

Wilson Area School District

Student Conduct

The Wilson Area School Board believes that in order for students to gain the maximum benefits from the educational program, high standards of student conduct must be established and maintained. The Board is pleased with the general deportment, good citizenship, cooperative attitude, and mutual respect displayed by most of the students. It is largely through their efforts and those of school district personnel that a wholesome educational environment is present in all of the schools of the district.

On occasion, however, unacceptable conduct on the part of a student does take place, and fair and reasonable disciplinary measures become necessary. It is for that reason that this policy has been adopted and is being implemented throughout the Wilson Area School District.

Incorporated as a part of this policy are the Regulations of the State Board of Education of Pennsylvania entitled Student Rights and Responsibilities. The School District specifically endorses the due process requirements of these regulations while at the same time adopting the section listing student responsibilities as the code of conduct for all students.

Certain rules and regulations have been established within each school building regarding student conduct. It is the responsibility of school district personnel to make these available to the students so that they are aware of them. These rules and regulations along with the code included in this policy are applicable not only in school buildings and on school grounds but also when students are going to and from school, are being transported by school vehicles, and are participating in or attending school activities.

In cases where students do not exercise self-discipline and are in violation of rules, regulations, or the code of conduct, school district personnel must assume the responsibility for enforcement. In this process the following list includes some of the techniques which may be applied: reprimanding, counseling, conferring with a parent or guardian, assigning additional work, detaining after school, and making referrals to guidance and administrative personnel.

At times more stringent administrative action may be appropriate. Exclusion from school is specifically addressed by state regulations and is included in this policy in greater detail.

Corporal Punishment

No corporal punishment shall be administered to a student. However, reasonable force may be used by teachers and school authorities under any of the following circumstances: (1) to quell a disturbance, (2) to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects, (3) for the purpose of self-defense, and (4) for the protection of persons or property.

Suspension or Expulsion

Certain offenses of a recurring or serious nature may lead to suspension or expulsion from school. The following list includes the reasons for which a student may be excluded from school:

1. The possession, use, sale, distribution or involvement with drugs and/or alcohol pursuant to Policy #5131.
2. Conduct that constitutes a danger to the health or safety of others.
3. Physical assaults upon fellow students, teachers, or other school district employees.
4. Continued and willful disobedience.
5. Defiance of authority.
6. Taking or possessing property belonging to others.
7. Willfully causing or attempting to cause damage to school equipment or property.
8. Excessive truancy or tardiness.
9. Smoking or tobacco use or possession.
10. Possessing, handling, or transmitting any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon.
11. The use of abusive, profane, or obscene language or the making of obscene gestures.
12. A violation of school or school bus rules or regulations.

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13. A violation of local, state, or federal laws or regulations.

14. Communicating terroristic threats or committing terroristic acts, as defined Below:

- Terroristic threat - shall mean a threat to commit violence communicated with the intent to terrorize another, to cause evacuation of a building or to cause serious public inconvenience, in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience.
- Terroristic act - shall mean an offense against property or involving danger to another person.