



2020-2021

# STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

SAINT LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS





**Kelvin R. Adams, Ph. D**  
Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parent/Legal Guardian:

Welcome to the 2020-2021 school year. We know you have many choices when selecting a school and we appreciate your decision to enroll your child in the Saint Louis Public School District.

Providing a safe learning environment for all students is one of the highest priorities for the Saint Louis Public School District. In order to help us reach this goal, we ask you to please review the 2020-2021 Parent Information Guide & Student Code of Conduct. This guide provides important information for parents and students regarding the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community and outlines the expectations for student behavior that will result in a safe, positive and supportive learning environment.

After you have reviewed this guide with your child, please sign and date the enclosed Student and Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) Acknowledgement form on page 3 and return it to your child's school.

The 2020-2021 Parent Information Guide & Student Code of Conduct is yours to keep and refer to as needed throughout the school year. An electronic copy of the guide is available on the District's website at [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org) under the Parents & Students tab.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in helping to make your child's school a safe and secure place for learning.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kelvin R. Adams".

Kelvin R. Adams, Ph. D.  
Superintendent of Schools



# Student and Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s) Affidavit

Dear Students and Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s):

The St. Louis Public Schools' is committed to provide a safe school environment. Please review this Parent Information Guide and Student Code of Conduct in order to help us achieve this goal. Please sign the affidavit below-and return to your child's classroom teacher. This document acknowledges your receipt of this information for which every St. Louis Public School student is responsible. Thank you for your cooperation in helping make our schools safe places for learning.

## Purpose of the Student Code of Conduct

- Create a consistent set of expectations for student behavior
- Reinforce positive behavior and provide students with opportunities to develop appropriate social skills
- Outline interventions and consequences for students who engage in inappropriate behavior
- Explain the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community
- Engage students in a safe, positive and supportive learning environment

## Student Pledge

- I pledge to be in attendance and on time for class everyday.
- I pledge to be safe, responsible, and respectful and prepared.
- I pledge to be a problem solver.
- I pledge to work hard, do my best, and be proud of myself.
- I pledge to be engaged in my child's learning.

## Parent/Guardian Pledge

- I pledge my child will be in attendance and on time for class every day.
- I pledge to teach my child to be safe, responsible, respectful, and prepared.
- I pledge to be a responsible advocate for my child.
- I pledge to be engaged in my child's learning.
- I pledge to support my child in following the Student Code of Conduct.
- By signing this pledge, I understand and accept the responsibility of the Student Code of Conduct, for as long as I am a parent in the Saint Louis Public School District.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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District policies are approved by the Board of Education to govern the school district. Policies assist with day to day district operation of the school district. Policy can be accessed through SLPS District's website. [www.slps.org/Page/6](http://www.slps.org/Page/6)

## **St. Louis Public School District Vision Statement**

St. Louis Public Schools is the district of choice for families in the St. Louis region that provides a world-class education and is nationally recognized as a leader in student achievement and teacher quality.

## **St. Louis Public School District Mission Statement**

We will provide a quality education for all students and enable them to realize their full intellectual potential.

## **St. Louis Public School District Core Values**

**Students First.** Regardless of the situation, students are our singular focus. As members of SLPS, we have an intense and enduring commitment to doing what is in the best interest of our students at all times. As a result, we will remain focused on creating the best high-quality options for our students.

**People Matter.** Educating students is a people business. It takes a level of commitment, concern and care from all of us to ensure that the people who impact the lives of our students are truly valued, respected and cared for as professionals. We value and pride ourselves on being an organization that demands more for its people because we know it takes more. Yet, we are equally as willing and demanding of ourselves to give more to support the growth and development of the people who make an invaluable investment in the lives of our students.

**Data-Driven Decisions.** We strive to be a learning organization. To do so, we will continue to evaluate where we are as a district based on data. Our commitment to objective interpretations of our progress, shortcomings, and overall orientation only ignites our passion for making the best decisions for our children.

# Important Telephone Numbers

St. Louis Public Schools • 801 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St. • St. Louis, MO 63101 • (314) 231-3720

Other pertinent phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the district's website [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org)

A+ Coordinator: (314) 345-2315

Athletic Administrator: (314) 345-4405

Career & Technical Education: (314) 345-4531

Dropout Recruiter: (314) 345-4424

Early Childhood: (314) 331-6150

Enrollment Information: (314) 633-5200

ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program: (314) 664-1066

Family and Community Engagement: (314) 345-4490

Parent Concerns: (314) 345-2480 or 345-4573

Food Services: (314) 345-2308

Gifted & Talented: (314) 345-4548

Homeless and Foster Care Services: (314) 345-5750

Human Resources: (314) 345-2379

Innovative Pathways: (314) 345-4575

Magnet and Choice Schools: (314) 633-5200

School Safety & Security: (314) 865-2020

SLPS Hotline for School and Community Safety:

Local: (314) 241-SLPS (7577)

Toll free: 1-866-610-SLPS (7557)

Special Education: (314) 633-5344

Student Recruitment and Placement Office: (314) 633-5200

Student/Transcripts Office: (314) 645-2648

Transportation:

(314) 389-2202 for changes

(314) 633-5106 for bus concerns or bus issues

(314) 772-3184 for bus status for all routes that begin with 1000

(314) 389-1111, ext. 1 for bus status for all routes that begin with 2000

Volunteer Services: (314) 345-4577 or (314) 345-4554



**Saint Louis Public School District**  
**2020-2021 Academic Year Calendar**  
**08/24/2020 through 06/03/2021 - FINAL**

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	Day	July 2020	Days	Hours
28	29	30	1	2	H	4	6	1st day 2020 Summer School (Session 1)		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	31	Last day 2020 Summer School (Session 1)		
11	13	14	15	16	17	18		11.5-Month Staff Returns to Work 07/16/2020		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		11 -Month Staff Returns to Work 08/03/2020		
26	27	28	29	30	31			Session 1-July 6-31 Credit Recovery/Missouri & US Constitution/CPR 9th -12th		
						1		<b>August 2020</b>	Days	Hours
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		10.5-Month Staff Returns to Work 08/10/2020		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		10 -Month Staff Returns to Work 08/17/2020		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	3	Session 2 - Literacy Aug. 3-14		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	14	Session 3 - Academic Gear-Up Aug. 3-14 PK4, 6th, 7th, 8th		
30	31						17	Site-Based PD		
							18-19	District PD		
							20-21	Classroom Prep	6	
							24	First Class Day for All Students		
								<b>September 2020</b>	Days	Hours
		1	2	3	4	5	7	Holiday-Labor Day; District Closed		
6	H	8	9	10	11	12	18	Interim Progress Reports for Quarter 1		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	Site-Based PD	20	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26				
27	28	29	30							
				1	2	3		<b>October 2020</b>	Days	Hours
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	16	Quarter 1 ends		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	19	Second Quarter begins		
18	SQ	20/PTC	21/PTC	22	23	24	20-21	Parent-Teacher Conferences		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			22	
								<b>November 2020</b>	Days	Hours
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		Election Day - Site-based PD; no students		
8	9	10	H	12	13	14	3	Veteran's Day		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	11	Interim Progress Reports for Quarter 2		
22	23	24	NS*	H	H	28	13	*No School for non 12-month staff /Schools Closed		
29	30						25	Holiday-Thanksgiving; District Closed	16	
							26-27			
		1	2	3	4	5		<b>December 2020</b>	Days	Hours
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	18	Record Keeping		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	21 - 31	Winter Break - no school, school staff only; 12-month works		
20	WB	WB	WB	H	H	26	24-25	Holiday - District Closed	13	
27	WB	WB	WB	WB						
					H	2		<b>January 2021</b>	Days	Hours
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	Holiday-New Year's Day; District Closed		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	4	Classes resume; third quarter begins		
17	H	19	20	21	22	23	15	Site-Based PD		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	18	Holiday- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; District Closed	18	
31										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>February 2021</b>	Days	Hours
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	12	Interim Progress Reports for Quarter 3		
14	H	16	17	18	19	20	12	Site-Based PD/District Based PD		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	15	Holiday-Presidents' Day; District Closed	18	
28										
		1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>March 2021</b>	Days	Hours
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	12	Quarter 3 ends		
14	15	16/PTC	17/PTC	18	19	20	16-17	Parent-Teacher Conferences		
21	SB	SB	SB	SB	SB	27	22-26	Spring Break	17	
28	29	30	31				29	Fourth Quarter Begins		
							19	Site-Based PD		
				1	2	3		<b>April 2021</b>	Days	Hours
4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17				
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			22	
25	26	27	28	29	30					
						1		<b>May 2021</b>	Days	Hours
2	3	4	5	6	7	8				
9	10	11	12	13	14	15				
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	31	Memorial Day		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29				
30	H								20	
		1	2	3	4	5		<b>June 2021</b>	Days	Hours
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	Last Day of School for Students		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	4	Record Keeping	3	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	7	Summer School PD		
27	28	29	30				8	Classroom Preparation		
							9	First Day of Summer School		
								Last Day for 10-Month Employees 06/04/2021		
								Last Day for 10.5-Month Employees 06/11/2021		
								Last Day for 11-Month Employees 06/18/2021		
								Last Day for 11.5-Month Employees 06/30/2021		
				1	2	3		<b>July 2021</b>	Days	Hours
4	H	6	7	8	9	10	2	Last Day of Summer School		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	4	Holiday-Independence Day; District Closed		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31			175	

8 Professional Development  
 2 Classroom Prep  
 2 Record Days

175 Student Days  
 210 Teacher Days

# Enrollment Procedures

The Offices of Student Recruitment and Student Placement looks forward to assisting families interested in attending a St. Louis Magnet, Choice or Neighborhood school. For more information regarding the enrollment process, please call (314) 633-5200.

Parents will need the following information to enroll their child(ren)

- Your child's birth certificate
- Your child's immunization records
- Your child's school transcripts or most recent report card
- Proof of St. Louis City residency (i.e. current unpaid utility bill, lease or deed, or copy of personal property tax)

To enroll your child in a Neighborhood School for grades K-12 (not Early Childhood or Magnet/Choice Schools), please call (314) 633-5200.

To enroll your child in our Early Childhood Program, please call (314) 331-6150.

To enroll a child who speaks/understands a language other than English, please call the ESOL Office (314) 664-1066.

For Magnet and Choice School Information, please visit [www.slpsmagnetschools.org](http://www.slpsmagnetschools.org) for information about how to apply for the 2021-2021 or 2021-2022 school years.

For more information or to schedule your child's gifted testing, please call the Office of Gifted & Talented at (314) 345-2435.

## Parental/Guardian Involvement and Communication

### District Communication

The District is committed to keeping parents and guardians informed about activities and events that take place during the school year. SLPS utilizes an automated phone system, printed parent/guardian letters, text messages, emails, website postings, social media messaging and broadcast media outlets to share information.

Parents/Guardians may sign up for District emails and receive Twitter and Facebook addresses by visiting the District website at [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org).

School closing information due to inclement weather will be posted first on the homepage of the District website before local television and radio stations are contacted.

**Parents/guardians are encouraged to make sure their child's school has the most current contact information to ensure they receive all important messages in a timely manner.** Parental contact information includes home phone number, parent cell phone numbers and emergency phone contact information, along with email addresses, if applicable.

### Parent Communication/Involvement with the School

Below are suggestions to maximize the communication with your child's school.

- Attend Open House - This is a great way to begin a relationship with your child's teachers. It gives you the opportunity to meet the teacher(s) during positive circumstances, understand the procedures of the classes and school, and learn about the expectation teachers have set for students.

- Assemble Staff Phone Numbers - Create a phone list of all-important contacts in the school - front office, grade level office, attendance contact, teachers, and other support personnel.
- Assemble Staff email addresses - Teachers sometimes have difficulty returning phone calls because of their schedules. Email can be a great way to keep in contact with your child's teachers for academic progress and behavior updates.
- Attend school and district conferences - We encourage you to make an appointment for a conference to speak with your child's teachers.
- Join your parent organization to participate in decision making.
- Volunteer at your child's school to support successful activities/events.

### **Office of Family and Community Engagement**

The Office of Family and Community Engagement coordinates valuable efforts with parents and students of the St. Louis Public Schools. Family and Community Specialists facilitate parent involvement, which is designed to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student development.

The purpose of the Family and Community Specialist is to assist families:

- establish a home environment that supports children as students
- promote effective communication between schools and homes
- recruit and organize parental involvement and support
- provide information and ideas to enhance learning at home
- involve parents as leaders and representatives in the school's decision-making process
- identify and integrate community resources to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student development

### **Parental Concerns**

1. Contact school based staff member or the Family Community Specialist to schedule an appointment
2. Contact the school administrative staff (assistant principal or principal)
3. Contact the Parent Concern office (314) 345- 4490

Note: The procedures outlined here are not to be used for resolving complaints that are specifically governed by other existing federal, state or local regulations, including but not limited to student suspensions and expulsions, employee grievances, special education appeals, FERPA, or ADA.

### **Parent Action Council (PAC) District –Wide Parent Organization**

The Parent Action Council (PAC) will serve as a district parental involvement organization. In partnership with the Office of Family and Community Engagement, the Parent Action Council will consist of three parent representatives from each St. Louis Public School. The Parent Action Council will conduct monthly meetings to implement *Keys to Successful Partnerships: Six Types of Involvement*.

- Vision: The Parent Action Council of St. Louis Public Schools is to act as a district parental involvement organization that helps provide effective collaboration among families, schools and the community to support student academic development.
- Mission: The Parent Action Council of St. Louis Public Schools is to serve all St. Louis Public Schools families as a sounding board and action network regarding federal, state, city and district policies, procedures, programs, and personnel matters concerning student education and achievement.

The Parent Action Council may be reached by calling (314) 345-5722 or emailing [pac@slps.org](mailto:pac@slps.org).

## **Uniform/Dress Code Expectation**

School site shall develop a Uniform/Dress Code Procedure in partnership with students, parent(s)/legal guardian(s), and school personnel. The Dress Code Procedure will support a positive school culture by identifying attire that promotes school safety and student health. In all cases the school principal or designee shall inform the student, parent(s)/legal guardian(s), and school community of the school Uniform/Dress Code Procedure. All students and parent(s)/legal guardian(s) are expected to follow the written procedure.

### **Procedures for Correcting Inappropriate Attire:**

School principals and staff should uniformly apply the following procedures for occurrences in which students wear inappropriate attire. School staff must not remove the student from the instructional process or school environment. Staff will direct students to correct inappropriate attire.

If the inappropriate attire cannot be corrected immediately, staff may take the following steps:

- Parent Contact
- Refer student to the counselor or social worker
- Removal of Privileges (school and classroom)
- Behavior contract with recognition system

## **Attendance Expectation**

Statute 167.031, RSMO, states that any parent, guardian or other person having custody or control of a child between the ages of seven (7) and seventeen (17), must ensure that the child is enrolled and regularly attends public, private, parochial school, home school or a combination of schools for the full term of the school year.

- The term “compulsory attendance age for the district” shall mean seventeen (17) years of age.
- Children between the ages of five (5) and seven (7) are not required to enroll in school. However, if they are enrolled in a public school their parent or guardian must ensure they regularly attend.

The only exception to the attendance regulation shall be the enumerated extenuating circumstances that are verified and excused by the school. Students shall be temporarily excused from that attendance regulation for the following reasons:

- Hospitalization - Extended hospital stay as verified by a discharge statement
- Student illness - Personal, physical, or emotional illness or extended recuperation from an accident as verified by a physician, dentist, or nurse practitioner as verified by one of the following:
  - Contagious with documentation from doctor/nurse practitioner
  - Physician’s note with recommended time of absence
  - Physician’s note with statement of chronic/intermittent illness
  - 504 plan which addresses chronic/intermittent illness and accommodations
- Head lice - limited to one day (pending return lice check by school nurse)
- Observance of special and recognized holidays of the student’s own faith as documented by a parent letter (in first language) and verified by calendar of religious holidays by ESOL Program
- Documented family emergency
- Agency required meeting (e.g. Court dates, Children’s Division Family Support Meeting, Immigration for ESOL)

The student's parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must make a formal appeal to the building principal for extenuating circumstances.

The only other exception to the attendance regulations shall be other absences that are verified by the Principal or his/her designee as stated below:

- Prior school system-approved travel for education
- Death in the family (not to exceed one week)
- Natural catastrophe and/or disaster

Students shall not be excused from school to work any job, unless it is part of an approved instructional program.

The days absent for elementary and secondary school students shall include temporarily excused absences, unexcused absences, and suspensions.

**Make-up Work:**

- Students who are verified as meeting extenuating circumstances, and eligible to receive grades, shall not receive those grades if they are unable to complete make-up work or pass the course.
- Students participating in school-approved field trips or other instructional activities that necessitate their being away from school shall be considered to be present and shall be given the opportunity to make up work.
- Students shall be considered temporarily excused from school for personal illness, serious illness in the family, death in the family (not to exceed one week), or for recognized religious holidays of the student's own faith and shall be given the opportunity to make up work.

