

Method Schools Board Policy BP 2.1

Suspension & Expulsion

In order to promote learning and protect the safety and well-being of all students, Method Schools adheres to the Suspension and Expulsion guidelines established by California Education Code Section 48900. When a student interferes with the learning, safety, and well-being of students, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student from regular classroom instruction or activity. Method Schools staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently amongst all students.

Upon enrollment of the school, Method Schools' teachers ensure that all students and parents/guardians are notified in writing of all school rules related to discipline, suspension and expulsion.

Notification shall include information about the availability of individual school rules and all school policies and regulations pertaining to student discipline.

Students may be subject to suspension or expulsion for committing any of the acts listed below:

1. Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
2. Possessed sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the principal or designee's concurrence.
3. Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of, any controlled substance listed in the California Health and Safety Code, Section 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
4. Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance listed as defined in Health and Safety Code, Section 11053-11058, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid, substance, or material and represented same as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.
5. Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
6. Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
7. Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
8. Possessed or used tobacco or any products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including but not limited to cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets and betel. This restriction shall not prohibit a student from using or possessing his/her own prescription products.

9. Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
10. Unlawfully possessed, or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
11. Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
12. Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
13. Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e. a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
14. Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289 or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code 243.4.
15. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that student from being a witness or retaliating against that student for being a witness, or both.
16. Committed sexual harassment as defined in Education Code 212.5.
17. Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause, or participated in an act of hate violence as defined in Education Code 33032.5.
18. Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonable expected effect of materially disrupting classwork, creating substantial disorder, and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment.

A student may be suspended or expelled for any of the acts listed above if the act is related to school activity or school attendance occurring at any district school or within any other school district, including but not limited to the following circumstances:

1. While on school grounds.
2. While going to or coming from school
3. During lunch period.
4. During, going to, or coming from a school-sponsored activity

Method Schools staff will provide notification to student and parent of the suspension or expulsion.

This notice shall:

1. Inform the parent/guardian when his/her presence is expected and by what means he/she may arrange an alternative date.
2. Describe the legal protections afforded to the parent/guardian as an employee under Labor Code 230.7.

3. State that if the parent/guardian does not have a means of transportation to school, he/she may ride the school bus with the student.
4. Ask the parent/guardian to meet with the principal after the visit and before leaving school, as required by Education Code 48900.1.

It is important to note that Method Schools is classified as an independent study school, which allows staff to provide alternative disciplinary measures for students who violate rules of the school. Some may be required to work from home and not permitted to attend the site. This is all outlined on the behavior policy located in the Student Handbook.

Board Approved: 1/13/16