

Elizabethton Board of Education

Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: Code of Conduct	Descriptor Code: 6.300	Issued Date: 08/21/18
		Rescinds: 6.300	Issued: 01/23/18

1 The board delegates to the director of schools the responsibility of developing specific codes of
2 conduct which are appropriate for each level of school. The development of each code shall involve
3 principals and faculty members of each level and shall be consistent with the relevant policies as
4 adopted by the board.¹

5 The following levels of misbehavior and disciplinary procedures and options are standards designed to
6 protect all members of the educational community in the exercise of their rights and duties and to
7 maintain a safe learning environment where orderly learning is possible and encouraged.² These
8 misbehaviors apply to student conduct on school buses, on school property, and while students are on
9 school sponsored outings.

10 **MISBEHAVIORS: Level I**

11 This level includes minor misbehavior on the part of the student which impedes orderly classroom
12 procedures or interferes with the orderly operation of the school, but which can usually be handled by
13 an individual staff member.

14 *Examples (not an exclusive listing):*

- 15 • Classroom disturbances
- 16 • Classroom tardiness
- 17 • Cheating and lying
- 18 • Abusive language
- 19 • Non-defiant failure to do assignments or carry out directions
- 20 • Wearing while on the grounds of a public school during the regular school day, clothing
21 that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent manner that disrupts the learning
22 environment³
- 23 • Victimization of any student (Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious), Bullying,
24 Cyber-bullying, and/or Hazing)

25 *Disciplinary Procedures:*

- 26 • Staff member intervenes immediately.
- 27 • Staff member determine what offense was committed and its severity.
- 28 • Staff member determines who committed the offense and if he/she understands the
29 nature of the offense.
- 30 • Staff member employs appropriate disciplinary options.
- 31 • The record of the offense and disciplinary action shall be maintained by staff member.

1 *Disciplinary Options:*

- 2 • Verbal reprimand
- 3 • Special Assignment
- 4 • Restricting activities
- 5 • Assigning work details
- 6 • Counseling
- 7 • Withdrawal of privileges
- 8 • Issuance of demerits
- 9 • Strict supervised study
- 10 • Detention
- 11 • Corporal punishment
- 12 • In-school suspension

13 **MISBEHAVIORS: Level II**

14 This level includes misbehavior whose frequency or seriousness tends to disrupt the learning climate of
15 the school. These misbehaviors do not represent a direct threat to the health and safety of others but
16 have educational consequences serious enough to require corrective action on the part of
17 administrative personnel.

18 *Examples (not an exclusive listing):*

- 19 • Continuation of unmodified Level I behaviors
- 20 • School or class tardiness
- 21 • Using forged notes or excuses
- 22 • Disruptive classroom behavior

23 *Disciplinary Procedures:*

- 24 • The student is referred to principal for appropriate disciplinary action.
- 25 • The principal meets with student and teacher.
- 26 • The principal hears accusation made by teacher and allows the student the opportunity
27 to explain his/her conduct.
- 28 • The principal takes appropriate disciplinary action and notifies the teacher of action.
- 29 • The record of offense and disciplinary action shall be maintained by principal.

30 *Disciplinary Options:*

- 31 • Teacher/schedule change
- 32 • Modified probation
- 33 • Behavior modification
- 34 • Social probation
- 35 • Peer counseling
- 36 • Referral to outside agency
- 37 • In-school suspension

- 1 • Transfer
- 2 • Detention
- 3 • Suspension from school-sponsored activities or from riding school bus
- 4 • Corporal punishment
- 5 • Out-of-school suspension (not to exceed ten (10) days).

6 **MISBEHAVIORS: Level III**

7 This level includes acts directly against persons or property but whose consequences do not seriously
8 endanger the health or safety of others in the school.