**Notification of Absence or Tardy:**

- The parent shall notify the school administrative offices and the school nurse when it becomes necessary for a student to remain at home for health reasons. The student shall bring a signed statement from the parent(s)/guardian(s) giving the reason for the student's absence when the student returns to school. Other documentation may be required as outlined above (i.e. physician's letter, discharge statement, court document, etc.)
- The parent or guardian shall provide a written reason for the tardiness when a student is late to school.
- The school will contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) when a student is absent or tardy and the school has not been notified by the parent(s)/guardian(s) as to the reason for the absence

When a student is absent for three (3) consecutive days (unexcused or unexplained absences) or has 3-5 total absences, the school shall prepare and send a 1<sup>st</sup> letter to parent(s)/guardian(s). Additional absences, excused and/or unexcused, shall be addressed in the following manner:

- 6-9 absences = 2<sup>nd</sup> parent letter
- 10 or more absences = 3<sup>rd</sup> parent letter and notification to the Missouri Division of Children's Services, Juvenile Court and/or City Court.

The parents of absent students shall be contacted by the social worker. The school social worker shall enlist the cooperation of the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and make every reasonable effort to help the student improve attendance and/or punctuality. Excessive absenteeism and tardiness may be a sufficient reason for disciplinary action, including exclusion from participation in extracurricular activities, referral to community support agencies, other family support community based agencies and/or referral to Juvenile Court, City Court and/or the Missouri Division of Children's Services.



## **National School Lunch Program/School Breakfast Program**

Saint Louis Public Schools (SLPS) continues to operate the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) Program under the United States Department of Agriculture Department (USDA) and Missouri Department of Elementary, and Secondary Education (DESE). The intent of the CEP Program is to improve access to free school meals in eligible high poverty Learning Education Agency (LEA) and schools and to eliminate the collection of family applications. Through the CEP Program, St. Louis Public Schools provides all SLPS students the opportunity to receive a free breakfast and lunch meal as well as an afterschool snack.

To ensure all students start their day with a healthy meal the District implemented new alternative breakfast programs: Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC), Grab 'n' Go Carts and the Second Chance Programs. These programs provide students more opportunities to access free meals during the day. The BIC is offered in all elementary schools. The Grab 'n' Go Carts and the Second Chance Program have been added to all elementary, middle and high schools.

SLPS has included the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) operated by the Missouri Department Health and Senior Services (MDHSS). The CACFP features an Afterschool Program, which enables any student to eat a free snack and/or supper.

For more information about the Food and Nutrition Services Department please contact [\(314\) 345-4519](tel:3143454519) or [\(314\) 345-2308](tel:3143452308). For additional information pertaining to healthy eating, monthly menus and promotions. Go to [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org), **Click on Parent and Student Tab, Go to Food and Nutrition Services.**

For your convenience the Health and Wellness Policy is located on the SLPS District webpage at [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org), **Click on Parent and Student Tab, Go to Health and Wellness.** If you have questions contact the Food and Nutrition Services Department at contact [\(314\) 345-4519](tel:3143454519) or [\(314\) 345-2308](tel:3143452308).

### **Special Dietary Needs**

Students needing a special food plan or those students with specific food allergies must have a completed OHS 18 (Prescription for Special Diet). This form can be acquired from your School Nurse or by going to [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org), **Parents and Students, Student Health.** A medical provider's signature and Parent signature are both required. A food allergy action plan as well as prescribed medications (e.g. Benadryl, epi pens) should be provided to the school health office for Students with life threatening food allergies. These medications require the completion of the OHS 14 (Authorization for Administration of Medication), which is filled out by Parent and Doctor. Note that the medications must contain a prescription label and be in their original container. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) should contact your School Nurse or the Nurse Coordinator of Health Services at [\(314\) 345-4401](tel:3143454401).

For a listing of schools and their phone numbers, please visit the district website at [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org). Once you reach the school, ask for the School Nurse.

# Early Childhood Education

**Our mission** is to ensure that all SLPS Pre-Kg students are ready for kindergarten and beyond.

## Values

- All children can learn, regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, or gender
- Learning begins at birth.
- Parents must be included in the education process.
- Competent, caring, and properly supported teachers are essential to student learning.
- The community must be involved in encouraging high achievement for all children.
- The St. Louis Public Schools are committed to helping students overcome any obstacles hindering their learning by forming partnerships throughout the school community.

## Goals

- To promote the social and emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development of children from birth to preschool age.
- To involve each family in developmentally appropriate activities that lead to the improvement of every child's developmental skills.
- To involve parents, children, staff and community partners in sharing and planning experiences that strengthen the connections between homes and schools.
- To provide access to learning for all 3 and 4 year-olds who reside in Saint Louis City.

## Enrollment

Registration for the SLPS Pre-Kg program begins in early February for the following school year. For more information, call (314) 331-6150 or refer to [Slps.org/Early Childhood Education](http://Slps.org/Early Childhood Education).

Families must bring ALL of the following documents to receive a school assignment at registration. Please note, your registration process cannot begin until ALL required documents have been submitted to the ECE Office.

- Official state issued birth certificate, or a passport that includes a raised seal.
- Parent/Legal Guardian Identification – valid government issued identification or passport.
- Proof of Residency – must be a St. Louis city resident with current utility bill in your name, for your present address (from Ameren, Spire, or City of St. Louis Water Division). District employees must also meet residency requirements.
- Proof of Annual Income – one of the following: current Tax Return; W-2, SSI letter or statement; SSA budget/benefit verification letter; TANF letter; or most current Food Stamp Budget Summary that includes your income (*even if it indicates a \$0.00 cash benefit*).
- Current Immunization Record or exempt card for your child, within the last year.
- Proof of child's current Health Insurance, if applicable.
- Current Physical – completed by child's physician, including lead and hemoglobin numeric results, within the last year.
- Current Dental Form completed by the child's dentist, within the last year.

## ECE Curriculum Information

The ECE curriculum of St. Louis Public Schools shall provide formal study in the core academic areas. The curriculum areas include communication arts (English), mathematics, social studies, and science. The curriculum will also present opportunities for students to develop specific talents and interests in the performing arts, practical arts, vocational or technical education, and other fields. While there will be considerable opportunity for inventiveness and creativity in the teaching and learning process, the overall curriculum will be common throughout the school system to ensure continuity of learning.

The curriculum is the sum total of students' sequential education experiences, guided by Missouri Early Learning Standards and the goals and objectives of Project Construct. The curriculum recognizes a child's differences in ability, rates of development and learning styles.

The written curriculum for each subject area and/or individual course shall be approved by the Board of Education and reflect the board's major priority to improve academic achievement. The curriculum shall reflect the recommendations contained within the board approved strategic plan. The district will assess, monitor, and revise the curriculum based upon the educational needs of the students.

SLPS Pre-Kg classrooms implement Project Construct, which is *an early childhood curriculum framework where teachers encourage* each child to actively construct their own knowledge and values as a result of their interactions with the physical and social worlds. Our classrooms also plan individual and group activities aligned to the Missouri Early Learning standards and the district's supplemented curriculum.

SLPS has adopted the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's recommended assessment called Desired Results Developmental Profile known as the "DRDP." DRDP is a formative assessment instrument for young children and families, used to inform instruction and program development.

For additional information, please visit

- SLPS Curriculum Overview: [http://sab.slps.org/Board\\_Education/policies/6140.htm](http://sab.slps.org/Board_Education/policies/6140.htm)
- Project Construct: [projectconstruct.org](http://projectconstruct.org)
- Desired Results Developmental Profile (DRDP): [desiredresults.us](http://desiredresults.us)
- Center for Collaborative Classroom (CCC): [collaborativeclassroom.org](http://collaborativeclassroom.org)
- Department for Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE): [dese.mo.gov](http://dese.mo.gov)

### **Discipline Expectations**

- Teachers may use a variety of strategies depending on the child and the situation. These strategies include but are not limited to: gaining a child's attention, staying in close proximity to the child, reminding the child of the rules and expectations, acknowledging feelings before setting limits, redirecting or diverting behavior, offering age appropriate choices, and defining natural consequences.
- Discipline shall be the responsibility of adults who have an ongoing relationship with the child. Parents will be notified by the teacher/principal when a child is exhibiting a pattern of unacceptable behavior.
- The teacher/paraprofessional staff, or principal will meet with the child's parent/s and or guardian/s to formulate a plan, including but not limited to outside referrals, to meet the child's needs.
- For additional information, visit [www.sab.slps.org/board\\_education/policies/5144.1.htm](http://www.sab.slps.org/board_education/policies/5144.1.htm)

Early Childhood Special Education, Attendance, Medical Information, Parent resources:

Please visit <http://www.slps.org//Domain/36>

## **Health Services**

**Please ensure immunization records are up to date by providing updated records when students receive new vaccinations. Parents may retrieve medical forms by visiting <https://www.slps.org/Page/43936>.**

### **Physical Examinations**

All students who participate in cheerleading and athletic teams are required to have a sports physical examination report on file with the school nurse and the athletic office. The athletic physical form is available through the school nurse, coach or the-district website (<https://www.slps.org/Page/43936>).

## **Immunizations**

([State law-Section 167.181RSMo](#)) requires students to have an up to date shot record on file to attend school. The schedules for preschool and school age children are on the school district website under the Parent & Student link, School Health. There is a 10-day grace period (calendar days), and 30 days for Students in Transition.

In order for a record to be complete, make sure it includes the month, date, and year the immunization was given.

## **Medications**

[Policy P5141.5](#) is the board policy about medication at school.

The AUTHORIZATION FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICATION TO STUDENT ([OHS-14](#)) and/or PERMISSION TO CARRY AND SELF ADMINISTER MEDICATION (OHS-15) form, which may be obtained on the student health website or from the school nurse, identify the process that must be followed for each student to have medication at school. **Parents/guardians are responsible for providing all medications in a pharmacy or manufactured labeled container or package.** The school will provide a secure, locked storage for medication with restricted access to only authorized personnel. If a prescription is being split between school and home, be sure the supply to be used at school is in a container with a prescription label.

Please do not send medicine to school by the Student unless they have a signed Permission to Carry and Self Administer Medication (OHS 15) signed by Parent/guardian and doctor. Parents/guardians, or a responsible adult designated by the parent/guardian, must deliver all medication to the school and give it directly to the school nurse or the nurse's designee. Certain types of medicines called Schedule 2s have to actually be counted by the adult who brings them and the staff members who receives them.

The authorization forms are available for you or the prescribing doctors on our website [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org) under the Parents & Students Link by clicking on Student Health. Please contact the school nurse at your child's school for additional information.

## **Special Dietary Needs**

Students needing a special food plan (for example for food allergies, or after a tonsillectomy), must have a doctor's prescription indicating the type of food plan that is necessary. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) should contact Food Services at (314) 345-2308 or (314)345-4519 for more information. (**OHS-18 form – the Prescription for Special Diet-Please put an up to date picture of your child in the corner of the form**). This form is signed by Parent and Medical Provider. It is on the district website at <http://www.slps.org/Domain/71>

## **Life Threatening Food Allergies**

Emergency medications such as epi pens and Benadryl that are ordered in the action plan should be properly labeled by the pharmacists and provided to the school nurse. The medications should have a pharmacy label that matches the orders on the action plan. Please provide prescribed emergency medication and the Authorization to Administer Medication form (OHS 14) to the school nurse on the first day of school. Provision of meal substitutions is by Doctors order only- [OHS-18](#). The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requires a doctor's order to give the Student something different from what is being served. Our complete Allergy policies and procedures are located at [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org) >>Board Policies>>Article 5, [5142P](#) and [5142R](#).

Contact the school Nurse Coordinator if further help is needed, by calling Surilla Shaw at 314-345-4401; or emailing [Surilla.shaw@slps.org](mailto:Surilla.shaw@slps.org).

## Safety and Security

The St. Louis Public School Safety and Security Department utilizes the industries best practices and state of the art security technology to provide a safe and secure learning and working environment for our students, staff, employees, and visitors. The Safety & Security Department is ever mindful of the need to maintain the public's trust and confidence by treating all persons with fairness, dignity and respect.

The management, supervisors, and staff are well-trained professionals that are licensed by the Board of Police Commissioners, City of St. Louis, and are empowered to protect the students, staff, and visitors, of the St. Louis Public Schools. We do so by ensuring that each school has a one-point entry system, video surveillance, and an intercom to monitor visitor entry. The Security Department is comprised of 126 officers who are assigned at all middle and high school locations. The elementary locations are monitored by 14 mobile Inspectors daily.

The Security Department also works very close with the school Administrators, Risk Management Team, the department of Parent and Student Engagement, the Family Court, Federal Emergency Management Agency, The Department of Education, St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department, and other external agencies for training and educational opportunities.

The security personnel is responsible for patrolling the inner and outer perimeter of the SLPS property, and respond to incidents that may take place therein, at the middle and high school locations each person that enters the building must be screened by entering a stationary metal detector and then by a hand wand upon entering the building and their whereabouts must be accounted for at all times. Employees are mandated to produce a visible company identification card upon inspection.

All inquiries concerning incidents involving a student must first be made to the school Administrator after which, the proper notifications will be made for a follow up investigation.

## Transportation

Riding the school bus is a privilege – not a right. Improper behavior may result in a student being removed from riding the bus either on a temporary or permanent basis. The bus driver is in charge. Students must obey the driver. Any offense committed by a student on a district-owned or contracted bus shall be punished in the same manner as if the offense had been committed at the student's assigned school. The bus is an extension of the classroom and misbehavior will not be tolerated. Students are to ride their assigned buses. Two (2) digital cameras are on every bus to record the activity that occurs throughout the bus and at the bus door.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN WAITING TO BOARD THE BUS**

1. Arrive at the bus stop five (5) minutes ahead of your scheduled time. The bus must leave at the designated time.
2. Wait until the bus stops.
3. Stand well away from the street as the bus approaches.
4. Form a quiet uniform line to board.
5. Littering or damaging property on or near the bus stop is prohibited. Keep sidewalks clear of books, clothing and other articles.
6. Observe all rules of conduct governing student behavior
7. Report to the Principal, parent/guardian any suspicious persons or activities.
8. Remain with the group and do not talk to strangers or get into a stranger's car.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN RIDING THE BUS**

1. Be seated immediately and remain facing forward. Remain seated until the bus arrives at your stop and you receive instructions to unload.
2. Hold books and all personal items in your lap. Do not block the aisle.
3. Pets and animals of any kind are not permitted on the bus.
4. Extending arms, legs, or head out of the bus is prohibited.
5. Throwing objects on the bus or out of the window is prohibited.
6. Refrain from distracting or talking to the bus driver except in an emergency.
7. Tampering with or damaging bus equipment is prohibited. Student and/or parent/guardian will be held liable.
8. Fighting, pushing, shoving or creating loud disturbances is prohibited.
9. Smoking, eating, and drinking are not permitted.
10. Place trash in receptacle provided near front of bus.
11. Use of profanity or obscene gestures is prohibited.
12. Bringing weapons or dangerous instruments of any kind is prohibited.
13. Be aware that the St. Louis Metropolitan Police may stop and search any school bus at any time for illegal items. Students found with weapons, liquor, drugs, etc. will be arrested.
14. Observe all rules of conduct governing student behavior.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS**

1. Read, discuss, and review this section and the Transportation Section on page 18
2. Encourage your children to observe all established guidelines.
3. Get to know your bus driver.
4. Report any related traffic hazards or abuses of any school bus observed operating carelessly to (314) 633-5107.
5. Report all observed misconduct on school buses and at school bus stops to the Principal.
6. Place identification of your child where the bus driver can retrieve it, if necessary.
7. Report to the police any strangers observed at or near bus pick up/drop off stops.
8. See that children are at the bus stop five (5) minutes before the bus is scheduled to arrive.
9. Ensure that preschool and kindergarten students are met at the afternoon bus stop by a parent/guardian or are accompanied by a responsible, designated older sibling.

### **FOR CONCERNS REGARDING TRANSPORTATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

(314) 389-1111 ext. 1 (Routing department) for route changes, concerns, or bus issues.

(314) 389-1111, ext. 2 (dispatch) for all routes that begin with a “2” for bus status or if your child has missed the bus.

(314) 772-3184 for all routes that begin with a “1” for bus status or if your child has missed the bus.

**SIGN UP FOR THE FIRST VIEW APP BY DOWNLOADING THE FIRST VIEW APP FROM YOUR GOOGLE PLAY OR APPLE STORE.**

## **Visitors to Campus**

Saint Louis Public Schools strives to provide a welcoming and safe environment for our students, staff and visitors. For the protection of everyone in our schools, and to maintain an orderly learning atmosphere, the following regulations have been implemented in all District school buildings:

- ALL visitors, including parents, district employees and volunteers, are required to report to the school office upon entering the building. Visitors will be given a visitor badge and required to display it while in the school.

