

Adopted: August 14, 2014

Revised: August 13, 2018; April 11, 2022

COMMUNITY OF PEACE ACADEMY POLICY No. 5.4.4 STUDENT DISCIPLINE

I. PURPOSE

Proper student conduct is necessary to create an atmosphere conducive to high student achievement. Our purpose is to guide students toward behavior that reflects care of self and care of others. We believe that as students learn to practice caring behaviors, solve conflicts peacefully, and accept the consequences of their choices, they will grow in the areas of cooperation, communication, and self-control.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

It is the policy of Community of Peace Academy to establish policies that identify behaviors and/or activities that provide a safe and peaceful school environment for all.

- A. To this end, CPA implements a curriculum that includes conflict prevention skills, conflict resolution/mediation strategies, peace education, and ethics.
- B. We also practice restorative discipline, a whole school, relationship-based approach to building school climate and addressing student behavior that fosters belonging, meaningful accountability, logical consequences, and restorative action

RESPONSIBILITY

- A. Community of Peace Academy's Executive Director is responsible for ensuring that a peaceful school environment is maintained. All teachers and other school personnel must be trained and expected to use restorative discipline procedures.
- B. Community of Peace Academy's administrators, teachers, employees, or bus drivers, acting in their lawful authority, may use reasonable force when it is necessary to prevent bodily harm.
- C. Parents who enroll their children into Community of Peace Academy are knowingly choosing an educational environment that prioritizes peace building and actively teaches and practices non-violent conflict resolution. CPA staff cannot maintain a

peaceful, safe and caring school environment without the support of parents. Therefore, it is our expectation that parents fully support CPA's behavior policies and procedures.

- D. Parents are expected to cooperate with school personnel and administration to address the behavior of their children. All students shall be held individually responsible for their behavior and for knowing and following the Code of Student Conduct and this policy.

III. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The following list of student responsibilities is not exhaustive. All students have the responsibility to:

1. Assume personal responsibility for acting with respect and common courtesy at school, on the bus, and in extra-curricular activities.
2. Exhibit honest behavior as it applies to tests, assignments, and other schoolwork.
3. Be respectful in communications with peers and those in authority.
4. Accept logical consequences, engage in restorative actions and make a commitment to improving one's own individual performance and conduct.
5. Be on time and attend every class every day, unless excused, and arrange to make up work when absent from school.
6. Demonstrate an unyielding commitment to academic achievement. Attain satisfactory academic achievement consistent with an individual's ability and complete all homework and other assignments.
7. Comply with the school dress code and with school rules governing the proper use of electronic devices.
8. Respect school property.
9. Refrain from the use of non-prescription drugs at school and at school-related activities.
10. Refrain from using and/or possessing alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, and other dangerous or illegal substances at school, on school property or school buses, and at extra-curricular or other school-related activities.

IV. CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

- A. A student may be disciplined for misconduct occurring off school property and without the use of school resources if: (1) the misconduct is a continuation of, or has a nexus with, improper conduct that occurred on school grounds; or (2) the student's actions have a direct and immediate effect on either school discipline or the general safety and welfare of students.
- B. A student may be disciplined for behaviors that seriously detract from a peaceful school community. Examples of misconduct include vandalism, stealing, fighting, hazing, bullying, and using profanity or defamatory language. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list. See the Family Handbook for a detailed list of unacceptable behaviors. Administrators will respond to any unacceptable behavior with restorative practices and logical consequences.
- C. Disciplinary Action Options. The specific form of discipline chosen in a particular case will be based on the facts and circumstances of the misconduct and is solely within the discretion of the school. Any violation of school rules may result in disciplinary action ranging from a simple verbal warning, parent contact, removal from class, in-school suspension, detention, or other logical consequences up to and including expulsion or exclusion, depending on the nature of the infraction.

V. OPEN ENROLLED STUDENTS

The school may terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student enrolled under an Enrollment Option Program (Minn. Stat. §124D.03) or Enrollment in Nonresident District (Minn. Stat. §124D.08) at the end of a school year if the student meets the definition of a habitual truant, the student has been provided appropriate services for truancy (Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A), and the student's case has been referred to juvenile court. The school may also terminate the enrollment of a nonresident student over the age of sixteen (16) enrolled under an Enrollment Options Program if the student is absent without lawful excuse for one or more periods of fifteen (15) school days and has not lawfully withdrawn from school.

VI. DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY

The Director shall ensure that this policy is distributed to students and parents at the beginning of each school year and upon enrollment of a new student in the Family Handbook.

VII. REVIEW OF POLICY

The school board will conduct an annual review of this policy. Any recommended changes must be submitted to the Executive Director for consideration by the school board.

Legal References: Minn. Stat. §§121A.40-121A.56 (Pupil Fair Dismissal Act) *Minn.*

Stat. §124E (Minnesota Charter School Law)
Minn. Stat. §121A.575 (Alternatives to Pupil Suspension)
Minn. Stat. §§121A.60-121A.61 (Removal From Class)
Minn. Stat. §124D.03 (Enrollment Options Program)
Minn. Stat. §124D.08 (Enrollment in Nonresident District)
Minn. Stat. Ch. 260A (Truancy)