

POLICY Board of Education of Queen Anne’s County Public Schools

Responsible Office:	Student Services
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Student Discipline

I. PURPOSE

The Queen Anne’s County Public Schools system is committed to providing a safe and nurturing school environment that is based on respect, tolerance and civility. QACPS system believes providing such an environment requires that clear expectations for appropriate behavior be communicated, appropriate behaviors taught and consequences for inappropriate behavior be administered.

II. POLICY STATEMENT

The QACPS system has developed a discipline code of conduct that reflects a **rehabilitative restorative** philosophy with the goals of fostering, teaching, and acknowledging positive behavior. Teaching appropriate school behavior is the shared responsibility of the entire school community.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. *Alternative Educational Setting* – A location outside of the designated home school designed to accommodate the needs of students who have demonstrated the need for significant academic or behavioral support.
- B. *Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)* – A course of action developed as a result of a Functional Behavioral Assessment (FBA) for a specific student using positive behavioral interventions, strategies, and supports, to address problem behaviors exhibited by a student in the education setting.
- C. *Detention* – The placement of a student in a non-standard, supervised setting during the school day, before or after school, or on Saturdays.
- D. *Expulsion* – The exclusion of a student from the student’s regular school program for 45 school days or longer as determined by the Superintendent/Disignee.
- E. *In-School Intervention* – The opportunity afforded a student, after the student is removed to an alternate location within the school, to continue to:

1. Appropriately progress in the general curriculum.
2. Receive the special education and related services specified on the student's IEP in accordance with COMAR 13A.05.01.
3. Receive the accommodations and related services specified on the student's 504 Plan if the student is eligible under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
4. Receive instruction commensurate with the program afforded to the student in the regular classroom.
5. Participate with peers as they would in their current education program to the extent appropriate.

~~F. *Parent*—Any one of the following, recognized as the adult(s) legally responsible for the student:~~

- ~~1. *Biological Parent*—A natural parent whose parental rights have not been terminated.~~
- ~~2. *Adoptive Parent*—A person who as legally adopted the student and whose parental rights have not been terminated.~~
- ~~3. *Custodian*—A person or agency appointed by the court as the legal custodian of the student and granted parental rights and responsibilities.~~
- ~~4. *Guardian*—A person who has been placed by the court in charge of the affairs of the student and granted parental rights and responsibilities.~~
- ~~5. *Caregiver*—An adult resident of Queen Anne's County who exercised care, custody, or control over the student but who is neither the biological parent nor legal guardian, as long as the person satisfies the requirements of the Education Article, 7-101 (c) (Informal Kinship Care).~~
- ~~6. *Foster Parent*—An adult approved to care for a child who has been placed in their home by a state agency or licensed child placement agency as provided by the Family Law Article, 5-507.~~

- F *Restorative Practices* – ~~Processes that proactively build health relationships and a sense of community to prevent and address conflict and wrongdoing.~~ Practices conducted in a whole-school ethos or culture that supports peacemaking and solves conflict by building community.
- G. *School Day* – ~~Day, including a partial day, when a public agency~~ Any day when school is open in session and students are required to be in attendance for instruction.
- H. *School Property* – Any property owned or leased by the QACPS or used by QACPS for school related activities. The concept of property extends to school activities such as field trips, use of parks and recreation facilities, proms at hotels, etc. School buses, bust stops, and facilities scheduled by the school system for student use are considered an extension of school property.
- I. *School Related Activity* – Any school system activity, on or off school property, in which a student directly participates (e.g. school field trip, athletic event, ~~or~~ class/graduation activity etc.), or an activity in which the student does not directly participate but represents the school or student body simply by being present (e.g. spectator at a school event).
- ~~J. *Section 504 Plan* – A written document developed for an eligible student that allows the student to receive a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment.~~
- J. Staff* – All QACPS school system contracted employees.
- K. *Student Support Team (SST)* – A diverse group of school-based personnel educators, that may include school counselors, psychologists, administrators, nurses, and teachers, who that meet regularly to discuss the educational and behavioral needs of students. When necessary, this group also collaboratively develops interventions to support the specific needs of students.
- L. *Suspension* – The denial removal of a student's right to attend student from regular classes or school for a specific period of time for cause. Suspension includes ~~extended suspension~~, in-school suspension, short-term suspension, ~~or~~ long-term suspension or extended suspension.

1. In-School Suspension – The removal of a student from the student’s current education program, for up to but not more than 10 school days in one school year, for disciplinary reasons by the principal to another location within the school building.
2. Short-Term Suspension – The removal of a student from school for up to but not more than 3 school days for disciplinary reasons as determined by the principal.
3. Long-Term Suspension – The removal of a student from school for between 4-10 school days for disciplinary reasons as determined by the principal. **COMAR 13A.08.01.11**
4. Extended Suspension – The exclusion of a student from school for between 11 and 45 school days for disciplinary reasons as determined by the Superintendent/Designee.

IV. POLICY ELEMENTS

The QACPS system is committed to creating a school system where teaching and learning take place every day in a safe, supportive, and respectful environment, and where students, school staff, and families are valued and have the opportunity to succeed.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

The Board directs the Superintendent to implement this policy.

VI. POLICY REVIEW

The Superintendent will provide the Board of Education a review of this policy every four years after its initial adoption and/or last revision. The focus of this review will be the effectiveness of the elements of this policy in assisting the Board in fulfilling its mission.

VII. SPECIFIC REFERENCES TO TITLES, DEPARTMENTS, OR LAWS

COMAR 13A, 08.01.11

VIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

Date: [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Patricia Saelens, Ed.D.
Superintendent, Queen Anne’s County Public Schools

HISTORY:

Initial Adoption	--/--/----	Revised	--/--/----	Reviewed	--/--/----	Next Review	--/--/----
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