- Parents/guardians wanting to observe in a classroom may do so after receiving approval from the school principal or the principal's designee.
- All visitors will be asked to provide a personal identification card.
- ALL visitors are required to respect the learning environment of the school. Visitors who engage in disruptive behavior may be subject to receiving a No Trespassing Order, arrest and prosecution.

## **Bully Awareness**

“Bullying” means intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting of such acts. Bullying of students is prohibited on school property, at any school function, or on a school bus.

### **Bullying Facts**

- Bullying is more than just teasing.
- Bullying is done to intentionally damage one's social status.
- Anyone can be a bully.
- Anyone can be a victim.
- Bullying is not a modern problem.
- Bullying affects everyone.
- Bullying is a serious problem.
- Schools, families, and the community can work together to find solutions.
- A comprehensive plan will produce the best results.
- Children at risk can be helped.
- School, families, and the community are responsible for protecting children.
- Bullying happens not just in the United States but also all over the world; bullying in schools is universal.

### **Types of Bullying**

- Physical – pushing, shoving, hitting, kicking, tripping, pinching, etc.
- Verbal – teasing or name-calling, making insulting or embarrassing comments, threats, etc.
- Social – spreading rumors, lies, or gossip; intimidation, coercion, exclusion
- Cyberbullying – using technology to intimidate, harass, or embarrass another student
- Direct – when the bullying is immediate such as physical and verbal bullying. It is easier to identify.
- Indirect – when the bullying is not immediate and is harder to identify. This includes verbal, social, and cyberbullying.

### **Why Students Bully**

Some of the most common reasons students bully is because he/she:

- Likes to have power or control over another student
- Wants to protect friends or get revenge
- Wants to relieve boredom and entertain themselves
- Is good at hiding the behavior or doing them where adults do not notice
- Is excited about conflict between others
- Blames others for his/her problems and conduct

- Likes to be the center of attention by impressing others
- Seeks to dominate or manipulate others. Does not respect others.
- Gets satisfaction or pleasure from other students' fear, discomfort, or pain
- Feels little or no empathy for others
- Displays intolerance and prejudice toward others

### **Signs That a Student May Be Bullied**

- Decreased interest in schoolwork or quality of work
- Erratic school attendance, higher absenteeism
- Goes to recess late and returns early. Prefers company of adults during lunch, free time.
- Drops school activities once enjoyed
- Difficulty concentrating in class or sudden changes in mood or behavior
- Seems isolated, withdrawn, anxious, fearful, self-blaming
- Uses "victim" body language – hunched shoulders, head down, avoids eye contact
- Poor or few social skills; no friends or few friends
- Lacks sense of humor or uses inappropriate humor
- Suddenly starts bullying other students
- Low or no self-confidence or self-esteem. Higher rates of depression
- Frequent illness or unexplained scratches, bruises, or damage to clothes or belongings
- Appears ashamed of trait that separates him or her from other students
- Talks about running away, committing suicide, or other alarming behaviors

### **Students: What To Do If You Are Bullied**

#### **Do:**

- Walk away as quickly as possible.
- Tell an adult you trust so he/she can help make the bullying stop. Report who bullied you, what happened and where and when it happened. Reporting is not snitching – it will keep you and others safe.
- Buddy up with a friend or acquaintance. Bullies often go after students who are by themselves.
- Avoid the bully by thinking when you encounter him/her and stay away from those places. If it is a place that you have to go, take a friend with you.
- Stand up for yourself if you are not in danger. Stand straight, look the bully in the eye, and say in a confident voice, "Leave me alone."

#### **Don't:**

- Do not fight back as it will make the bully more upset and you might get hurt.
- Do not ignore the bullying situation and hope it will stop.
- Do not keep it to yourself. Be sure to tell an adult.

### **Parents: What To Do If Your Child Is a Bully**

- If contacted by the school, stay calm and try not to be defensive or angry.
- Take it seriously and do not make excuses.
- Decide consequences for bullying, make sure your child knows the consequences and enforce them fairly and consistently.
- Teach your child appropriate ways to deal with anger and frustration.
- Tell your child clearly and firmly that bullying is not acceptable.
- Reward your child for positive behavior.
- Help your child understand the impact of bullying on others.
- Work out a way for your child to make amends for the bullying.
- Seek help or counseling if the bullying continues.



## **Parents: What To Do If Your Child Is Being Bullied**

### **Do:**

- Make sure your child knows being bullied is not his/her fault.
- Let your child know that he/she does not have to face being bullied alone.
- Talk to the school/principal/teacher about ways to keep your child safe from bullying.
- Talk to your child about appropriate ways to respond to bullies.
- Tell your child not to react, but to walk away and get help if pursued.
- Teach your child to be assertive but not aggressive.
- Tell your child to report bullying to a trusted adult as soon as it happens.
- Look at your child's behavior and style of interaction and consider how you might help him/her to handle these types of situations in the future.
- Contact the school for assistance.
- Seek counseling for your child, if appropriate.

### **Don't:**

- Do not tell the children to solve a bullying problem on their own. Because of the differences in power, the child who has been bullied may suffer more. Bullying problems need adult help.
- Do not tell the bullied child to fight the bully. This will not solve anything, someone might get hurt, and fighting is against school policy.
- Do not try to mediate a bullying situation. Bringing together bullies with bullied children to "work out problems" is almost never a good idea. The child being bullied has not done anything wrong, so mediation sends the wrong message.
- Do not immediately blame either the victim or the bully. Instead, gather as much information as possible to figure out what is going on, and contact the school for assistance.

## **Anti-Bullying Policy**

### **I. Purpose**

The district's anti-bullying policy is founded on the assumption that all students need a safe learning environment. The purposes of this policy are to set forth the district's prohibition of bullying, harassment, or intimidation of students in the school environment, any reprisal or retaliation against individuals who report acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation of victims, witnesses, bystanders of same; and to direct the district to establish reporting and investigation procedures and disciplinary consequences for violations of this policy.

### **II. Definitions**

- A. "Bullying" means intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyberbullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting of such acts.

Bullying of students is prohibited on school property, at any school function, or on a school bus.

- B. “Cyberbullying” means bullying as defined in II (A) through the transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound, or image by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager.

### **III. Policy Standards**

#### **A. Prohibition**

1. The district prohibits bullying, harassment, or intimidation of any student on school property or at school-sponsored functions or by the use of electronic communication at a public school.
2. The district prohibits reprisal or retaliation against individuals who report acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation or who are victims, witnesses, bystanders, or others with reliable information about an act of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.

#### **B. Consequences of Bullying**

1. Consequences and remedial actions shall be imposed upon persons who violate this policy by engaging in bullying, harassment, or intimidation; who have engaged in reprisal or retaliation; or who have been found to have made false allegations that this policy has been violated.
2. The consequences and remedial actions, developed by the Superintendent, shall be consistently and fairly applied after an appropriate investigation has revealed that a violation of this policy has occurred.

C. Saint Louis Public Schools employees who report acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation in good faith under this policy are not civilly liable for any act or omission in reporting or failing to report an act of bullying, harassment, or intimidation.

### **IV. Implementation Strategies**

#### **A. Reporting**

1. The district maintains established procedures for reporting acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation (see [Bullying Reporting and Investigation Regulation](#)).
2. The district shall designate an individual at each school within the district to receive reports of incidents of bullying. Such individual shall be the Principal or his/her designated individual at each school (teacher level or higher) and will receive reports of incidents of bullying. To report an instance of bullying, the Principal or his/her designee are required to submit a completed Bullying Report Form in either physical copy or electronically (see [Bullying Report Form](#)).
3. All district employees are required to report any instance of bullying of which the employee has firsthand knowledge, to the designated individual at the school to receive reports of incidents of bullying, within 2 days of witnessing the incident.

#### **B. Investigation**

The district maintains established procedures for prompt investigation of alleged acts of bullying, harassment, or intimidation (see [Bullying Reporting and Investigation Regulation](#)).

Specifically, when receiving a report/complaint of bullying, the building's Principal or his/her designated individual shall follow the below procedure:

- (a) Within two school days of a report of an incident of bullying being received, the school principal, or his or her designee, shall initiate an investigation of the incident;
- (b) The school principal may appoint other school staff to assist with the investigation; and
- (c) The investigation shall be completed within ten school days from the date of the written report unless good cause exists to extend the investigation.

#### C. Publication of Policy

- (a) The policy will be made available on the district's website, in staff handbooks, and in the Student Code of Conduct. Distribution of the policy to all teachers and staff will occur during annual teacher and staff training.
- (b) The district shall provide notice of the policy and procedures detailed herein to all school employees and volunteers who have significant contact with students.
- (c) The district shall give annual notice of its anti-bullying policy to students, parents or guardians, and staff.

#### D. Student Discussion and Employee Training

1. The district will provide information regarding bullying and appropriate training to all staff and volunteers who have significant contact with students at the annual teacher and staff in-service.
2. The administration of the district shall instruct its school counselors, social workers, mental health professionals and school psychologists to educate students who are victims of bullying on techniques for students to overcome bullying's negative effects.
3. The administration of the district shall implement programs and other initiatives to address bullying, to respond to such conduct in a manner that does not stigmatize the victim and makes resources or referrals available to victims of bullying.
4. The district shall provide education and information to students regarding bullying, including information regarding the school district policy prohibiting bullying, the harmful effects of bullying, and other applicable initiatives to address bullying, including student peer-to-peer initiatives to provide accountability and policy enforcement for those found to have engaged in bullying, reprisal, or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying.

#### V. Other

The district will periodically review its anti-bullying policy and revise as needed. The district's school board shall receive input from school personnel, students, and administrators when reviewing and revising the policy.

# **Sexual Harassment/Gender Discrimination Policy**

“Verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, imposed on the basis of sex, by an employee, student, or agent of the District that denies, limits, provides different, or conditions the provision of aid, benefits, services or treatment protected under Title IX.” The definition of sexual harassment under Title IX includes, but is not limited to, unwelcome sexual advance, requests for sexual favors, and verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly a term or condition of an individual’s academic status or progress; or
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is the basis for educational decisions affecting that individual;
- Such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment; or
- Qualified students are denied educational or benefits because the opportunities or benefits are given to another student who submitted to sexual advances or requests for sexual favors.

Sexual harassment of students by school employees is prohibited regardless of whether the employee’s conduct is “welcome” or otherwise invited. For purposes of this policy and regulation only, the prohibition includes all full-time, part-time, substitute, and other employees, including all volunteers and any non-employee who visits school premises and/or school activities, including off-campus school sponsored activities.

## **NON-EXCLUSIVE EXAMPLES OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

### **Sexual Advances**

Unwelcome sexual advances are determined on a case-by-case basis and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Any invitation or propositioning intended to result in sexual liaison, regardless of how subtle the invitation; or
- Invitations to social non-school related activities, if refusal to participate results in the loss of education opportunities or subject to adverse actions.

### **Verbal Conduct of a Sexual Nature**

Includes, but not limited to, the following:

- Sexually provocative or explicit speech; or
- Publicly expressed sexual fantasies; or
- Jokes of a sexual or crude nature; or
- Derogatory comments regarding either gender as a class; or
- Demeaning comments; or
- Threats of consequences for failing to submit to sexual advances; or
- Sexually explicit writings or other sexual depictions.

### **Physical Conduct of a Sexual Nature**

Includes, but not limited to, the following:

- Unwarranted or unwelcome touching, kissing, etc.; or
- Sexually offensive pranks; or
- Sexually explicit cartoons, graffiti, or other sexual depictions; or
- Sexually suggestive gestures.

### **Sexual Harassment of Students**

In addition to the examples set forth above, the unique circumstances of students may result in harassment of students that is not immediately recognized as sexual harassment in an adult only context, but nonetheless requires a response from the District.

### **Conduct Towards Students of a Sexual Nature**

Includes, but not limited to, the following:

- Unwelcome sexual behavior, such as touching, sexually explicit or implicit comments, sexually based rumors, pictures, pranks, jokes, physically cornering/blocking another's movements, public displays of affection; or
- Subjecting students in a predominately single-gender classroom setting to sexual or sex based remarks/comments by peers and/or employees; or
- Interfering with a student's educational opportunity in a predominately or historically single-gender academic environment by preventing the student from accessing tools/equipment, basing performance evaluation on gender; hiding equipment, or suggesting a student does not belong in the academic setting due his/her gender.
- Limiting or denying access to education opportunities based on gender.

### **SCOPE OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

Sexual harassment is not limited to conduct by males toward females and can occur between any of the following:

- Student on student
- Staff on student
- Staff on staff
- Male on male
- Female on female
- Male on female
- Female on male
- Student on staff

### **INVESTIGATION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINTS**

#### **Student Complaints**

1. There shall be no retaliation against or adverse treatment of any student who utilizes the procedures set forth herein to file a complaint or grievance when such complaint/grievance is based on the student's good faith belief that he or she has been subjected to sexual harassment. Any employee/student who engages in any retaliatory action against a complainant shall be subject to disciplinary action, including dismissal or expulsion.

2. If a student believes that he or she has been sexually harassed, or if a student believes that a fellow student is being subjected to sexual harassment, the student must report this information to their Teacher/Principal.

3. If the student believes that reporting such information to their Teacher/Principal is inappropriate, the situation is not satisfactorily resolved by the Teacher/Principal, or if the student is merely uncomfortable reporting to their Teacher/Principal, the employee should contact the District's Title IX Coordinator at the following location:

St. Louis City Public Schools  
801 N. 11th St., St. Louis, MO 63101  
Title IX Coordinator  
(314) 345-4483

## **ENFORCEMENT OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY**

Each building level administrator or other District employee with student supervision responsibilities is responsible for maintaining an educational and work environment free from sexual harassment. It is the policy of the District that each building level administrator or other District employee with student supervision responsibilities, shall take immediate and appropriate actions to enforce the District's sexual harassment policies and regulations, including but not limited to the following:

1. The building level administrator shall provide an in-service regarding sexual harassment (including sexual harassment involving students) to all staff no later than the end of the first full calendar week of the academic year.
2. Provide sexual harassment instruction to all students in grades kindergarten through twelve, no later than the end of the first full calendar month of the academic year.
3. Removal of all vulgar or sexually offensive graffiti from the building.
4. All homeroom teachers shall discuss the District's sexual harassment policy and regulations with their students no later than the end of the first full calendar week of the academic year. As a part of these discussions, written copies of the District's sexual harassment policy shall be given to each student in grades six through twelve. These discussions shall be conducted in an age appropriate manner with the purpose of informing students that they need not tolerate any form of sexual harassment.
5. All teachers, counselors, and administrators shall provide appropriate instruction on the procedures for reporting incidents of sexual harassment within the educational setting on as needed basis.
6. The building level administrator shall take prompt action to investigate all complaints of sexual harassment.
7. The building level administrator shall take appropriate disciplinary action, to remedy and prevent future occurrences.
8. Any failure to implement these responsibilities appropriately and satisfactorily shall be cause for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment.

## **DISCIPLINE/CONSEQUENCES**

### **Students Complaints of Sexual Harassment**

1. Any student who engages in sexual harassment while on school property, or while participating in school activities (including school provided transportation), shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion.
2. Any employee who permits or engages in the sexual harassment of a student shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment.
3. Any employee who receives a complaint of sexual harassment involving a student who does not immediately forward the complaint to the principal and the District's Title IX Coordinator, shall be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination from employment.
4. Any student who files a false charge of sexual harassment shall receive appropriate discipline, up to and including expulsion. For purposes of this policy, "false charge" shall not include complaints raised in good faith, but after investigation remain unsubstantiated by the District. For purposes of this policy, a "false charge" is a complaint filed by an individual with knowledge of the complaint's falsity.

