

Disciplinary Policy

The proposed Charter School staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently among all students. Teachers will receive professional development to incorporate the use of effective classroom management strategies to maximize instruction and minimize student misbehavior, including appropriate modeling strategies. Staff will be trained and review de-escalation strategies for students in crises. These strategies focus on developing relationships with students, identifying and avoiding, when possible, triggers for undesirable behavior, and stabilize students who have been triggered safely.

Disciplinary policies and procedures will clearly describe disciplinary expectations and will be included in the Student Handbook, which will be provided to students at the beginning of the school year. The proposed Charter School administration shall ensure that students and their parents/guardians are notified of discipline policies and procedures. Moreover, said policies and procedures will be readily available upon request.

School-wide systems will be developed to reward positive and expected behaviors. Conversely, students who do not adhere to behavioral expectations and who violate School rules may expect consequences which correspond to said behavior. Students unable to comply with behavioral expectations may be referred to Response to Instruction and Intervention (RtI²).

Consequences for inappropriate behaviors may include, but are not limited to:

- advising and counseling students; verbal or written warning;
- individual conference with the teacher;
- detention during or outside of school hours; loss of privileges;
- individual behavior contract;
- referral to the principal or other administrative team member;
- parent notification;
- parent conference; use of alternative educational environments such as onsite and
- off site suspension; and/or expulsion.

The decision regarding the consequence will be based on circumstances unique to each individual incident of inappropriate behavior. Factors such as, the cause and severity of the offense, the student's attitude, length of time since the last incident, and the student's past behavior records may influence the disciplinary action to be taken. A good record of behavior may result in the administration of minimal disciplinary actions, while the student who is more frequently involved in problematic behavior may expect more severe consequences. A single incident of severe inappropriate behavior may require the application of a more severe consequence.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student. Corporal punishment does not include an employee's use of force that is reasonable and necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons, or to prevent damage to school property.

The list of offenses and the procedures attached to those offenses, as detailed above, were established in accordance with California Education Code §48900 for suspension and expulsion. These procedures will be reviewed on an annual basis, or as necessary, and changes in accordance with the law will be made.