9 *Examples (not an exclusive listing):*

- 10 • Continuation of unmodified Level I and II behaviors
- 11 • Fighting
- 12 • Vandalism (minor)
- 13 • Use, possession, sale, distribution, and/or being under the influence of tobacco, drugs,
14 drug paraphernalia, and/or alcohol
- 15 • Stealing
- 16 • Threats to others
- 17 • Victimization of any student (Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious), Bullying,
18 Cyber-bullying, and/or Hazing)

19 *Disciplinary Procedures:*

- 20 • The student is referred to principal for appropriate disciplinary action.
- 21 • The principal meets with student and teacher.
- 22 • The principal hears accusation and allows the student the opportunity to explain his/her
23 conduct.
- 24 • The principal takes appropriate disciplinary action.
- 25 • The principal may refer incident to director of schools and make recommendations for
26 consequences.
- 27 • If student's program is to be changed, adequate notice shall be given to the student and
28 his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) of the charges against him, his/her right to appear at a
29 hearing, and his/her right to be represented by a person of his/her choosing.
- 30 • Any change in school assignment is appealable to the Board.
- 31 • The record of offense and disciplinary action shall be maintained by principal.

32 *Disciplinary Options:*

- 33 • In-school suspension
- 34 • Detention
- 35 • Corporal punishment
- 36 • Restitution from loss, damage or stolen property
- 37 • Out-of-school suspension not to exceed ten (10) days
- 38 • Social adjustment classes

- 1 • Transfer
- 2 • Expulsion

3 **MISBEHAVIORS: Level IV**

4 This level of misbehavior includes acts which result in violence to another's person or property or
5 which pose a threat to the safety of others in the school. These acts are so serious that they usually
6 require administrative actions which result in the immediate removal of the student from the school,
7 the intervention of law enforcement authorities and/or action by the Board.

8 If a student's action poses a threat to the safety of others in the school, a teacher, principal, school
9 employee, or school bus driver may use reasonable force when necessary to prevent bodily harm or
10 death to another person.

11 *Examples (not an exclusive listing):*

- 12 • Continuation of unmodified Level I, II and III behaviors
- 13 • Death threat (hit list)
- 14 • Extortion
- 15 • Bomb threat
- 16 • Possession/use/transfer of dangerous weapons *
- 17 • Assault that results in bodily injury upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other
18 employee of the school, or a school resource officer*
- 19 • Aggravated assault*
- 20 • Vandalism
- 21 • Theft/possession/sale of stolen property
- 22 • Arson
- 23 • Possession of unauthorized substances (i.e. any controlled substance, controlled
24 substance analogue, or legend drug)*
- 25 • Use/transfer of unauthorized substances
- 26 • Victimization of any student (Harassment (Sexual, Racial, Ethnic, Religious), Bullying,
27 Cyber-bullying, and/or Hazing)
- 28 • Electronic threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee*

29 *Disciplinary Procedures:*

- 30 • The principal confers with appropriate staff members and with the student.
- 31 • The principal hears accusations and allows the student the opportunity to explain his/her
32 conduct.
- 33 • The parent(s)/guardian(s) are notified.
- 34 • Law enforcement officials are contacted.
- 35 • The incident is reported and recommendations made to the Director of Schools.
- 36 • Complete and accurate reports are submitted to the Director of Schools.
- 37 • The student is given a hearing before disciplinary hearing authority.

- 1 *Disciplinary Options*
- 2 • Expulsion
- 3 • Alternative schools
- 4 • Other hearing authority or Board action which results in appropriate placement
- 5 *Zero tolerance offenses

Legal References

1. TCA 49-6-4005; Public Acts of 2018, Chapter No. 958
2. TCA 49-6-4002 to 4005; 20 USCA § 7114, 7118
3. TCA 49-6-4009

Cross References

Traffic and Parking Controls 3.403
Procedural Due Process 6.302
Student Discrimination, Harassment, Bullying, Cyber-bullying, and Intimidation 6.304
Bus Safety and Conduct 6.308
Zero Tolerance Offenses 6.309
Dress Code 6.310
Detention 6.315
Suspension/Expulsion/Remand 6.316
Safe Relocation of Students 6.4081