## **Student Code of Conduct**

### **Purpose of the Student Code of Conduct**

- Create a consistent set of expectations for student behavior
- Reinforce positive behavior and provide students with opportunities to develop appropriate social skills
- Outline the interventions and consequences for students who engage in inappropriate behavior
- Explain the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community
- Engage students in a safe, positive and supportive learning environment

# Student Pledge

- I pledge to be in attendance and on time for class every day
- I pledge to be safe, responsible, and respectful
- I pledge to be a problem solver
- I pledge to work hard, do my best, and be proud of myself

## Behavioral Expectations and Responsibilities

### Responsibilities of the School Community:

BE SAFE: Understand and adhere to the Student Code of Conduct and the expectations described in the Code of Conduct

BE RESPONSIBLE: Encourage and assist others

BE RESPECTFUL: Respect the rights of students, parents/legal guardians, faculty, staff and visitors

BE PREPARED: Come to school prepared to learn

### Responsibilities of District Administrators:

- Provide appropriate training and resources as needed to implement Positive Behavior Intervention & Support, Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) and Violence Confrontation Avoidance training at each school site
- Require each school to have a crisis team trained in the CPI procedures
- Assist parents/legal guardians who are unable to resolve issues at the school-level
- Review attendance and discipline data to determine district-level decisions
- Conduct District Discipline Conferences, including expulsion conferences
- Review suspension/expulsion appeals

### Responsibilities of School Administrators:

- Distribute the Student Code of Conduct to students, parents/legal guardians, and all school personnel
- Provide appropriate training for school personnel
- Implement the Student Code of Conduct in a fair and consistent manner
- Identify appropriate training and resources as needed to implement PBIS based on school data
- Use research-based practices to prevent minor incidents from becoming major challenges
- Ensure accurate and timely entry of discipline referrals into the Student Information System (SIS) and maintain compliance (i.e. students with disabilities, qualified 504 students, ten (10) day removal rule)
- Review discipline referrals and determine appropriate intervention(s) or consequence(s)
- Enforce corrective strategies that are grade level and age appropriate
- Create a safe, positive and supportive environment

### Responsibilities of Students:

- Attend school
- Follow the Student Code of Conduct
- Follow the school's expectations and rules
- Follow the school's dress code
- Respect school property and the property of others
- Work hard and do your best
- Ask teachers, school social workers, professional school counselors, parents/legal guardians, school administrators, and other adults for help to solve problems
- Report bullying and cyber bullying
- Model the positive character traits of others

**Responsibilities of Parents/Legal Guardians:**

- Read the Student Code of Conduct and review it with your child
- Support your child in following the Student Code of Conduct
- Understand your child's rights and responsibilities
- Teach your child to respect the rights of others
- Ensure your child comes to school every day on time and ready to learn
- Teach your child to respect school property and the property of others
- Recognize that school personnel must enforce the Student Code of Conduct
- Seek available resources to assist and support your child within the school and the community

**Responsibilities of Teachers:**

- Use appropriate classroom management strategies to maintain a learning environment that supports academic success
- Teach and positively reinforce the Student Code of Conduct
- Address infractions through a variety of interventions such as PBIS and Response to Intervention (RTI), including alternatives to suspension and expulsion
- Provide corrective instruction to students who demonstrate challenging behavior
- Create a safe and positive community environment and teach students to maintain it
- Use professional judgment to prevent minor incidents from becoming major challenges
- Request additional professional staff development and/or training as needed

**Responsibilities of the District's School Security Staff Officers:**

- Assist in creating a safe and conducive learning environment in our schools
- Provide schools with on-site security and a direct link to local law enforcement agencies
- Work in conjunction with the PBIS mandates, Violence Confrontation Avoidance principles, and CPI protocol
- Collaborate with local law enforcement offices, professional school counselors, school social workers, and school administrators



## Scope of the Code of Conduct

The St. Louis Public School District Student Code of Conduct, herein referred to as the Code of Conduct, is dedicated to making sure all students are in school and engaged in learning. The St. Louis Public School District implements the Code of Conduct in order to create positive learning environments that will prepare self-disciplined, responsible citizens. The Code of Conduct Handbook stresses the importance of positive and appropriate student behavior.

The information in the Student Code of Conduct outlines consistent expectations for student's behavior in school, describes appropriate interventions, outlines consequences for students, and explains the rights and responsibilities of members of the school community. The Code of Conduct applies to the actions of students during school hours, on the way to and from school, on school property, in district sponsored vehicles, and attending all school sponsored events. It also includes any time that students are off school grounds at school-sponsored activities, or are going to or from such an activity. Off campus acts of misconducts that disrupt the educational process are also subject to discipline. This Code of Conduct was developed in collaboration with both district and school representatives and from community partners.

The Student Code of Conduct is designed as a guide and does not cover all possible incidents requiring disciplinary action, possible interventions or consequences. If the behavior is of such a serious nature that the maximum penalty seems insufficient, or if the student's past history is such that a more severe penalty deems warranted, the district may impose a greater penalty. At the discretion of the district, students may be given greater penalties than are listed herein. Moreover, individual schools may develop additional provisions regarding student discipline and dress. These rules, however, cannot substitute for or modify the provisions of this Code of Conduct.

Administrators will use their professional judgment to determine which disciplinary action will be most effective in dealing with student misconduct. The principal is authorized to apply a higher level of consequences for serious violations of the Code even if it is a student's first offense. The principal may recommend to the Superintendent expulsion of Type I offenses.

This document establishes interventions, which will be applied and set in motion the process by which student violators receive corrective attention. These corrective actions can either be in the same school setting, in an alternative setting, or in a setting outside the public school system. The procedures are designed to maintain an atmosphere conducive to learning and to ensure the safety of all students.

The Student Code of Conduct outlines a range of appropriate responses for inappropriate behaviors and positive support for appropriate behaviors:

- Poor academic achievement is not an act of misconduct. Therefore, the Student Code of Conduct must not be used to discipline students for poor academic achievement or failure to complete assignments.
- Parent(s)/legal guardian(s) who inappropriately support their child's education cannot be considered misconduct on the part of the child, but such misconduct on the part of the parent(s)/guardian(s) may result in the district placing reasonable restriction to the parent(s)/guardian(s) access to the school building.
- The Student Code of Conduct applies to all students. However, discipline for students with disabilities shall be administered in accordance with federal and state law.
- The Student Code of Conduct applies to actions of students during school, on the way to and from school, while on school property, while traveling in vehicles sponsored by the school district and during all school-sponsored events. It also includes any time that students are off school grounds at

school-sponsored activities, or are going to or from such an activity. Off campus acts of misconducts that disrupt the school day are also subject to discipline.

- The Student Code of Conduct applies as long as you are an enrolled student, no matter what school or program you attend.

Please take the time to read the Code of Conduct and discuss it with your child. The staff of the Parent and Student Engagement Office is available to answer any questions you have about the Code of Conduct by calling (314) 345- 4490. Your local school administrator is also available to answer questions about the Code of Conduct.

St. Louis Public School District discipline procedures are based on Missouri Law. The information in this handbook may be updated during the course of the school year. The latest version is available on the District's website [www.slps.org](http://www.slps.org).

## **Missouri Safe School Act**

Student conduct and discipline issues, including reporting requirements, will be handled in a manner consistent with the Safe Schools Act, including but not limited to, Sections [160.261](#), [167.161](#) and [167.171](#) of the Missouri Revised Statutes. School administrators are required to report, as soon as reasonably practical, to the appropriate law enforcement agency any of the following crimes or any act which if committed by an adult would be one of the following crimes committed on school property, including but not limited to actions on any school bus in service on behalf of the District, or while involved in school activities:

- (1) First degree murder under section 565.020;
- (2) Second degree murder under section 565.021;
- (3) Kidnapping under section 565.110 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or kidnapping in the first degree under section 565.110;
- (4) First degree assault under section 565.050;
- (5) Rape in the first degree under section 566.030;
- (6) Sodomy in the first degree under section 566.060;
- (7) Burglary in the first degree under section 569.160;
- (8) Burglary in the second degree under section 569.170;
- (9) Robbery in the first degree under section 569.020 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or robbery in the first degree under section 570.023;
- (10) Distribution of drugs under section 195.211 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or manufacture of a controlled substance under section 579.055;
- (11) Distribution of drugs to a minor under section 195.212 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or delivery of a controlled substance under section 579.020;
- (12) Arson in the first degree under section 569.040;
- (13) Voluntary manslaughter under section 565.023;
- (14) Involuntary manslaughter under section 565.024 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, involuntary manslaughter in the first degree under section 565.024, or involuntary manslaughter in the second degree under section 565.027;
- (15) Second degree assault under section 565.060 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or second degree assault under section 565.052;
- (16) Rape in the second degree under section 566.031;
- (17) Felonious restraint under section 565.120 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or kidnapping in the second degree under section 565.120;
- (18) Property damage in the first degree under section 569.100;

- (19) The possession of a weapon under chapter 571;
- (20) Child molestation in the first degree pursuant to section 566.067 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or child molestation in the first, second, or third degree pursuant to section 566.067, 566.068, or 566.069;
- (21) Sodomy in the second degree pursuant to section 566.061;
- (22) Sexual misconduct involving a child pursuant to section 566.083;
- (23) Sexual abuse in the first degree pursuant to section 566.100;
- (24) Harassment under section 565.090 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or harassment in the first degree under section 565.090; or
- (25) Stalking under section 565.225 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or stalking in the first degree under section 565.225;

Students who are suspended for any offense listed in Missouri Revised Statute 160.261.2 or any Type I behavior cannot be within 1,000 feet of any school unless:

- Student is under the direct supervision of the student’s parent, legal guardian or custodian *and* the superintendent or the superintendent’s designee has authorized the student to be on school property;
- Student is under the direct supervision of another adult designated by the student’s parent, legal guardian or custodian, in advance, in writing to the principal of the school which suspended the student *and* the superintendent or the superintendent’s designee has authorized the student to be on school property;
- Student is enrolled in and attends an alternative school located within 1,000 feet of another District school; or
- Student resides within 1,000 feet of a public school and is on that property.

## **School Violence and Restrictive Behavioral Intervention**

Per St. Louis Public School Board Policy 5144.1, District employees and volunteers are prohibited from administering corporal punishment to students attending the SLPS schools, and from causing such punishment to be administered.

Corporal Punishment is defined as the use of or threat of physical force for the purposes of discipline or punishment.

Physical restraint by trained staff shall not be considered Corporal Punishment. Physical restraint will be used only when other means of preventing or stopping a breach of discipline have proved ineffective. Trained staff may use justifiable physical restraint on a student only when it is deemed reasonably necessary to:

- 1) Prevent the student from hurting himself/herself
- 2) Protect others
- 3) Protect the staff’s well-being

## **Classifying Infractions**

**Discipline incidents will be classified as Type I, Type II, and Type III Infractions. Bus infractions are considered Type IV.**

**Type I Infractions** – Discipline incidents that severely interfere with anyone’s safety and learning, are of a threatening or harmful nature, are Safe Schools violations and warrant immediate response from administration, crisis team, entire staff, and/or community support are Type I Infractions.

**Type II Infractions** – Discipline incidents that interfere with anyone’s safety and learning, are of a threatening or harmful nature, legal violations and warrant administrative interventions are Type 2 Infractions.

**Type III Infractions** – Discipline incidents that can be handled by the teacher and do not warrant a discipline referral to the principal or designee; any behavior that is of low level intensity, passive in nature and/or of a non-threatening manner is a Type 3 Infraction. Due to the frequency of the Infraction, and a history of failed interventions, a referral to an administrator may be warranted.

**Type IV Infractions** – Discipline incidents that occur on district provided transportation.

## **Type I Infractions and Consequences**

### **ALCOHOL/POSSESSION (ALCH)**

Shall mean the use, possession, distribution and sale of alcohol is prohibited on school premises. In accordance with Board of Education policy, administrative procedures apply in dealing with pupils involved with alcoholic beverages or intoxicants of any kind while on school premises. School Board [R5131.6.3](#).

### **DRUG/POSSESSION (04-1)**

Shall mean the illegal possession, use, distribution and sale of drugs, including unauthorized prescription drugs, inhalants, intoxicants of any kind (whether or not the primary intended purpose of the intoxicant is intoxication), controlled substances or imitations of any of these on school premises is not permitted. The possession, use, distribution and sale of drug-related paraphernalia are also prohibited. Anyone found in violation of this regulation shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school in the manner provided by board policy and regulation and any other applicable provisions of the law. School Board [R5131.6.1](#).

### **WEAPON/POSSESSION-SSA (01-1)**

Shall mean a blackjack, a firearm (loaded or unloaded), an explosive weapon, a firearm silencer, a gas gun, a machine gun, a projectile weapon, a bullet(s), rifle, a short barrel, a shotgun, a spring gun, any type of fireworks (including smoke bombs or firecrackers), any type of explosive devices, or a switch-blade. The improper use of any object, instrument or device also falls within this provision. SAB Policy 5131.6.

### **WEAPONS/USE- SSA (02-1)**

Possession and/or use of an instrument, device or projectile that could reasonably be used for attack or defense against another person; any instrument or device that could reasonably be used to threaten, intimidate, or inflict physical injury or harm to another person. A weapon may include any of the following:

- Ordinary pocket knife or an instrument with a blade measuring four inches or less in length;
- Pen knives;
- Projectile weapon (i.e., pellet gun, BB gun, slingshot, bow, crossbow, etc.);
- Blackjack;
- Knuckles;
- Pepper spray;

- Knuckles;
- Pepper spray;
- Mace;
- “Tasers”; or
- Normal school supplies, household items or other materials (examples include, but are not limited to, scissors, nail files, chains, laser beam pointers, razor blades, box cutters, combination and/or pad locks, etc.), which are used for attack, to threaten, intimidate or inflict physical injury or harm on another person, when such items are actually used as a weapon.

### **DRUGS/ SALE DISTRIBUTION-SSA (05-01)**

The possession of illegal drugs where the amount would be considered greater than that for personal use by virtue of the quantity, packaging or other circumstances which demonstrate intent or effort to sell/distribute. This includes possession with intent to sell or distribute any forms of edibles, marijuana infused products.

### **ASSAULT/BATTERY- SSA (06-01)**

An actual and intentional touching or striking of another student against his/her will with the intent of causing serious physical harm, or an attempt to do the same, or placing a person in apprehension of immediate physical injury.

### **RAPE/SEXUAL ASSAULT (07-1)**

Shall mean conduct of a sexual or indecent nature toward another person that is accompanied by actual or threatened physical force that induces fear, shame, or mental suffering.

### **ARSON- SSA (08-01)**

Shall mean the willful burning or attempt to maliciously burn or set fire to a school building or property located on school grounds or any property rented by or on loan to the district.

### **BOMB THREATS/ OTHER THREATS TO SCHOOL SAFETY AND SECURITY- SSA (09-1)**

Shall mean making a false statement regarding the possession or location of a bomb or explosive device on school property, at any school sponsored activity or any vehicle in service on behalf of the SLPS District.

### **SEVERE DISCRIMINATORY CONDUCT (12-1)**

Shall mean unwanted behavior, speech, written or pictures directed at someone because of their race, color or nationality. It is about intimidation, control, misuse of power and the attempt to deny equality. It can be blatant, or subtle, one incident or a pattern.

### **GANG RELATED ACTIVITY (GANG)**

Shall mean any ongoing organization of two or more students which has an identifiable name or identifying sign or symbol or whose members individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of activity that endangers or disrupts the safety of the school or members of the school and general community. Gang activities include:

- Wearing or displaying any clothing, jewelry, colors or insignia that intentionally identifies the student as a member of a gang or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang
- Using any word, phrase, written symbol or gesture that intentionally identifies a student as a member of a gang or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang. A student may not display gang affiliation on his or her school notebooks, textbooks, or personal items.
- Engaging in activity or discussion promoting gangs by two or more persons.
- Recruiting students for gangs or anti-social behavior.

**GROUP FIGHT (10-1)**

Shall mean a severe attack of several students engaging in the use of physical force or the unlawful beating of others with the intent to harm or cause injury with or without the use of weapons or other objects (including, but not limited to guns, knives, brass knuckles, razor blades, batons, mace, pepper spray, etc.).

KG- 2	3-6	7-12
	Alternate placement Contact Law Enforcement Extended suspension Parent Contact Placement in an Alternative Program Referral to substance abuse treatment Up to 10 day OSS with referral for District Discipline Conference	Alternate placement Contact Law Enforcement Extended suspension Parent Contact Placement in an Alternative Program Referral to substance abuse treatment in an Alternative Program Up to 10 day OSS with referral for District Discipline Conference

## Type II Infractions and Consequences

**THEFT UNDER \$500.00 (15-2)**

Shall mean stealing or attempting to steal the money or property of another.

**KNOWINGLY MAKING A FALSE CHARGE OR CLAIM AGAINST AUTHORITY (53-2)****VANDALISM (20-2)**

Shall mean willful or malicious damage, destruction or defacement of District/school property or the property of another (i.e. damaging textbooks, lockers, equipment, walls, furniture, writing gang graffiti, etc.).

**FIGHTING (25-2)**

Shall mean physical conflict including but not limited to hitting, pushing, shoving, tripping and other physical acts between two or more persons that does not cause physical injury in which both parties have contributed to the conflict, either verbally or by physical action.

**GROUP FIGHT (12-2)**

Shall mean physical altercation occurring between two or more students.

**VIOLATION OF DISTRICT'S SEXUAL HARASSMENT/GENDER DISCRIMINATION POLICY (52-2)**

Please refer to page 31 of the handbook

**SEXUAL MISCONDUCT (13-2)**

Shall mean those who forcibly, intentionally or consensually touch another person's body and/or clothing in a way that constitutes or results in sexual contact. This includes indecent exposure, sexual gestures, possession and/or distribution of sexual paraphernalia and/or magazine.

