and review data on disciplinary actions administered in each school, as required by RCW [28A.300.042](#), and any additional data required under other district policies and procedures.

The District will invite school personnel, students, parents, families, and community to participate in the data review at least annually to develop and/or review building discipline standards. At each district school, principals and certificated staff will develop procedures for administering discipline at their school.

School principals will ensure teachers and other school personnel receive adequate support to effectively implement a continuum of best practices and strategies that:

1. Focus on prevention to reduce the use of exclusionary discipline practices;
2. Allow the exercise of professional judgment and skill sets; and
3. May be adapted to individual student needs in a culturally responsive manner.

School principals will confer with school personnel at least annually to review student data and establish needed school wide training for SEL, culturally responsive teaching, etc.

The District will periodically review and further develop this policy and procedure with the participation of school personnel, students, parents, families, and the community. As part of this development and review process, the district will use disaggregated data collected under RCW [28A.300.042](#) to monitor the impact of student discipline practices as well as to improve fairness and equity in the administration of student discipline. Discipline data will be disaggregated school, subgroups as required by RCW 28A.300.042 including students who qualify for special education or Section 504. The data review will include classroom exclusions, in-school and short-term suspensions, and long-term suspension and expulsions.

The District will ensure it reviews disaggregated discipline data in accordance with WAC 392-190-048 at least annually.

Schools will share identified goals and action plans with all staff, students, parents, families, and the community.

Distribution of policies and procedures

The District will make the current version of this policy and procedure available to families, community, and all District personnel. The District will ensure district employees and contractors are knowledgeable of this student discipline policy and procedure. Schools will ensure all school personnel are knowledgeable of the school building discipline standards. Schools are encouraged to provide discipline training developed under RCW [28A.415.410](#) to support implementation of this policy and procedure to all school staff as feasible.

Application

This policy and accompanying procedure will be construed in a manner consistent with Washington law as stated in WAC 392-400-020.

Cross References:	2121 - Substance Abuse Program 2161 - Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students 2162 - Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 3200 - Rights and Responsibilities 3122 - Excused and Unexcused Absences 3210 - Nondiscrimination 3244 - Prohibition of Corporal Punishment 4210 - Regulation of Dangerous Weapons on School Premises
Legal References:	RCW 9A.16.100 Use of force on children – Policy – Actions presumed unreasonable RCW 9A.41.280 Possessing dangerous weapons on school facilities — Penalty — Exceptions RCW 28A.150.240 Certificated teaching and administrative staff as accountable for classroom teaching — Scope — Responsibilities — Penalty Chapter 28A.225, RCW Compulsory school attendance and admission Chapter 28A.320, RCW Provisions applicable to all districts RCW 28A.400.100 Principals and vice principals — Employment of — Qualifications — Duties RCW 28A.400.110 Principal to assure appropriate student discipline — Building discipline standards — Classes to improve classroom management skills Chapter 28A.600 RCW, Students WAC 392-190-048 Access to course offerings – Student discipline Chapter 392-400 WAC, Student Discipline 34 CFR Part 100.3 Regulations implementing Civil Rights Act of 1964 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq. Civil Rights Act of 1964
Management Resources:	2019 – April Policy Alert 2018 - August Issue 2016 - July Issue 2014 - December Issue 2014 - August Issue 2010 - June Issue