



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 10.1i

Meeting Date: June 5, 2014

Subject: Approve Revised Board Policy 5144: Student Discipline

- ☐ Information Item Only
- ☒ Approval on Consent Agenda
- ☐ Conference (for discussion only)
- ☐ Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated:)
- ☐ Conference/Action
- ☐ Action
- ☐ Public Hearing

Division: Superintendent's Office/Office of Innovation

Recommendation: Approve Board Policy recommendations.

Background/Rationale:

On March 20, 2014, the Restorative Justice Collaborative (RJC) brought forth to the SCUSD Board of Education, Resolution No. 2789: Establishment of a Whole Child Policy. With a unanimous vote, the Board of Education adopted Resolution No. 2789. The Resolution resolved that the Superintendent establish a district policy and implementation plan to review and revise Board Policies in order to reduce racial disparities.

Staff will be presenting a first reading to the Board of Education of the proposed revisions to Board Policy No. 5144: Student Discipline. Changes have been made in order to conform to the newly adopted Resolution No. 2789: Establishment of a Whole Child Policy.

Financial Considerations: N/A

Documents Attached:

- Attachment A: Revised Board Policy 5144
- Attachment B: Revised Board Policy 5144 with redline and strikethrough

Estimated Time of Presentation: N/A

Submitted by: Koua J. Franz, Chief of Staff

Approved by: Sara Noguchi, Ed.D., Interim Superintendent

Sacramento City USD

Board Policy

Discipline

BP 5144

Students

The Governing Board desires to prepare youth for responsible citizenship by fostering self-discipline and personal responsibility. The Board perceives that good planning; a good understanding of each child and family involvement can minimize the need for discipline. The Superintendent or designee will ensure that all district staff, parents, guardians, students and community partners working in our schools and in the surrounding community have a role and responsibility in positively impacting this policy.

This policy sets forth a framework for implementing alternatives to the current discipline system, which has focused on out-of-school removals as a means to address student behavior and resulted in negative outcomes for students and schools. Consistent with California law, for most conduct before in-school or out-of-school suspension is utilized, other means of correction must be put in place and be shown to have failed. Before consequences are given, students must first be supported in learning the skills necessary to enhance a positive school climate and avoid negative behavior. To that end, consistent and clear guidelines will be utilized to avoid disparate application and treatment, promote equity, and encourage individualized and customized responses to student behavior.

Discipline should be equitable, timely, consistent, fair, and developmentally appropriate and match the severity of the student's misbehavior, while ensuring school safety. Discipline practices should eliminate disparities in applying discipline by assuring equitable interventions and consequences across all schools and for all students, with special attention to those who have been disproportionately impacted.

The Superintendent or designee will collaboratively develop a Discipline Matrix with stakeholders that shall be used to guide the actions of all school site leaders with regards to when out-of-school suspension or an expulsion referral can be utilized for certain offenses recognized in the California Education Code. School sites can further refine this matrix to explicitly discuss particular school needs or address problem school areas (such as the playground) or times of day (such as after lunch), but the elements in this matrix shall be applied equally to all students and data shall be entered and analyzed monthly by all school sites to ensure equal and objective application. The Superintendent will review the data entered to ensure that the Matrix is being followed and take appropriate action if discrepancies are found.

It is the intent of this policy to minimize the excessive use of willful defiance as a reason to impose in-school and off-campus removals that often lead to poor educational outcomes, and encourage schools to use alternative means of correction such as participation in programs that are restorative with positive behavior supports that include

Attachment A

tiered interventions and other forms of correction that focuses on keeping students in school and learning.

This board policy also separates “willful defiance” into non- suspendable and suspendable categories of offenses. Non-suspendable offenses are those that are annoying and irritating childish acts on the part of students that do not genuinely defy the valid authority of school employees during the execution of their duties. Schools will develop alternative processes to handle these kinds of offenses. Suspendable offenses under Section (K) of the California Education Code 48900 are student offenses that willfully defy the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school personnel that are disruptive actions that prohibits the continuance of an educational event to the extent that a student’s refusal is unruly, aggressively threatening, and loudly profane. These offenses will follow the more traditional processes of interventions i.e., class suspensions and referrals to the appropriate school employees.

This board policy also mandates alternative interventions when the offense is suspendable with off-campus suspension being used as a last resort. Schools are free to implement their own student discipline protocols consistent with Board Policy so long as those protocols are not in conflict with restorative justice practices. The policy requires that all principals must, unless strictly mandated by law, utilize alternatives to suspension and expulsion that are available at their school sites.

The Superintendent or designee will provide to the board an annual plan that will address the roll-out of professional development insuring that all District Employees will be trained in the following:

- i. Mandatory professional development in the area of School Wide Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports.
- ii. Mandatory professional development in Restorative Practices and Social and Emotional Learning.
- iii. Mandatory professional development in the area of implicit bias.
- iv. Mandatory professional development in the area of cultural proficiency.

Ongoing and annual budget priorities adopted by this governing board will reflect the need to prioritize ongoing supports for student interventions, staff professional training and other resources identified by the Superintendent, Superintendent’s Designee, Parents, Administrators, School Site Leadership Team, Certificate and Classified staff and students that will help enhance the achieving the goals of this policy.

(cf. [4158/4258/4358](#) - Employee Security)

(cf. [5131](#) - Conduct)

(cf. [5142](#) - Safety)

Attachment A

(cf. [5144.1](#) - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

(cf. [6159.4](#) - Behavioral Interventions for Special Education Students)

(cf. [6164.5](#) - Student Study Teams)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

[35146](#) Closed sessions

[35291](#) Rules

[35291.5](#) School-adopted discipline rules

[35291.7](#) School-adopted discipline rules: additional employees

[37223](#) Weekend classes

[44807.5](#) Restriction from recess for disciplinary purposes

[48900-48925](#) Suspension and expulsion

[48980-48985](#) Notification of parents or guardians

[49000-49001](#) Prohibition of corporal punishment

[49330-49334](#) Injurious objects

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

[307](#) Participation in school activities until departure of bus

[353](#) Detention after school

Management Resources

CDE PROGRAM ADVISORIES

1023.88 Corporal Punishment, CIL: 88/9-5

1110.89 Physical Exercise as Corporal Punishment, CIL 89/9-3

Policy SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

adopted: November 16, 1998 Sacramento, California

Attachment A

reviewed: April 15, 2002

revised: June 5, 2014

Sacramento City USD

Board Policy Discipline

BP 5144
Students

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(cf. [5131](#) - Conduct)

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(cf. [5144.1](#) - Suspension and Expulsion/Due Process)

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