**INDECENT EXPOSURE (14-2)**

Shall mean knowingly exposing the genitals, breasts, buttocks, and/or sagging under circumstances in which such actions are likely to cause an affront or alarm. Also, see-through or mesh garments, midriff blouses or shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, exposure of undergarments of any type, cleavage, low-riding pants, and clothing with obscene or suggestive statement or symbols are prohibited. Also prohibited is any apparel that advertises or promotes sex, drugs or alcohol. Shoes must be worn at all times.

**GAMBLING (18-2)**

Shall mean playing any game of chance or skill for money or anything of value including but not limited to games of cards or dice.

**TRESPASSING (19-2)**

Shall mean being in or around a school building or in a particular place on school grounds, or on a school bus without permission or refusing to comply with a request to leave school premises, or leave the bus. Students may not return to any school while assigned to an Alternative program, under expulsion or suspension, except with permission from the building principal and under escort by a parent(s)/guardian(s).

**FALSE ALARM (16-2)**

Pulling a fire alarm when there is no fire or smoke and/or making a false bomb report; alerting emergency personnel when no emergency exists.

**BULLYING (21-2)**

Shall mean intimidation or harassment of a student or multiple students perpetuated by individuals or groups. Bullying includes, but is not limited to: physical actions, including violence, gestures, theft, or damaging property; oral or written taunts, including name-calling, put-downs, extortion, or threats; or threats of retaliation for reporting such acts. Bullying may also include cyberbullying or cyber threats. Board Policy 5131.

**RACIAL HARASSMENT (23-2)**

Shall mean unwanted behavior, speech, written or pictures directed at someone because of their race, color or nationality. It is about intimidation, control, misuse of power and the attempt to deny equality. It can be blatant, or subtle, one incident or a pattern.

**SMOKING (30-2)**

Shall mean students must not possess, smoke or use any kind of tobacco product or associated paraphernalia. School Board [R5131.6.2](#).

**UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS/ALCOHOL (03-2)**

Under the influence is a term used to describe a state of intoxication.

**LEAVING SCHOOL WITHOUT PERMISSION (48-2)**

Shall mean student exiting the school campus without authorized or written permission.

**FAILING TO ATTEND ISS OR DETENTION (49-2)**

Shall mean a student refuses to report to ISS or detention as assigned by an Administrator.

**VIOLATION OF THE DISTRICT ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY- TECHNOLOGY (22-2)**

Any violation of the expectations, requirements, and/or student responsibilities outlined in the district's ([Technology Acceptable Use Policy](#)). If utilizing social media in an unacceptable manner such as: invading the privacy of individuals, publishing or displaying any defamatory, racially offensive, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented or threatening materials or messages either publicly or privately and using the district network for illegal, harassing, vandalizing, inappropriate or obscene activities. Possessing, exhibiting, or distributing material, which offends a person's common decency and morals.

**DISORDER IN CAFETERIA (CAFÉ)**

The intentional promotion or advocacy of student misconduct by another student for the purpose of substantially disrupting the cafeteria.

KG- 2	3-6	7-12
Alternative Programming (change teacher/class) Arrange linkage with counseling agency Assess possible unmet needs Behavior Improvement Plan (BIP) (referral to SST) Change in environment (special seating, additional supervision, etc.) Check-In Check-Out Conference with Parent/Student/School Staff Detention Functional Behavior Assessment Group counseling/Behavior lessons Home Visit Individualized Student Safety Plan ISS/Reflection/Recovery room Parent Contact Peer Mediation Reflection activity Removal of Privileges Restitution-Community service task Restorative Circle Re-Teach behavioral expectations	Arrange linkage with counseling agency Behavior Improvement Plan (BIP) (referral to SST) Change in environment (teacher proximity, extra supervision, etc.) Check-In Check-Out Conference with Parent/Student/School Staff Create a home-to-school school-to-home communication system Detention Functional Behavior Assessment Group counseling/Behavior lessons Home Visit Identify a mentor and establish a schedule of activities related to school performance Individualized Student Safety Plan Parent Contact Referral for District Discipline Conference Removal of Privilege Restitution- Supervised Community service task Restorative Circle Suspension	Alternative Programming (change teacher/class) Check-In Check-Out Conference with Parent/Student/School Staff Home Visit Referral for District Discipline Conference Removal of Privileges Restitution-Community service task Restorative Circle Suspension

## **Type III Infractions and Consequences**

### **NOT PARTICIPATING IN CLASS (51-3)**

Student refuse to participate in class activities.

### **PROFANITY (28-3)**

Profanity is socially offensive language, which may also be called curse words or swearing, cuss words, swear words, or expletives.

### **VERBAL ABUSE (32-3)**

The use of any language, acts, unwelcome remarks or expressions, names or slurs or any other behavior including obscene gestures, which are offensive to modesty or decency. Any slurs, innuendoes or other verbal conduct reflecting on an individual's sex, race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, age, disability or sexual orientation that have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment

### **LEAVING CLASSROOM WITHOUT PERMISSION (47-3)**

Shall mean student exiting the classroom without authorized or written permission.

### **HORSEPLAY, PLAY-FIGHTING, POSTURING THREATS (26-3)**

Shall mean rowdy, rough, or boisterous play.



**UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICE (44-3)**

Shall mean any devices not provided by the District that includes, but not limited to radios, Walkman, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital assistants, cellular telephones, blackberries, and laptop computers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

**REFUSAL TO IDENTIFY SELF (29-3)**

Shall mean student refused to provide proper identification.

**HABITUAL DRESS CODE VIOLATION (UNIF)**

Dress or appearance that is likely to cause disruption in the educational process or create a health or safety concern.

**PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION (50-3)**

Public display of affection, is the term used to describe any form of physical contact between couples in a public setting. It includes everything from kissing and cuddling to holding hands or exchanging light touches.

**CHRONIC TARDINESS (31-3)**

The act of being repetitively late.

**CUTTING CLASS/ TRUANCY (33-3)**

Students who are absent from school without the consent of their parent/guardians and the administration shall be considered truant. School administration will determine whether the student's absence is verified or unverified.

**INTENTIONALLY DISTRACTING OR DISRUPTING OTHER STUDENTS (25-3)**

Intentional acts or conduct in the classroom, school building or upon school grounds that disrupts the educational process (i.e., talking, making noises, getting out of seat without permission, etc.).

KG- 2	3-6	7-12
Behavior contract with recognition system Change in environment (special seating, removal of triggers, providing distractors, etc.) Check-In Check-Out Consistent (classroom) consequences for problem behaviors Consistent responses to problem behaviors In-class cool down space Loss of privilege Lunch Detention Parent Contact Parent Contact-Home Visit Private conference with student Providing Choice Referral to SST Reflection activity Restitution-Community service task Restorative Circle Restorative Justice Re-Teach behavioral expectations Safety Plan	Assess skill level Assess possible unmet needs Behavior Improvement Plan Check-In Check-Out Conference with Parent/Student/School Staff Detention Functional Behavior Assessment Group counseling/Behavior lessons Home Visit Home Visit Social Work referral Identify a mentor and establish a schedule of activities related to school performance Individualized Student Safety Plan ISS/Reflection/Recovery room Peer Mediation Restorative Circle	Alternative Programming (change teacher/class) Behavior Improvement Plan Conference with Parent/Student/School Staff Detention Functional Behavior Assessment Group counseling/Behavior lessons Individualized Student Safety Plan ISS/Reflection/Recovery room OSS Parent Contact Parent meeting Peer Mediation Removal of Privileges Restorative Circle

## Type IV Infractions and Consequences

While at the bus stop parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be responsible for their child’s behavior prior to the arrival of the bus and after the departure of the bus. The District is not liable for supervision at the bus stop, but SLPS may discipline students when their actions at the bus stop causes or are likely to cause a material and substantial disruption to the operations of the school. Supervision of SLPS students begins when students get on the bus. It is important for students to stand off the roadway while awaiting the bus. Improper behavior may result in a student being removed from riding the bus either on a temporary or permanent basis. Any offense committed by a student on a district-owned or contracted bus shall be addressed in accordance with this Student Code of Conduct. **The bus is an extension of the classroom and misbehavior will not be tolerated.** Two (2) digital cameras are on every bus to record the activity that occurs throughout the bus and at the bus door.

1. The bus driver is in charge. Students must obey the driver.
2. The bus driver receives a roster of students currently assigned to the bus. Along with the principal, the bus driver has the authority to assign seats. Students are to ride their assigned busses.
3. All transported students receive a pass indicating the assigned bus and route number. Students are only to ride their assigned bus.
4. Parents are not permitted to ride or board the bus.

**Note: Refer to the School Bus Responsibilities Guidelines in the enrollment packet or online.**

Violation of the rules could result in a student being denied permission to ride SLPS buses. Serious misconduct on the bus could result in a recommendation for expulsion. During the suspension of bus privileges, it is a parent(s)’s/guardian(s)’s responsibility to provide the student’s transportation to and from school.

INFRACTIONS	CONSEQUENCES
Eating or Drinking on Bus (43-4) Pushing/Shoving while Boarding/Exiting (40-4) Putting Body Parts out of the Window (42-4) Refusal to Stay Seated (39-4) Tampering with Emergency Door (38-4) Throwing Objects Inside the Bus (36-4) Throwing Objects Out of Window (37-4) Yelling Out the Window (41-4)	Behavior contract with recognition system Bus Suspension Change in environment (special seating, removal of triggers etc.) Parent Contact Private Conference with student Removal from bus Re-Teach behavioral expectations Student determined reparation of harm - Restorative Justice

## Technology and Student Behavior

The Student Acceptable Use Policy and Regulations governs the use of all technology in the SLPS, including cyber bullying (Mo Rev Stat 160.775)). Violations may result in loss of user privileges, suspension, expulsion and civil or criminal penalties. Students shall not have an expectation of privacy in anything they create, send, receive, or store on District technology. Use of cell phones, electronic cameras and electronic communication devices must be authorized by school staff. Unauthorized use of cell phones, cameras and electronic devices may result in confiscation or search and seizure of the item. Items confiscated will only be returned to parent(s)/guardians after meeting with school officials within a reasonable time frame. The district is not liable for the devices brought in violation of district policy and confiscated in accordance with the same.

Students are prohibited from taking pictures video of other students and staff. Doing so violates the privacy rights of other students and staff and is subject to discipline pursuant to district policies on acceptable use and the Family Education Right and Privacy Act (FERPA). The District monitors electronic communications and information stores on District technology in the regular course of business to protect student users and District equipment. Under certain circumstances, students' off campus use of technology that disrupts the operation of the school is also subject to discipline (i.e. use of Facebook and other media sources to harass or cyber bully).

The Board reserves the right to limit Internet access to times when resources and supervision are available. The Board network is considered to be a closed forum to the extent allowed by law. Student users shall agree not to meet with persons they have met on-line (internet or intranet) unless done with the knowledge and encouragement of a Board employee for an educational purpose. Student users shall immediately disclose to their teacher or other school employee any inappropriate material they access through the computer or any message the student receives that is inappropriate or makes the user feel uncomfortable.

## Suspension

Students may be suspended or expelled for conduct that is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools or which tends to impair the morale or good conduct of the students. Any suspension by the Principal shall be immediately reported to the Superintendent or his/her designee who may revoke the suspension at any time.

- No student may be removed from school for more than one day without the action being reported as a suspension.
- Principals are authorized to suspend a student for a period up to but not to exceed ten (10) school days for Type II Infractions.

- Principals are authorized to suspend a student for ten (10) school days for a Type I Infraction.
- Students in grades Kindergarten through second grade cannot be suspended subject to the requirements of the Revised Statutes of Missouri, including but not limited to the Safe Schools Act.
- The Superintendent may suspend a student for a period not to exceed 180 school days.
- When a student is suspended out of school, the parent must be contacted and must receive a letter of suspension.
- Students involved in assaults on staff or other students may forfeit their return to the school in which the assault was committed.
- A disciplined student pursuant to this policy is not allowed within 1,000 feet of the school property or any activity of that district, regardless of whether or not the activity takes place on District property. The suspended student must have permission from the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee to be on school property. The District may discipline students for an off-campus conduct that negatively affects the on campus educational environment.

## **Due Process for Suspension**

All students shall be treated fairly and honestly in resolving grievances and complaints, and in the consideration of any suspension or expulsion. For Student Code of Conduct infractions that may warrant a suspension or recommendation for expulsion:

The principal or designee must conduct a student conference and school-level investigation within a reasonable period of time. No student shall be suspended unless:

1. The student is provided oral or written notice of the charges against him/her; and
2. If the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an oral or written explanation of the facts which form the basis of the proposed suspension; and
3. The student shall be given an opportunity to present his/her version of the incident; and
4. In the event of a suspension for more than ten (10) days, where the student gives notice that they wish to appeal the decision, the suspension shall be stayed until the Board renders its decision unless, in the judgment of the Superintendent, the student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process, in which case the student may be immediately removed from school and the notice and hearing shall follow as soon as practicable.

The Principal or designee must contact the parent(s)/guardian(s) to give notice of the suspension, to provide the reason for the suspension, and to establish a date and time for a conference with the principal or designee as a requirement for readmitting the student. No student shall be sent home without proper documentation of the particular misconduct and reason for the suspension.

The student shall remain in school until the end of the school day unless released into the care of his/her parent(s)/guardian(s). A student whose presence in a school poses a continued danger to any person or property or an ongoing threat of disruption to the academic process shall be immediately removed from the school premises under the supervision of the appropriate legal authority.

## **Appeal Process for Suspension or Alternative Placement**

### **Short Term Suspension Appeal:**

Detentions, In-School-Suspensions and Out-of-School Suspensions not exceeding ten (10) days are not open to appeal beyond the building principal.

### **Long Term Suspension Appeal (More than Ten [10] Days):**

Any suspension of more than ten days entitles the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) to appeal the decision of the Superintendent to the Board of Education. The student or parent must notify the Office of Family and Community Engagement of their intent to appeal within five (5) business days from the date of the long term suspension. If the student or parent gives notice of his or her intent to appeal the suspension, the suspension shall be stayed until the Board renders its decision. However, if in the judgment of the Superintendent, the student poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process, the student will be immediately removed from school and the hearing will follow as soon as practical.

In the event of an appeal to the Board of Education, the Superintendent shall promptly transmit a full report in writing of the facts relating to the suspension, the action taken by him/her, the reasons thereof and the Board of Education upon request, shall grant a hearing to the appealing party to be conducted as provided in Section [167.161](#), RSMo.

Parent(s)/Legal guardian(s) may pursue an appeal of a suspension of more than ten (10) days by:

- Request an appeal form from the Office of Family and Community Engagement, 801 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St., St. Louis, MO 63101, or write a letter of appeal.
- Include on the form or in the letter all information pertinent to the infraction.
- Return the form or letter to the Office of Family and Community Engagement within five (5) business days from the date of the long-term suspension.
- Appeals should be restricted to statements of fact directly pertaining to the infraction that resulted in imposition of the long-term suspension.

### **Appeal Process for Alternative Placement:**

A student assigned to an alternative site due to a Type I infraction of the Student Code of Conduct may appeal that placement to the Office of Family and Community Engagement. The alternative placement will remain in effect until a ruling is made on the appeal. Students must enroll in the alternative placement until a ruling is made on the appeal. Parent(s)/Legal guardian(s) may pursue an appeal of either action by:

- Request an appeal form from Office of Family and Community Engagement, 801 N. 11<sup>th</sup> St., St. Louis, MO 63101, or write a letter of appeal.
- Include on the form or in the letter all information pertinent to the infraction.
- Return the form or letter to the Office of Family and Community Engagement within five (5) business days from the date of the alternative placement.
- Appeals should be restricted to statements of fact directly pertaining to the infraction that resulted in imposition of the alternative placement assignment. Notification of the status of the appeal will be sent to the guardian within ten (10) school days of receipt of the written appeal.
- The decision of the Office of Family and Community Engagement shall be final and not subject to appeal.

## **Expulsion**

Expulsion is permanent denial of school attendance.

### **Expulsion from School:**

Any student, after being suspended for committing a Type I infraction, may be expelled upon recommendation by the school principal or designee. The principal or designee shall immediately suspend and recommend for expulsion a student who is found guilty of possessing any of the following on school property, on a school bus, or at a school sponsored event:

- A weapon (see glossary for weapons)
- Distribution and selling of drugs or alcohol
- Aggravated Assault
- Other Safe Schools Act Violations requiring expulsion

**Expulsion from District:**

Following notice to a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and a hearing on the charges, the Board of Education may permanently remove a student from school. At the hearing, the Board will consider the evidence and statements presented by both student and school officials before making the decision to expel.

