

THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Effective September 15, 2011

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

POLICY STATEMENT

The Chicago Board of Education (“Board”), the governing body of the Chicago Public Schools, is responsible for establishing policies under which schools operate. The Board recognizes that it is the job of every teacher to provide high quality, differentiated instruction for every student, and the job of every school to create an environment that supports high quality instruction. To promote schools that are safe, civil and respectful learning environments and facilitate desirable student conduct and behavior, the Board has adopted the Student Code of Conduct (“SCC” or “Code”). The SCC recognizes that a positive and safe school climate provides the foundation for any action, strategy, program or curriculum a school implements to improve teaching and learning, as well as significantly contributes to student achievement.

The SCC is consistent with the Illinois School Code, the Rules of the Board of Education of the City of Chicago, negotiated agreements with employee groups, and all other applicable state and federal laws.

This Code recognizes that the Chicago Public Schools has the responsibility to ensure that the school environment is safe for all students and school personnel and that it is important to provide students with a consistent set of expectations for behavior. The Board expects school staff to intentionally describe and teach students the behaviors expected of them as learners in a safe, civil and respectful school. All staff shall be encouraged to proactively redirect student behavior and use minor misconduct as an opportunity to reteach or practice expected behaviors. The Board also expects all students to respect the rights of fellow students, personnel and others, and to behave in a manner that does not violate school rules, procedures, Board policy or the law. Students shall be encouraged to seek assistance from school personnel to

prevent or resolve conflicts and to report incidents or activities that may threaten or disrupt the educational environment. The SCC requires all students enrolled in the Chicago Public Schools to accept responsibility and the appropriate consequences for their actions and behavior, while also recognizing that student behavior in school is often dictated by the guidance, modeling and interaction with adults in school.

To ensure that disciplinary matters are handled efficiently and parents are notified of inappropriate behavior, parents/guardians shall promptly notify the school of any change of address, phone number(s) and other contact information and shall promptly reply to school requests to complete an emergency contact form at least two times per school year.

The disciplinary process set forth in this SCC is intended to be **instructional and corrective**, not punitive. Schools shall use out-of-school suspension as a last resort, unless mandated by the severity of the infraction. All students shall be entitled to receive due process in disciplinary reassignment, in-school or out-of-school suspension and expulsion. Moreover, students shall be entitled to appeal the issuance of certain intervention or consequences, as provided herein. Pursuant to Board of Education Rule 6-21, “no employee of the Board of Education may inflict corporal punishment of any kind upon persons attending the public schools of the City of Chicago.”

Schools are also encouraged to establish a team to assist school officials with the development of local school regulations, provided those regulations do not conflict with the SCC. The Board strongly encourages schools to establish measures designed to foster incident avoidance. Schools should explore the use of prevention strategies aimed at minimizing the number of incidents requiring student discipline.

PURPOSE AND GOALS

Through the establishment of the SCC, the Board seeks to: (1) create a consistent set of expectations for the behavior of all students; (2) reinforce positive behavior and provide students