

PERSONNELPROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL - Disciplining of Students

Teachers and other certified educational employees shall maintain discipline in all programs which have students enrolled. In all matters relating to the discipline and conduct of the students in the programs, the teachers and other certified educational employees stand in the relation of parents and guardians to the students. This relationship shall extend to all activities connected with the program and may be exercised at any time for the safety and supervision of the students in the absence of their parents or guardians.

All teachers and certified educational employees are expected to exercise supervisory functions during those times when students are present at the program site. In particular, this includes classroom and hallway supervision and may include other areas like gyms or other areas where students meet or are involved.

Although the quality of the classroom environment is affected by the larger program environment, teachers play a key role in establishing a climate conducive to learning. Effective teachers alleviate many discipline problems in their classrooms by good instruction. However, it is recognized that good instruction will create a variety of atmospheres appropriate to a variety of forms of learning. On some occasions this may involve quiet and orderly classrooms. On others it may involve multiple activities going on at once. Nonetheless, when teachers create positive communities for learning where all students are invited to be actively involved in their own and other students' learning, many discipline problems can be eliminated.

The Regional Office of Education READY administrative staff shall adhere to the following disciplinary guidelines:

1. Corrective action shall be based on an understanding of the student and sound guidance procedures.
2. Corrective action shall include the opportunity for the student to deny or explain his/her misconduct or disobedience.
3. The purpose of corrective action is the improvement of the behavior of the individual or the group.

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4. Corrective action shall not include assigning extra homework, threats, humiliation, sarcasm, and ridicule.
5. Corrective action may not include academic sanctions such as reduction of grades or exclusion from field trips, except per procedures of policy.

Ready staff may avail themselves of the following disciplinary measures:

1. Denial of privileges
2. Removal from the classroom
3. Detention
4. Suspension (in-school and out-of-school)
5. Transfer back to home school

The ROE does not allow corporal punishment as a mode of discipline. Corporal punishment is defined as slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of students in physically painful positions or intentional infliction of bodily harm.

Teachers and other certified educational employees may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for themselves or other students, staff members or other persons from bodily harm or such as it is deemed necessary to protect against property damage.

A program staff member should immediately notify the READY administrator(s) in the event that he/she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on or around the program grounds or area, however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision; (2) he/she observes or has reason to suspect that any person on the property is or was involved in a drug-related incident; or (3) he/she observes a battery committed against any staff member. Upon receiving such a report, the READY administrator or designee shall immediately notify a local law enforcement agency, and if a student is reportedly in possession of a firearm, also the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). The Regional Superintendent or designee shall notify the Department of State Police of any drug-related incident or battery of a staff member.

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A copy of the letter for any suspension for a drug-related incident or battery of a staff member shall be sent by the ROE administrator to the District 10 State Police Office. This shall constitute the required notice of the offense to the State Police. Principals are required by law to file with the State Police the designated form for students found to have a firearm on or around school grounds.

LEG. REF.: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C.  
3351 et seq.  
U.S. Supreme Court, Baker v. Owen, 1975.  
23 Illinois Administrative Code, 1.280  
105 ILCS 5/10-20.14; 5/10-22.6; 5/10-27.1A; 5/24-24; 5/26-12; 5/26-15;  
5/31-3.

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