Note: No student who has been expelled shall be admitted to any public school in any other parish or city school system in the state except upon the review and approval of the governing authority of the school system to which he/she seeks admittance.

## **Due Process for Expulsion**

**From School:**

A principal can recommend a student for expulsion from the school. If a principal recommends a student for expulsion the student will be suspended pending a District Discipline Conference for a recommendation for expulsion. The student will have a District Discipline Conference, in which the District Discipline Officer will determine if the recommendation for expulsion is upheld, modified, or reversed.

The due process procedures for recommendation for expulsion and District Discipline Conferences are as follows:

- The principal or designee must conduct a student conference and school-level investigation. The appropriate documentation must be submitted to The Office of Innovative Pathways.
- A District Discipline conference is conducted by the superintendent's designee, the District Discipline Conference Officer, within ten (10) days of the discipline infraction.
- The Discipline Conference Officer will review the documentation submitted by the building principal and/or designee.
- The student shall remain on suspension until the conference takes place.

**From District:**

The Board of Education may permanently remove a student from school following notice to a student's parents or guardians and a hearing on the charges. At the hearing, the Board will consider the evidence and statements presented by both student and school officials before making the decision to expel.

## **Readmission or Permission to Enroll**

If a student is attempting to enroll in the SLPS during a suspension or expulsion or to avoid a suspension or expulsion from another in-state or out-of-state school district, including a private, charter, parochial school or school district, a conference with the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will be held to consider if the conduct of the student would have resulted in a suspension or expulsion in the SLPS District. Parents should contact Innovative Pathways to schedule an appointment.

Upon determination by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee that such conduct would have resulted in a suspension or expulsion in SLPS, the District will make such suspension or expulsion effective in the SLPS District. In such cases when students enter SLPS from another district, charter or parochial school with past suspensions or frequent violations of the Student Code of Conduct, these students may be placed in an alternative school for a time determined by the Office of Innovative Pathways.

SLPS will not readmit or enroll a student suspended for more than ten consecutive school days for an act of school violence or permit students to attend school without first holding a conference to review the conduct that resulted in the expulsion or suspension and any remedial actions needed to prevent any future occurrences of such or related conduct. The conference must include appropriate members of the school, the student and the parent/guardian.

#### Felony Offenses

Per State Statute §167.171, no student will be readmitted or enrolled if the student was convicted of, charged as an adult or juvenile without final adjudication or convicted of juvenile conduct which, if committed by an adult, would constitute one of the following offenses:

- (a) First degree murder under section 565.020;
- (b) Second degree murder under section 565.021;
- (c) First degree assault under section 565.050;
- (d) Forcible rape under section 566.030 as it existed prior to August 28, 2013, or rape in the first degree under section 566.030;
- (e) Forcible sodomy under section 566.060 as it existed prior to August 28, 2013, or sodomy in the first degree under section 566.060;
- (f) Statutory rape under section 566.032;
- (g) Statutory sodomy under section 566.062;
- (h) Robbery in the first degree under section 569.020 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or robbery in the first degree under section 570.023;
- (i) Distribution of drugs to a minor under section 195.212 as it existed prior to January 1, 2017, or delivery of a controlled substance under section 579.020;
- (j) Arson in the first degree under section 569.040;
- (k) Kidnapping or kidnapping in the first degree, when classified as a class A felony under section 565.110.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to prevent the District from imposing discipline under the District's Student Code of Conduct for conduct underlying the above listed offenses even if the adult charge or juvenile petition has been dismissed or acquitted of the specific act in criminal or juvenile court, provided it is proved that the student shall be afforded all due process protections required by law.

## **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504**

The requirements of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act regarding students with disabilities takes precedence over the Safe Schools Act and the St. Louis Public School Code of Conduct.

This limits the district's ability to exclude these students without following the change in placement procedures required by law.

It is the policy of the Board to provide a free, appropriate public education to students with disabilities. The District's programs and services available to meet the needs of these students will be in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S. C. §1400 et seq., as amended., the Missouri State Plan for Special Education, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. §794.

Under both IDEA and Section 504, school districts are required to conduct child find activities and an annual census of all children with disabilities or suspected disabilities from birth to age twenty-one (21). This includes children residing in the District who are not attending school, students attending private schools, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. If you have a child with a disability or know of a child with a disability who is not attending a public school, please request the Census Reporting form. This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

For additional information, contact your child's principal or the Director of Special Education Services, by phone at (314) 633-5344 or by mail to the Division of Special Education Services, St. Louis Public Schools, 801 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, MO 63101.

The St. Louis Public Schools assures that it will provide FAPE to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. The District will conduct a free evaluation of any person between the ages of 3 and 21, who needs or is believed to need special education or related services before taking any action with respect to the initial placement of the person in a regular or special education program, and will consider the need for evaluation before any subsequent significant change in placement. Examples of disabilities under the IDEA include autism, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and a young child with a developmental delay. A student has a disability under Section 504 when the student has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits a major life activity.

The St. Louis Public Schools assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps Program.

St. Louis Public Schools has developed a local compliance plan for implementation of the Missouri State Plan for Special Education. This plan may be reviewed at the Office of Special Education during regular business hours.

The St. Louis Public Schools assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians and students 18 years of age or older (eligible students). Parents/guardians and eligible students may request an amendment to the educational record if the parent/guardian or eligible student believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child.

Parents have the right to file complaints with the Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20202-4605 or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Division of Special Education – Compliance, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, MO 65102 concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

#### Discipline of Students with Disabilities under the IDEA:

Students with disabilities are expected to abide by the rules established in this handbook. However, in some circumstances, state and federal law requires that certain procedures be followed when students with disabilities are suspended. For the purposes of this section, a student with a disability is a student who is eligible to receive services pursuant to Part B of the IDEA.



Although not prescribed by statute or regulation, it has been determined by the U.S. Office for Civil Rights and courts that Section 504 requires similar procedures as required by the IDEA.

#### Suspension for Ten or Fewer Days:

Students with disabilities who violate any provision of this handbook may be suspended or removed from his or her current placement for up to ten school days using only the due process procedures afforded other students, except as noted below when the total number of removals for the school year exceeds ten days.

#### Suspension for More than Ten Days:

If a student with a disability is suspended or removed from his or her current educational placement for more than ten consecutive days the student will receive the due process afforded all students suspended for more than ten school days. The student will also receive educational services designed to enable the student to continue to participate in the general curriculum and to progress toward meeting their IEP goals.

In addition, within ten days of the decision to suspend the student or change the placement of the student, a representative of the district, the parent and the relevant members of the IEP team will meet to determine whether the behavior at issue is a manifestation of the student's disability. If this group determines that the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability, the IEP team will conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement or revise a behavior intervention plan and return the student to the original placement, unless the parent and District agree on another placement.

#### Manifestation Determination:

The District, parent(s)/guardian(s) and relevant members of the IEP Team may determine that the behavior of the student was a manifestation of the student's disability only if the group determines that:

- The conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to the student's disability; or the conduct in question was the direct result of the LEA'S failure to implement the IEP.

If the IEP Team determines that the conduct was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the relevant disciplinary procedure applicable to students without disability may be applied in the same manner for the same duration, except the student will also receive educational services designed to enable the student to continue to participate in the general curriculum and to progress toward meeting their IEP goals.

Building administrators (principals, assistant principals, disciplinarians, etc.) are not to serve as a member of the Manifestation Determination Review Committee or participate in the decision; however, they may participate to provide information regarding the incident. Committee members should include at minimum: a person who is knowledgeable about the student, a person who is knowledgeable about the student's disability, and the parent(s)/legal guardian(s). The school social worker, school nurse, school counselor, and any other person deemed appropriate may serve as committee members to provide pertinent student information that should be considered in the final decision. If the group determines that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the IEP team will determine what services will be provided and the appropriate setting in which those services will be provided. The IEP team may conduct a functional behavioral assessment and create a behavioral intervention plan.

Procedures applicable to suspensions or interim alternative placements of more than ten consecutive school days also apply to suspensions or alternative placements that exceed ten cumulative days in a school year, if the cumulative days constitute a pattern of suspension. The removals are a pattern if they are substantially similar to the child's behavior in previous incidents that resulted in the series of removals and because of factors such as the length of each removal, the total amount of time the child has been removed, and the proximity of the removals to one another.

#### Special Circumstances:

Students with disabilities may be placed in an interim alternative setting for up to 45 school days for carrying or possessing a weapon as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 930, knowingly using, possessing, selling or soliciting the sale of certain illegal drugs identified under Schedules I-V of Section 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act, or inflicting serious bodily injury upon another person. Students may be removed under this provision even if the student's behavior was a manifestation of the student's disability.

#### Parent Appeal:

Parents may appeal discipline procedures in accordance with policies governing the suspension of all students and through procedures available pursuant to IDEA. Parents will be provided a copy of procedural safeguards.

#### Protections For Children Not Yet Determined Eligible:

Students who have not been identified as eligible for services under the IDEA and who have engaged in behavior that violates a code of conduct may assert rights under the IDEA if the District is deemed to have knowledge that the student was a student with a disability before the behavior that precipitated the disciplinary action. The District is deemed to have such knowledge if:

- The parent has expressed a concern in writing that the student needs special education services; or
- The parent has requested an evaluation; or
- The student's teacher or other school staff has expressed concern about the student's behavior or performance to the Director of Special Education or to other supervisory personnel

The District would not be deemed to have knowledge that the student is a student with a disability if:

- The District conducted an evaluation and determined that the student was not a student with a disability; or
- The District determined that an evaluation was not necessary and provided proper Notice of Action Refused; or
- The parent of the student has not allowed an evaluation of the student pursuant to the IDEA or has refused services.

#### Dangerous Students:

If the District believes maintaining the student's current placement is substantially likely to result in injury to the child or others, the District may request an expedited due process hearing seeking a change of placement in accordance with procedures established under federal and state law.

#### Stay-Put Provision:

When a parent requests a due process hearing regarding the discipline action to challenge the interim alternative educational setting or the manifestation determination and when the student is disciplined for weapons, drugs, behavior causing serious bodily injury to others or because they are a danger to themselves or others, the student will remain in the alternative educational setting pending the hearing decision of the hearing officer or until expiration of the time period of the interim alternative educational setting, whichever comes first (unless the parties agree otherwise). The State Educational Agency shall arrange for an expedited hearing, which shall occur within twenty (20) days of the date the hearing is requested and shall result in a determination within ten (10) school days after the hearing.

## **Missouri State High School Activities Association Eligibility**

The high schools of the St. Louis Public School District are members of the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA). MSHSAA's eligibility requirements have been voted on by the member schools and were adopted by SLPS schools when the district became a MSHSAA member.

SLPS schools may also have additional local school requirements that must be complied with in order to be eligible. Although middle schools are not members of MSHSAA, middle schools follow the rules and guidelines of MSHSAA.

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Bona Fide Student – In order to represent an SLPS school, the student athlete must be a bona fide student and meet all eligibility requirements. The student athlete must be enrolled in and regularly attend classes at the member school he/she wishes to represent and he/she must meet the academic requirements in MSHSAA By-Law 2.3 and those of the SLPS District.
2. Citizenship – The student athlete must be a creditable citizen. Creditable citizens are those students whose conduct – both in school and out of school – will not reflect discredit upon themselves or their school. Conduct involving law enforcement must be reported to your principal or athletic director immediately as your conduct may affect eligibility or contest outcomes. For additional information, please contact the building principal or athletic director.

The District Athletic Administrator may be reached at (314) 345-4418. You may also visit the Missouri State High School Activities Association website [www.mshsaa.org](http://www.mshsaa.org).

## **Policy on Participation in Graduation Exercises**

Participation in graduation exercises is a privilege - not a right. Students participating in commencement exercises shall complete all requirements for graduation as established by the Missouri Department of Education and St. Louis Public Schools and shall not have been assigned to an alternative school during any portion of the current school year. Students in an alternative school are eligible to participate in a graduation organized and held through an alternative school. Students shall pay all assessed fees and shall not be under suspension. Students in a dropout recovery program are not eligible to participate in regular graduation but are eligible to participate in a graduation organized and held through an alternative school.

Students on out-of-school suspension for Type I, II, or III misconduct will not be permitted to participate in commencement exercises and related activities. If the suspension prevents completion of academic work necessary for graduation, this disciplinary consequence may affect a student's graduation or receipt of a diploma.

Students not permitted to participate in commencement exercises may still receive a diploma and any other honors that were otherwise earned by the student, if such student has successfully completed the minimum curriculum requirement of the Missouri Department of Education and the Board of Education. An alternative school shall allow students to participate in a separate commencement ceremony. To qualify as Valedictorian or Salutatorian of the senior class, a student must complete at least six (6) consecutive semesters at the high school from which the student will graduate.

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS CLASS OF 2010 & BEYOND**

Communication Arts	4.0	<b><u>Grade Level Classification</u></b>	
Electives	7.5	Freshman	0 to 6 credits
Fine Arts	1.0	Sophomore	7 or above
Health	0.5	Junior	13 or above
Mathematics	3.0	Senior	19 or above
Personal Finance	0.5*		
Physical Education	1.0		
Practical Arts	1.0		
Science	3.0		
<u>Social Studies</u>	<u>2.5</u>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>24</b>		

Note: Students must also pass the Missouri and U.S. Constitution tests. \*Personal Finance is a Social Studies credit

## **Parental and Eligible Student Rights under FERPA**

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents have various rights with respect to the privacy of their children's education records. In addition, the child may also have these same rights if they are considered an eligible student. An eligible student is defined in Board Regulation R5125.1.1. as "any current or former student who is 18 years of age or older (or a former student, regardless of age who has enrolled in a higher education institution), unless such student is a special education student and is legally determined to be incompetent to make privacy decisions for himself or herself and for whom legal guardianship or conservatorship is required beyond the age of eighteen." The rights of parents and eligible students include those described below:

### **Inspect and Review of Records:**

Under FERPA, a parent or eligible student has the right to inspect and review the student's education records. The procedures to inspect and review a student's records are set forth in Board Regulation R5125.2.

### **Right to File Written Objections:**

Under FERPA, a parent or eligible student who believes that information contained in the official records of the student is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy or rights of the student, may file written objections to the Superintendent or designee and request that the contested information be amended. The procedures to request an amendment of a student record are set forth in Board Regulation R5125.5.

### **Consent to Disclosure:**

Under FERPA, a parent or eligible student must consent to disclosure of information in or from a student record, except to the extent applicable state or federal law authorize its release without consent. Board Regulation R5125.2 sets forth when information in or from a student record can be disclosed without parental or eligible student consent. One of the exceptions to the prior consent requirement is that information in or from a student record, including a student's personally identifiable information, can be disclosed to school officials who have a legitimate educational interest in such records. Under Regulation R5125.1.1.2, "school officials" is defined as follows:

- School administrators, teachers and counselors who are employed by the Board of Education and who are working directly with students in an administrative, teaching, counseling and/or diagnostic capacity.
- Other professional staff members employed by or under contract with the District to perform a special task such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, evaluators, psychologists, social workers and therapists whose duties require that they have access to student records.
- A person who is employed by the School District's law enforcement unit.
- Administrative office staff and clerical personnel who are employed by the Board and whose duties require that they have access to student records for the purpose of processing information for student records.
- The members of the Board, the Superintendent of Schools, Deputy/Assistant/Associate/Network Superintendents and their agents and representatives who are employed by the Board, whose duties pursuant to the general supervision of the school system require access to student records.

A “legitimate educational interest” is whether the information in question is required or would be helpful to the official in the performance of his or her duties for, or related to, District business. Another exception to the prior consent requirement is when copies of official student records are to be transferred to officials of another school or school district in which a student enrolls or expects to enroll. Upon request, the parent or eligible student will be provided with a copy of the student records that were transferred.

### **Directory Information:**

Under FERPA, the District has the right to determine and release student “directory information” to third parties “upon written request.” In accordance with federal law, the Board has designated the following as directory information:

- Student’s name
- Address
- Telephone listing
- Date and place of birth
- Major field of study
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Dates of attendance
- Degrees and awards received
- The most recent previous educational agency or institution attended by the student

In accordance with Board policy, directory information will be disclosed to third parties. However, parents and eligible students have the right to inform the District that it should not release their child’s directory information to third parties. Such a request should be directed in writing to Student Accounting, 801 North 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

### **Military Recruiters:**

Another exception to the prior consent requirement under FERPA requires that the Board release upon request students’ names, addresses and telephone listings to military recruiters or institutions of higher education. However, parents or eligible students have the right to inform the District that it should not release the student’s name, address and telephone listing to military recruiters, or institutions of higher education. Such a request should be directed in writing to Student Accounting, 801 N. 11th Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63101.

### **Complaints:**

Under FERPA, parents and eligible students have the right to file with the U. S. Department of Education a complaint under 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.63-99.64 concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with FERPA and its implementing regulations.

