

Series 400 **Students**
Section 440 **Students Rights and Responsibilities**
Policy 447.2 **Classroom Code of Conduct**

The District recognizes and accepts its responsibility to create, foster, and maintain an orderly and safe class environment, conducive to teaching and to the learning process. Every member of the school community is expected to cooperate in this central mission. Staff, including administrators and teachers, must use their training, experience and authority to create schools and classes where effective learning is possible. Students are expected to come to school, and to every class, ready and willing to learn. Parents should be aware of their children's activities, performance and behavior in school, and are asked to cooperate and consult with the school to prevent or address problems.

The District has a legal duty to make its schools as free as possible of the dangers of violence, weapons, drugs, and other behavior harmful to the educational environment. This duty is enforced through the District's policy on suspension and expulsion, which provides procedures by which students may be removed from the school community either temporarily, or in the case of certain expulsions, permanently.

But equally important, the District owes its students, as a group, the opportunity to attend school as free as reasonably possible from unnecessary and unwarranted distraction and disruption, particularly by those students who, for whatever reason, are unwilling, unready or unable to avail themselves of the opportunity for an education. Such behavior, while not necessarily so serious or pervasive to warrant suspension or expulsion, can be nearly as destructive to the educational environment. Such behavior warrants, at a minimum, that the student be removed temporarily from the class or activity ("short-term removal" or "temporary removal"). Such removal serves the multiple purposes of eliminating (or minimizing) the disruption, of reinforcing the District's strong commitment to an appropriate educational environment and of allowing a "cooling off" period, for the disciplinary or other reasons, short of suspension or expulsion.

In other circumstances, the student's conduct or the best interests of the student and the other members of the class, may warrant longer-term removal from the class ("long-term removal"). Long-term removal may, but need not always, be for disciplinary purposes.

Beginning August 1, 1999, a teacher employed by the District may temporarily remove a pupil from the teacher's class if the pupil violates the terms of this Code of Student Conduct (the "code"). In addition, long-term removal of a student will be possible if the building administrator upholds a teacher's recommendation that a student be removed from the class for a longer period of time. Removal from class under this Code does not prohibit the District from pursuing or implementing other disciplinary measures, including, but not limited to detentions, suspension or expulsion, for the conduct for which the student was removed.

Legal Reference:

Cross Reference:

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Reviewed: 2004