

MARSHALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SERIES 400 STUDENTS

Board Exhibit 443

CODE OF CLASSROOM CONDUCT

One of the primary goals of the district is to establish and maintain a favorable academic atmosphere for students and staff. Effective learning cannot take place in a classroom where student behavior interferes with the ability of the teacher to teach effectively or the ability of other students to participate in classroom learning activities.

Students are expected to abide by the code of classroom conduct adopted by the Board and other appropriate classroom rules established by the building principal and/or classroom teacher for the purpose of maintaining order and a favorable academic atmosphere. Any student who violates the code of conduct or other classroom rules may be subject to removal from class and/or disciplinary action.

Student Removal from Class

A teacher may remove a student from class who exhibits the following behaviors:

- Behavior that interferes with a person's work or school performance.
- Harassing behavior that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive classroom environment.
- Possession or use of a dangerous weapon or look-alike weapon in violation of Board policy or other article that might cause bodily harm to persons in the classroom.
- Fighting.
- Taunting, baiting, inciting and/or encouraging a fight or disruption.
- Pushing, striking or any improper physical contact with a student, staff member or volunteer.
- Profanity.
- Defiance of authority/insubordination.
- Interference – intentionally obstructing a student, staff member or volunteer from carrying out his/her duties.
- Restricting another person's freedom to properly utilize classroom facilities or equipment.
- Using, possessing or being under the influence of alcohol or any substance defined by law as a drug or a mood-altering substance unless specifically prescribed by the student's physician for the student's own use.
- Smoking or other use of any tobacco products or the conspicuous possession of tobacco products.
- Willful damage to school property.
- Theft.
- Cheating.

- Any other dangerous, unruly or disruptive behavior that interferes with the ability of the teacher to teach or the ability of other students to learn and/or maintain an appropriate academic atmosphere.
- Disrespectful language or belligerent behavior.

When a teacher determines that a student's removal from class is necessary, the teacher shall send the student to the building principal or designee and notify the principal or designee immediately of the reason(s) for removal. The teacher shall submit a written explanation of the reason(s) for removal to the building principal or designee by the end of the school day if at all possible or within 24 hours after removal. The teacher should attempt to contact the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) as outlined below.

After the building principal or designee receives a written or oral explanation for the student's removal from class, the student shall be informed of the reason for the removal. The student shall have an opportunity to present his/her version of the situation. The building principal or designee shall make a placement decision regarding the student and may notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s).

Placement Options

A building principal, or his/her designee, is required by law to place a student who has been removed from a class, on more than a temporary basis, by a teacher in one of the following:

- The classroom from which the student was removed if, after weighing the interests of the removed student, the other students in the class and the teacher, the principal or his/her designee determines that re-admission to the class is the best or only alternative.
- Another class in the school or another appropriate place in the school, as determined by the building principal or his/her designee.
- Another instructional setting in or outside of the school.
- An alternative education program as defined by law. According to state law, an alternative education program is defined as an institutional program approved by the Board that utilizes successful alternative or adaptive school structures and teaching techniques and that is incorporated into existing, traditional classrooms or regularly scheduled curricular programs and that is offered in place of regularly scheduled curricular programs.

Factors for Placement Decisions

- The reason(s) the student was removed from class and the severity and/or frequency of the offense.
- The type of placement options available for particular schools and any limitations on such placements (e.g., costs, availability, location, space, staff resources).
- Student individual needs and interests.
- Classmate needs and interests.
- The estimated length of time for the placement (i.e., remainder of the class period or school day vs. remainder of the school year).
- Whether the student has been removed from a teacher's class before (repeat offender).

- The relationship of the placement to any disciplinary action (e.g., if student suspension from school is required as a result of the student's conduct, is the placement applicable before and/or after the suspension is served).
- Laws and regulations (e.g., Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and other district policies and procedures.

Parent/Guardian Notification

1. If a student is removed from class, on more than a temporary basis, the teacher who removed the student shall attempt to contact the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) by the end of the school day if at all possible or within 24 hours after removal.
2. The building principal or designee may notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of his/her placement decision. He/she shall notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) if there is a change of placement for a student with disabilities or the placement decision is to not re-admit the student to the class from which he/she was removed for the remainder of the school year.
3. If the student removed from class is also subject to disciplinary action for the particular classroom conduct (i.e., suspension or expulsion), the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shall also be notified of the disciplinary action in accordance with legal and policy requirements.

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