### **Copy of Policies:**

Under FERPA, parents and eligible students have the right to obtain a copy of the Board Policies and Regulations concerning student records. Copies of policies and regulations can be found at the Board of Education’s main office or on the Internet at the District’s home page.

### **SLPS Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Complaint Procedures**

The Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) of 2015 requires that school districts have board-adopted written procedures to resolve allegations of violations of requirements under this law. The District must disseminate the complaint procedures to parents and appropriate officials or representatives. Copies of

these procedures should also be available upon request to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Director of Federal Grants Management Section. The following should serve as a guide for resolving complaints under Title IX Part C Section 9304(a) (3) (c) for programs authorized under the Act, including Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV (Part A), Title X (Part C).

What is a complaint for Purposes of this Policy?

A complaint is a written allegation that there was a violation of a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA. There are both formal and informal complaint procedures.

A complaint under this procedure must be in writing and signed by the complainant. The written complaint must specify the details of the situation and must pertain to a law or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA and is allegedly being violated, misapplied or misinterpreted.

Who May File a Complaint?

Any parent or guardian, surrogate parent, teacher, administrator, school board member or other person directly involved with an activity, program or project operated under the general supervision of DESE may file a complaint

How are Complaints Filed?

Complaints can be filed with the District or with DESE. If the complaint is first filed with the District and cannot be resolved at the District level, the complainant may appeal the complaint to DESE. A complaint filed with either the District or DESE must be a written, signed statement that includes: (1) A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the District, and (2) The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirement allegedly violated.

A question about local school district policies, rules or parties which are not based on federal or state laws or regulations is not a complaint within the meaning of this policy and must be settled at the local school district level.

Citizen's Complaint Procedures:

STEP 1: Informal Conference (Day 1-5)

Anyone wishing to lodge a complaint should contact the responsible administrator at the appropriate school location or administrative office. Within five days, the responsible administrator shall conduct an informal conference with the citizen and the person against whom the charge is directed (if appropriate, in some instances complaints may not be directed against a person). If the complaint is resolved, the process ends. If the complaint is unresolved the citizen may request a formal hearing by completing Section I of the Citizen Complaint Form.

STEP 2: Formal Complaint Hearing (Days 6-16)

Upon appeal, the responsible administrator shall conduct a formal hearing, within five days. Those present should include the citizen lodging the complaint and any witnesses designated by the citizen or the responsible administrator.

The responsible administrator shall notify the citizen, in writing, of the decision regarding the complaint, within five days of the hearing.

If the complaint is not resolved, the responsible administrator completes Section II of the Complaint Form and forwards it to the Deputy and Network Superintendents. The Deputy and Network Superintendents will determine which of the three options will be utilized for complaint resolution.\*

1. Deputy and/or Network Superintendent - because the resolution of the complaint exceeds the authority of the administrator.
2. Superintendent - because resolution of the complaint involves district-wide administrative procedures.
3. Complaint Subcommittee of the Board of because resolution of complaint involves Board Policy.

\*The Superintendent's designee and the Superintendent should receive copies of all complaints forwarded regardless of their destination. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will be notified within fifteen (15) days after receipt of complaints.

Thus depending upon the nature of the complaint it will be forwarded to either A, B, or C for FINAL RESOLUTION.

STEP 3: Formal Hearings by Deputy and Network Superintendents (Days 17-27)

- A. Upon the appeal, the Deputy or Network Superintendent conducts a formal hearing involving the citizen and essential witnesses. This hearing shall take place within 5 days of the receipt of complaint. Within five days after the hearing, the Deputy or Network Superintendent shall render a final decision to the citizen in writing.

OR

STEP 3: Formal Hearing by Superintendent (Days 17-27)

- B. Upon the appeal, the Superintendent conducts a formal hearing involving the citizen and essential witnesses. This hearing shall take place within 5 days of receipt of complaint. Within five days after the hearing, the superintendent shall render a final decision to the citizen in writing.

OR

STEP 3: Formal Review by Complaint Subcommittee of the Board of Education (Days 17-27)

- C. Upon the appeal, the Complaint Subcommittee shall review the complaint and consult with appropriate administrative staff regarding the complaint. The Complaint Subcommittee shall conduct a formal hearing within five days of the appeal and within five days following the hearing, shall render a final decision. The citizen shall be notified in writing of the Subcommittee's decision. Copies should be forwarded to each of the administrators involved in the appeal process.

# **SLPS Citizen Complaint Appeal Form**

Section 1: to be completed by person lodging the complaint

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ Cell): \_\_\_\_\_ (Work): \_\_\_\_\_

Nature of Complaint:

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Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Section 2: to be completed by responsible administrator after the formal hearing if the complaint is not resolved

Administrator Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Results of Formal Hearing:

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I am forwarding this complaint to (Name): \_\_\_\_\_

Administrator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Section 3a: to be completed by Network Superintendent

This complaint should be resolved by:

\_\_\_\_ Deputy Superintendent of Academics

\_\_\_\_ Superintendent

\_\_\_\_ Board of Education Complaint Subcommittee



REASON:

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Signature:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION 3b: to be completed by the Deputy Superintendent, Superintendent or Complaint Subcommittee

Administrator Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Disposition of Complaint:

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

The individuals were notified of decision on/by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please forward a copy of this completed form to each administrator involved in this complaint and also to the Deputy Superintendent of Academic Services, Network Superintendent and the Superintendent.**

# **Standard Complaint Resolution Process as it Applies to Disputes Regarding the Education of Homeless Children and Youth**

The following is the complaint resolution process recommended by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) when a dispute arises regarding the education of a homeless child or youth.

- I. School District Level – Every effort must be made to resolve the complaint or dispute at the school district level before it is brought to DESE. It is the responsibility of the school district (the district) to inform the complainant of the district’s Complaint Resolution Procedure when a question concerning the education of a homeless child or youth arises.
  - A. Notify the district’s homeless coordinator, (314) 345-5750. The homeless coordinator serves as a liaison between the homeless child and the school the child attends. Someone in the school or in the Superintendent’s office will be able to identify the homeless coordinator.
    1. Request a copy of or access to the District Board of Education policies addressing the education of homeless children and youths (specifically, [R6171.3.1](#) Instruction of Atypical Students -- Homeless – Placement, Enrollment and Transportation, [R6171.3.2](#) Instruction of Atypical Students -- Homeless – Services and Records, and [R6171.3.3](#) Instruction of Atypical Students – Homeless – Resolving Grievances) and review them. Make an appointment for a meeting with the homeless coordinator to discuss the complaint.
    2. If the dispute is not resolved after the initial discussion with the district’s homeless coordinator, the complainant can file a complaint in writing to the district’s homeless coordinator for further review.
    3. The written complaint should include a request that a written proposed resolution of the dispute or plan of action be provided within five (5) days\* of the date that the complaint was received by the homeless coordinator. A review of the proposal or plan of action with the homeless coordinator should follow.
  - B. If the dispute is not resolved at the homeless coordinator level, the complaint may be forwarded to the superintendent of the District for review followed by a meeting with the superintendent to discuss the dispute. The complainant should request from the Superintendent a written resolution within five (5) days\* of the date of the discussion.
  - C. If the dispute is not resolved at the Superintendent level, the complainant may take the matter before the Board of Education for resolution.
- II. State Level – If the dispute is not resolved in a satisfactory manner at the District level, the complaint may be brought to DESE. Complaints made under this process must be made in writing and signed by the complainant. The following steps are to be taken.
  - A. Address the complaint to the State Homeless Coordinator, Federal Discretionary Grants, P.O. Box 480, Jefferson City, Missouri
  - B. Include in the complaint:
    1. A detailed description of the dispute
    2. The names(s) and age(s) of the children involved
    3. The name(s) of involved school district personnel and the district(s) they represent.
    4. A description of attempts that were made to resolve the issue at the District level.

- C. The Director of Federal Discretionary Grants (the Director) will inform the involved school district(s) of the complaint. The director or the director's designee will gather needed information including documentation and statements of the parties and may conduct an independent investigation through an on-site visit if necessary.
- D. Within thirty (30) days\* after receiving a complaint, the director will resolve the complaint and will inform the parties, in writing, of the decision.
- E. If a complainant disagrees with the director's decision, the complainant may, within ten (10) working days, appeal the decision to the Deputy Commissioner of Education. This appeal must be in writing and state why the complainant disagrees with the decision.
- E. Within (30) days\*\* after receiving the appeal, the Deputy Commissioner of Education will render a final administrative decision and notify the complainant and all other interested parties in writing.
- G. While the dispute is ongoing, the child(ren) in question must be enrolled in school. If the dispute revolves around which school is the school of best interest for the child, the child shall remain in the school they currently attend until the dispute is resolved, unless arrangements already implemented allow the child to attend the school of origin.

\* The parties may mutually agree on an extension; however every effort should be made to resolve the complaint in the shortest possible time.

\*\* Although the standard procedure allows thirty (30) days for a response, every effort will be made to resolve the complaint in the shortest possible time.

## **Dispute Resolution Procedures Regarding the Determinations for a Child or Youth in Foster Care**

The following is the complaint resolution process recommended by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) when a dispute arises regarding the determination of best interest or the provision of other educationally related services for a child or youth in foster care.

1. Level I of the appeal is to the Superintendent or his/her Designee;
2. If the dispute is unresolved at the first level, the final appeal (Level II) is to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

If a dispute arises over the Best Interest Determination, the child or youth shall remain in his or her school of origin, while the dispute is being resolved, to minimize disruptions and reduce the number of moves between schools.

The District must collaborate with Children's Division and the aggrieved parties to resolve the complaint or dispute at the local level before it is sent to DESE.

Disputes may only be filed by the educational decision-maker or parent. The two parties may not use the school district dispute resolution process to resolve disagreements amongst themselves.

The definition of "foster care" is 24-hour substitute care for children placed away from their parents or guardians and for whom the child welfare agency has placement and care responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to, placements in foster family homes, foster homes of relatives, group homes, emergency shelters, residential facilities, child care institutions, and pre-adoptive homes. A child is in foster care in accordance with this definition regardless of whether the foster care facility is licensed and payments are made by the State, Tribal or local agency for the care of the child, whether adoption subsidy payments are being made prior to the finalization of an adoption, or whether there is Federal matching of any payments that are made.

## Glossary of Terms

**Accommodations** – shall mean changes in how a test is administered that do not substantially alter what the test measures, includes changes in presentation format, response format, test setting or test timing. Appropriate accommodations are made to provide equal opportunity to demonstrate knowledge.

**Aggravated Assault** – shall mean an act that causes serious physical harm or creates a substantial risk of serious physical harm to another member of the school community.

**Alcohol** – shall mean the use, possession, distribution and sale of alcohol is prohibited on school premises. In accordance with Board of Education policy, administrative procedures apply in dealing with pupils involved with alcoholic beverages or intoxicants of any kind while on school premises. School Board R5131.6.3

**Alternative School Placement** – shall mean a school or program that is focused on promoting student behavior, attendance, and academic performance.

**Arson** – shall mean the willful burning or attempt to maliciously burn or set fire to a school building or property located on school grounds or any property rented by or on loan to the district.

**Battery** – shall mean the unlawful beating or other use of violent force on another person.

**Behavior contract** – shall mean a written document between the teacher, student, and parent(s) /legal guardian(s) which specifies: expected behaviors(s), positive and negative consequences, and time frame of the contract with review date.

**Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)**. Shall mean a plan that includes school staff responsibilities meant to develop a student to meet behavior expectations. BIPs are written documents that describe the inappropriate behavior to be changed as well as strategies or interventions implemented to address the target behavior. BIPs are developed by either the classroom teacher or a team of school personnel who assist the teacher in proactively, consistently, and effectively addressing inappropriate behavior. BIPs aid in communicating behavioral expectations to individual students or an entire classroom and also communicate the consequences of achieving the goal or objective. In addition, BIPs allow frequent feedback regarding the effectiveness of the management strategies being employed, assist in documentation of student or class progress and provide useful guidelines for interacting with students.

**Bomb Threat** – shall mean making a false statement regarding the possession or location of a bomb or explosive device on school property, at any school sponsored activity or any vehicle in service on behalf of the SLPS District.

**Bullying** – shall mean intimidation or harassment of a student or multiple students perpetuated by individuals or groups. Bullying includes, but is not limited to: physical actions, including violence, gestures, theft, or damaging property; oral or written taunts, including name-calling, put-downs, extortion, or threats; or threats of retaliation for reporting such acts. Bullying may also include cyberbullying or cyber threats. Board Policy 5131.

**Burglary** – shall mean the unauthorized entering of any school structure, vehicle, or property, movable or immovable, with the intent to commit a felony or any theft therein.

**Case Coordination** – shall mean monitoring, communication, and support between family, school(s), and outside community agencies.

**Change of Placement** – shall mean when either the school removes the student from his or her educational placement for more than ten (10) consecutive school days or the school removes the student from his or her educational placement on several occasions that constitute a pattern and add up to more than ten (10) school days.

**Character Education** – shall mean a curriculum approach to teach students to understand, commit to, and act on shared ethical values. Typical core values include respect, responsibility, trustworthiness, fairness, caring, and community participation.

**Charter School** – shall mean an independent school that is publicly funded. Charter schools must follow the same state law regarding discipline and the same state and federal law regarding special education.

**Cheating** – shall mean the use, submission or attempt to obtain data or answers dishonestly, by deceit or by means other than those authorized by the teacher.

**Check-In/Check Out (CICO)** – shall mean a positive behavioral support for students who demonstrate moderate behavior problems. It is intended to provide frequent reinforcement for compliance with behavioral goals.

**Code of Conduct** – shall mean this Student Code of Conduct.

**Corporal Punishment** – shall mean the use of or threat of physical force for the purposes of discipline or punishment. Furthermore, the use of physical restraint by trained staff shall not be considered as Corporal Punishment. Board Policy P5144.

**Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI)** – a training organization that specializes in non-violent crisis interventions.

**Cyber bullying** – shall mean is the sending, sharing or posting of harassing, harmful, threatening or cruel messages, texts or images using the Internet or other digital or electronic communication devices. Harassment includes slurs, comments, jokes, innuendoes, unwelcome compliments, cartoons, pranks, or verbal conduct relating to an individual that (1) have the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment; (2) have the purpose and effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or a student's school performance, or (3) interfere with school operations. Vandalism is any attempt to harm or destroy the operating system, application software, data, or any other purposeful action that adversely impacts the District's computer resources. Cyber threats are electronically transmitted or online materials that threaten or raise concerns about violence against others, suicide or self-harm. Board Policy 5131.

**Day** – shall mean calendar day unless otherwise indicated as school day or business day.

**DESE** – Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

**Detention** – shall mean a form of discipline in which a student is required to spend extra time at school. A detention may take place before or after the school day, on the weekend (traditionally known as Saturday School) and during breaks in the school day, such as lunch (the student must not be deprived of having lunch).

**Discipline** – shall mean the steps, action, or interventions teachers, administrators, support staff, and parents/ legal guardians implement to enhance student academic, social, moral, or mental improvement.

**Disobedience** – shall mean deliberate choice to break a rule or disobey a directive given by a person in authority.

**District** – shall mean St. Louis Public School District.

**District Discipline Conference** – shall mean the due process proceeding for a Type I infraction or repeated Type 2 infractions.

**Drugs** – shall mean the illegal possession, use, distribution and sale of drugs, including unauthorized prescription drugs, inhalants, intoxicants of any kind (whether or not the primary intended purpose of the intoxicant is intoxication), controlled substances or imitations of any of these on school premises is not permitted. The possession, use, distribution and sale of drug-related paraphernalia are also prohibited. Anyone found in violation of this regulation shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school in the manner provided by board policy and regulation and any other applicable provisions of the law. School Board R5131.6.1

**Due Process** – shall mean an established course for proceedings designed to protect the legal rights of the individual.

**Due Process Hearing** – shall mean a formal hearing to resolve special education disputes between parents and schools. IDEA 2004 includes rules of procedure for resolving such disputes. These rules include mediation, due process hearing and appeals to state or federal court. A due process hearing is usually a formal, contested trial.

**Electronic Communication Devices** – shall mean any devices not provided by the District that includes, but not limited to radios, Walkman, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital assistants, cellular telephones, blackberries, and laptop computers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities.

**ESSA**- Every Student Succeeds Act

**Exceptionality** – shall mean a student’s special learning needs identified through the Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation process. There are several types of exceptionalities, including Autism/ Asperger’s Syndrome, Emotional Disturbance, Gifted and Talented, Specific Learning Disability and Mental Disability.

**Expulsion** – shall mean any denial of school attendance for the remainder of the school year, for a time designated during the current or next school year, or permanently.

**Extortion** – shall mean obtaining or attempting to obtain money, property of value from an unwilling person or forcing an individual to act either by physical force or intimidation (threat).

