

Dickson County Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in May	Descriptor Term: Discipline Procedures	Descriptor Code: 6.313	Issued Date: 11/29/18
		Rescinds: 6.313	Issued: 07/28/16

1 The following misbehaviors and disciplinary procedures and options are designed to protect all
2 members of the educational community in the exercise of their rights and duties and to maintain a safe
3 learning environment where orderly learning is possible and encouraged¹. These misbehaviors apply
4 to student conduct on school buses, on school property and while students are on school sponsored
5 outings.

6
7 In all cases where disciplinary action is taken, appropriate investigative (due process) procedures must
8 be followed. When appropriate, parents must be notified. Law enforcement officials must be notified
9 when required. Staff and/or administration must maintain records of the offense and disciplinary
10 actions.

11
12 The following are categories of behaviors intended to provide a hierarchy when considering the
13 severity of student misbehavior and to provide for consistency in disciplinary actions taken. Schools
14 shall consider this hierarchy when developing specific disciplinary procedures.

15 16 **Level I--Minor misbehaviors which impede orderly classroom procedures or interfere with** 17 **orderly operation of the school.**

18
19 Level I misbehaviors can usually be handled by individual staff members. These behaviors may
20 include, but not be limited to, classroom disturbances, classroom tardiness, cheating, lying, use of
21 inappropriate language, harassment, non-defiant failure to do assignments or carry out directions,
22 minor disrespect to teacher/staff, wearing while on school grounds during the regular school day,
23 clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent manner that disrupts the learning
24 environment², victimizing of any student (harassment by either sexual, racial, ethnic, religious or
25 bullying, cyber-bullying and or hazing).

26 Appropriate disciplinary options at this level may include, but not be limited to, verbal reprimand,
27 special assignments, restricted activities, assigned work, counseling, and withdrawal of privileges,
28 issuance of demerits, strict supervised study, detention, or ISS.

29
30 Level I bus behaviors which occur when the bus is not in motion and/or which occur infrequently shall
31 be addressed by the driver. Level I bus behaviors may include, but not be limited to, pushing, cutting
32 line, horseplay, failure to sit in the appropriate seat, fussing, talking loudly, yelling from windows,
33 lying, use of inappropriate language, inappropriate movement in the seat, or annoying others.

34 Appropriate disciplinary options may include verbal reprimand, short-term reassignment to front seat,
35 demerits, phone call or note to parents, removal of privileges (talking with friends, seat selection,
36 playing with toy, listening to music.)

37 38 **Level II--Disruptions to the learning climate.**

1 These misbehaviors do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but have
2 educational consequences serious enough to require corrective action on the part of administrative
3 personnel. These behaviors should be referred to the principal/designee when other corrective efforts
4 are unsuccessful. These behaviors may include, but not be limited to, a continuation of the unmodified
5 Level I behaviors, vulgar or obscene language, school or class tardiness, school or class truancy, using
6 forged notes or excuses, inappropriate possession or use of cellular telephones disruptive behavior,
7 harassment, disrespect to teacher or staff.
8 Appropriate disciplinary options may include, but not limited to, referral to Principal, suspension from
9 school- sponsored activities, detention, ISS, OSS (not to exceed 10 days), social probation, referral to
10 an outside agency, suspension from bus morning(s) and/or afternoon(s).

11
12 Level II bus behaviors may include, but not be limited to, persistent Level I behaviors that are
13 persistent and repeated multiple times, throwing objects from the window while the bus is moving,
14 hanging head, arms, or objects out the window while the bus is moving, obscene language or gestures,
15 repeated moving around the bus while it is in motion, disrespect to driver or school staff.

16
17 **Level III--Acts against persons/property that do not seriously endanger health or safety of**
18 **others.**

19
20 Level III behaviors may include, but not be limited to, a continuation of unmodified Level I and II
21 behaviors; fighting (simple); vandalism (minor <\$499); stealing; harassment; abusive language; serious
22 or continued disrespect to teacher/staff; threats to others; leaving school/campus without permission;
23 and use or possession of tobacco products/paraphernalia.

24
25 Level III bus behaviors include, but are not be limited to, intentional tripping others, causing emotional
26 outburst of others, simple fighting, intentionally opening the emergency exits/door without permission;
27 possession/use of tobacco products; tearing or cutting seats, defacing or damaging seats or wall,
28 destroying other student's property, threats and harassment of others. Appropriate disciplinary options
29 may include, but not be limited to, referral to Principal for ISS, detention, restitution for loss of
30 damaged or stolen property; social adjustment classes, suspension from school, not to exceed ten (10)
31 days, or suspension from the bus.

32
33 **Level IV--Acts which pose a threat to the safety of others or cause severe disruptions to the**
34 **learning environment.**

35
36 Level IV acts are acts which result in violence to another's person or property or which pose a threat to
37 the safety of others or are so serious that they usually require administrative actions which result in the
38 immediate removal of the student from the school, the intervention of law enforcement authorities and
39 action by the Discipline Hearing Authority. If a student's action poses a threat to the safety of others
40 in the school, a teacher, Principal, school employee, or school bus driver may use reasonable force
41 when necessary to prevent bodily harm or death to another person.

42 These behaviors may include, but not be limited to, unmodified Level I, II or III behaviors; vandalism
43 (excess of \$500); consensual sexual contact; theft/possession sale of stolen property (excess of \$200);
44 arson; extortion; bomb threats; false fire alarms, harassment; fights (major, causing injury); assault that
45 results in the bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of the

1 school, or a school resource officer, death threats including hit list, Electronic threat to cause bodily
2 injury or death to another student or school employee

3
4 Any Level IV behaviors must be reported to the school administration. The minimum disciplinary
5 action by the school administration is suspension to the Disciplinary Hearing Authority (DHA). The
6 DHA may impose additional suspension, impose such terms and conditions as it deems reasonable,
7 assign the student to an alternative program,; suspension of a student from the school for a specific
8 period of time, or recommended expulsion to the Board of Education.

9
10 **Level V—Zero-Tolerance Acts (See Policy 6.309)**

11 These acts require a disciplinary action of referral to the Discipline Hearing Authority with action of
12 suspension for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year subject to modification by the Director of
13 Schools.

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¹ TCA 49-6-4002 to 4005; USCA §7114, 7118

² TCA 49-6-4009