**Fighting** – shall mean physical conflict including but not limited to hitting, pushing, shoving, tripping and other physical acts between two or more persons that does not cause physical injury in which both parties have contributed to the conflict, either verbally or by physical action.

**Fireworks** – shall mean any poppers, firecrackers, rockets, sparkers, smoke bombs or other types. These items are considered weapons.

**Fraud/False Identification/Forgery** – shall mean making, completing, altering or authenticating any writing so that it purports to have been made by another; purporting to be another student by not telling the truth or giving the correct name.

**Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE)** – shall mean the standard of education that schools must provide to children with special needs or exceptionalities. The school must create a specific plan to address the child’s learning needs, place them in the appropriate educational setting for their needs, and deliver special education and related services required for the child to learn. FAPE differs for each student and ensures that all students with disabilities receive an appropriate public education at no expense to the family.

**Gambling** – shall mean playing any game of chance or skill for money or anything of value including but not limited to games of cards or dice.

**Gang** – shall mean any ongoing organization of two or more students which has an identifiable name or identifying sign or symbol or whose members individually or collectively engage in or have engaged in a pattern of activity that endangers or disrupts the safety of the school or members of the school and general community.

**Gang activities include:**

- Wearing or displaying any clothing, jewelry, colors or insignia that intentionally identifies the student as a member of a gang or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang
- Using any word, phrase, written symbol or gesture that intentionally identifies a student as a member of a gang or otherwise symbolizes support of a gang. A student may not display gang affiliation on his or her school notebooks, textbooks, or personal items.
- Engaging in activity or discussion promoting gangs by two or more persons.
- Recruiting students for gangs or anti-social behavior.

**Group Fight** – shall mean a severe attack of several students engaging in the use of physical force or the unlawful beating of others with the intent to harm or cause injury with or without the use of weapons or other objects (including, but not limited to guns, knives, brass knuckles, razor blades, batons, mace, pepper spray, etc.).

**Harassment** – shall mean a demand of sexual favors, threatening or intimidating gestures or behavior that creates a hostile school environment because of someone’s gender, age, race, color, sexual orientation (known or perceived), gender identity expression (known or perceived), national origin, religion, disability, socioeconomic status and/or political belief.

**Hazing** – shall mean any activity, on or off school grounds, that a reasonable person believes would negatively impact the mental or physical health or safety of a student or put the student in a ridiculous, humiliating, stressful or disconcerting position for the purposes of initiation, affiliation, admission, membership or maintenance of membership in any group, class, organization, club or athletic team including, but not limited to, a grade level, student organization or school-sponsored activity.

Hazing may include those actions that subject a student to extreme mental stress including, but not limited to, sleep deprivation, physical confinement, forced conduct that could result in extreme embarrassment or criminal activity, or other stress-inducing activities. Hazing may also include, but is not limited to: acts of physical brutality; whipping; beating; branding; exposing to the elements; forcing consumption of any food, liquor, drug or other substance; forcing inhalation or ingestion of tobacco products; or any other forced physical activity that could adversely affect the physical health or safety of an individual.

Hazing may occur even when all students involved are willing participants. Hazing does not occur when a student is required to audition or try out for an organization when the criteria are reasonable, approved by the district and legitimately related to the purpose of the organization. Board Policy 5131.

**Horseplay** – shall mean rowdy, rough, or boisterous play.

**Home-to-School and School-to-Home Communication System** – shall mean communication with families regarding school programs and student progress through effective home-to-school and school-to-home communications.

**Indecent Exposure** – shall mean knowingly exposing the genitals, breasts, buttocks, and/or sagging under circumstances in which such actions are likely to cause an affront or alarm. Also, see-through or mesh garments, midriff blouses or shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, exposure of undergarments of any type, cleavage, low-riding pants, and clothing with obscene or suggestive statement or symbols are prohibited. Also prohibited is any apparel that advertises or promotes sex, drugs or alcohol. Shoes must be worn at all times.

**Individualized Accommodation Plan (IAP)** – shall mean a written plan developed by a group of individuals who have knowledge of a student’s disability, knowledge of the student that addresses the student’s disability and documents specific accommodations and modifications to be provided in school so that the student benefits educationally.

**Individualized Accommodation Plan (IAP) Committee** – shall mean a group of individuals who review and discuss all relevant student data that results in the development of an IAP.

**Individualized Academic Plan (IAP)** – shall mean a written plan developed by a group of individuals who have knowledge of a general education student’s abilities.

**Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act 2004 (IDEA 2004)** – shall mean federal law governing how states and public agencies provide all children with disabilities a FAPE that emphasizes early intervention, special education, and related services designed to meet their unique needs and prepare them for employment and independent living.



IDEA 2004 provides funds to assist states in addressing the educational needs and rights of children with and addresses 13 specified categories of disability.

**Individualized Education Plan (IEP)** – shall mean a written plan developed by school staff, parents/legal guardians, and the student that outlines the student’s abilities, goals and objectives, how progress will be measured, and how the team will work together to meet these goals.

**IEP Team** – shall mean a group of individuals who are responsible for developing, reviewing, and revising the IEP for a student with special needs. The IEP Team must review each student’s progress, as needed, to determine current progress and future needs. The review should also consider whether annual goals for the student are being achieved, staff and parental concerns regarding the student’s progress, the results of any re-evaluation conducted, and any changes that need to be made. By law, the IEP Team must include the following individuals:

- At least one general education teacher, if the student is (or will be ) participating in the general education environment
- At least one special education teacher or provider
- A representative of the LEA who is knowledgeable about specially designed instruction for students with disabilities, the general curriculum, and the availability of LE resources
- Parent(s) /legal guardian(s)
- The student, as appropriate
- Someone who is able to interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results
- Other individuals whom the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) or the school chooses to invite

**In-School Suspension (ISS/Reflection/Recovery)** – shall mean the temporary removal of a student from his/her assigned classes and the placement of a student with an approved ‘time-out’ program, usually at the same school. In-School-Suspension is considered an alternative to out-of-school suspension and is primarily used when a student is disrupting the learning environment of their classroom.

**Insubordination** – shall mean willful or continue willful disobedience of any reasonable request or regulation, or voicing of disrespect to those in authority.

**Interim Alternative Educational Setting (IAES)** – shall mean any public or private elementary or secondary school offering a more structured program of study than a traditional school.

**Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)** – shall mean federal law (IDEA 2004) mandates that students with disabilities must be educated with their non-disabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate based on the student’s needs. This is known as the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). The IEP Team (including the parent) determines the placement that the student needs to provide the services on the student’s IEP and the team must choose the LRE able to provide those services. This means the student should attend the school he/she would attend if non-disabled; unless the team determines that the nature of the student’s disability will not allow that student to have a successful educational experience in that environment.

**Local Education Agency (LEA)** – shall mean a public board of education or other public authority within a state that maintains administrative control of public elementary or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district or other political sub-division.

**Manifestation Determination Review (MDR)** – shall mean a safeguard to ensure that students are not being punished because of their exceptionalities. An MDR examines the child’s behavior and previously documented information about the student in an effort to determine whether the behavior for which the student is being disciplined is not a manifestation of the student’s disability. The MDR Committee consists of the parent and at least two individuals, one who is familiar with the student’s behavioral patterns and one who is knowledgeable of the student’s exceptionality.

**Manifestation Determination Review (MDR) Committee** – shall mean a group of individuals who meet to determine if the behavior for which disciplinary action is taken is or is not a manifestation of the student’s disability; every effort must be made by the school to have the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) participate in the decision.

**Member of the School Community** - shall include but not limited to any student, parent, teacher, administrator, or employee of the District or visitor at any school.

**Modifications** – shall mean substantial changes in what the student is expected to demonstrate; includes changes instructional level, content, performance criteria, and alternate assessments; may include changes in test form or format.

**Multi-Disciplinary Evaluation (MDE)** – shall mean an assessment of a student’s current functioning levels, strengths, and educational needs. Federal and state regulations require that a comprehensive evaluation be conducted to determine if a student has a disabling condition which qualifies him/her to receive special education services. A re-evaluation should occur at least every three (3) years.

**Murder** – shall mean the unlawful killing of another human being.

**Out-of-School Suspension** – shall mean the temporary removal of a student from school. Suspensions are limited in time and the student should be able to return to school after the term of suspension is completed. During the suspension period, students are not allowed on any school property.

**Other Very Serious or Illegal Act** – shall mean student behavior that is unlawful, dangerous or poses a danger to the safety or security of the school district; Safe School Acts.

**Personal Display of Affection** – shall mean inappropriate show of affection.

**Personal Searches** – shall mean the district administrators or security personnel may search the person or personal effects of a student when, based on the circumstances at the time of the search, there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated the law, a school rule or a district policy. Searches may be conducted by metal detectors and/or by hand.

**Physical Assault** – shall mean unprovoked hitting, kicking, shoving or otherwise causing physical pain or harm to another outside the context of a mutual conflict.

**Placement** – shall mean if a student is receiving special education or related services under IDEA 2004, the student’s placement is the educational setting that the IEP Team determines is best for the student, as reflected in his/her written IEP. Placement does not mean the room the student is in, but the program and services most appropriate for him/her as stated in the IEP.

**Placing Another in Danger** – shall mean students engage in or attempting to engage in any conduct, which endangers the health, safety, or welfare of any member of the school community including but not limited to retaliation against a member of the school community for his/her participation in an investigation, academic or disciplinary proceeding.

**Possession** – shall mean physical control over property (whether lost, found, or stolen), such as clothing, lockers, or bags and the contents contained therein.

**Positive Behavior Intervention & Support (PBIS)** – shall mean a school system’s approach to creating and maintaining a climate of safety and learning in our schools. Use of PBIS is a ‘best practice’ that decreases the need for more intrusive or aversive intervention (i.e. suspension) and can lead to both systemic as well as individualized change.

**Probationary Status** – shall mean a process of being re-admitted to school on terms and conditions stipulated by the District Discipline Conference Officer and agreed to in writing by the student and the student’s parent(s)/legal guardian(s) responsible for the student’s attendance.

**Probation Violation** - shall mean the act of a student breaking or breaching the written contractual agreement among the student, parent(s)/legal guardian(s), and school which was previously accepted by all parties upon conclusion of the student’s District Discipline Conference.

**Racial Harassment** – shall mean unwanted behavior, speech, written or pictures directed at someone because of their race, color or nationality. It is about intimidation, control, misuse of power and the attempt to deny equality. It can be blatant, or subtle, one incident or a pattern.

**Rape/Forced Sexual Acts** – shall mean committing or attempting to commit forcible rape as defined in section 566.030, RSMo or forcible sodomy as defined in section 566.060, RSMo.

**Re-evaluation** – shall mean the process of determining whether a student continues to have a disability and continues to require special education and related services. A re-evaluation is conducted to 1) identify how the student is functioning in school, 2) identify the student’s educational needs, and 3) identify any changes in the student’s IEP to assist in meeting the annual goals and objectives included in the IEP and participating, as appropriate, in the general curriculum.

**Reflective Activity** – shall mean an assignment designed to give the student an opportunity to think critically about an instance in which he/she broke a rule. The assignment should guide the student towards determining an appropriate behavior for the given situation instead of the behavior that broke a school rule.

**Related Services** – shall mean developmental, corrective, and other supportive services that assist a student with a disability.

**Related services include:** speech-language pathology and audiology services; psychological services; physical and occupational therapy; recreation, including therapeutic recreation, early identification and assessment of disabilities in children; counseling services, including rehabilitation counseling; orientation and mobility services; medical series for diagnostic or evaluation purposes; school health services; social work services in schools' parent(s)/legal guardian(s) counseling and training; and transportation.

**Restorative Justices Practices** – shall mean bringing together people when relationships are damaged by the specific actions of one or more people. An effective restorative intervention is one that leads to mutual understanding and an agreed-upon, feasible plan to make things right. A successful restorative process is one in which agreements are kept and relationships are restored—things are “made right.”

**Robbery** – shall mean an act of instance of illegally taking another’s property by the use of intimidation or violence.

**Saturday School** – see listing for “Detention”

**School Bus Suspension** – shall mean a corrective strategy in which a student is not allowed to ride the school bus for a specified period of time.

**School Day** - shall mean a day when children attend school for instruction purposes.

**School Grounds/Property** - shall mean any physical asset utilized, supervised, rented, leased, or controlled by the school district including, but not limited to, school playgrounds, parking lots, school buses, and any property on which any school activity takes place.

**School Level Investigation** – shall mean a detailed search or examination of questionable student activities/incidents (at school, during school, or at school related functions) to discover related facts; the investigation is conducted by the school administrator/designee.

**School Privileges** – shall mean any school related activity or program including but not limited to graduation ceremonies, class trips, dances, sport teams, clubs, or recess.

**Search and Seizure** - shall mean such search may be conducted without a warrant and upon reasonable suspicion or for any other reasonable purpose and in a reasonable manner. Desks and lockers are the property of the district and searches may be done at the discretion of building administrators. The school’s authority extends to student possessions kept in their automobiles while parked on school property. New Jersey v. T.L.O. 469 U.S. 325 (1985)

**Section 504** – shall mean a civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities. Section 504 ensures that the student with a disability has equal access to an education. The student may receive accommodations and modifications.

**Serious Bodily Injury** – shall mean a bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, unconsciousness, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

**Sexting** – shall mean transmitting pictures, written material, text and/or voice messages, and emails that are sexual in nature using the internet, cell phones, or any other electronically-related device (includes Internet chat rooms and online messaging services).

**Sexual Act** – shall mean engaging in intercourse, oral sex, groping sexual parts, or simulated sex.

**Sexual Assault** – shall mean conduct of a sexual or indecent nature toward another person that is accompanied by actual or threatened physical force that induces fear, shame, or mental suffering.

**Sexual Harassment** – shall mean unwanted sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical or verbal conduct, communication of a sexual nature or conduct based on gender when such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably or substantially interfering with an individual's education or that creates an intimidating or hostile environment. Examples of conduct that may constitute sexual harassment or discrimination include verbal harassment or abuse, pressure for sexual activity, inappropriate patting or pinching and intentionally brushing against the body.

**Sexual Misconduct** – shall mean those who forcibly, intentionally or consensually touch another person's body and/or clothing in a way that constitutes or results in sexual contact. This includes indecent exposure, sexual gestures, possession and/or distribution of sexual paraphernalia and/or magazine.

**Simple Assault** – shall mean an act that causes bodily injury to another member of the school community.

**Smoking/Tobacco** – shall mean students must not possess, smoke or use any kind of tobacco product or associated paraphernalia. School Board R5131.6.2

**Social Networking** – shall mean transmitting pictures and/or written materials, via My space, Facebook, Twitter, You Tube, LinkedIn or any similar social networking website, with the intent to harm others.

**Special Circumstances** – shall mean IDEA defines special circumstances as follows: use of illegal drugs, weapons, and behavior causing serious bodily injury.

**State Education Agency (SEA)** – shall mean the agency primarily responsible for the supervision of the state's public elementary and secondary schools. In Missouri, the SEA is the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

**"Stay Put"** – shall mean the term used referring to a student's right to remain in the current educational placement pending a disciplinary conference (expulsion recommendation or request for a change of school setting) or a parent(s)/legal guardian(s)' appeal to challenge a placement, manifestation determination, suspension, or expulsion; this right ensure that the student continues to receive FAPE in the LRE.

**Student Information System (SIS)** – shall mean the data management for student information.

**Suspension** – see listing for "In-School-Suspension" and "Out-of-School Suspension"

**Theft** – shall mean stealing or attempting to steal the money or property of another.

**Trespassing** – shall mean being in or around a school building or in a particular place on school grounds, or on a school bus without permission or refusing to comply with a request to leave school premises, or leave the bus. Students may not return to any school while assigned to an Alternative program, under expulsion or suspension, except with permission from the building principal and under escort by a parent(s)/guardian(s).

**Unauthorized Entry** – shall mean students entering into the school or certain areas of the building without permission; allowing or assisting any individual(s) to enter a District facility other than through designated entrances or allowing unauthorized persons to enter a District facility through any entrance.

**Vandalism** – shall mean willful or malicious damage, destruction or defacement of District/school property or the property of another (i.e. damaging textbooks, lockers, equipment, walls, furniture, writing gang graffiti, etc.).

**Weapon** – shall mean a blackjack, a firearm (loaded or unloaded), an explosive weapon, a firearm silencer, a gas gun, a machine gun, a projectile weapon, a bullet(s), rifle, a short barrel, a shotgun, a spring gun, any type of fireworks (including smoke bombs or firecrackers), any type of explosive devices, or a switch-blade. SLPS policy on weapons includes all types of knives and is expanded to include a razor or razor blade, mace, club, chain, nail file (when used to inflict physical injury), and brass knuckles. The improper use of any object, instrument or device also falls within this provision. SAB Policy 5131.6.





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