

5.50 STUDENT RIGHTS AND BEHAVIOR

The board supports the principle that no one has the right to interfere with other people, other people's property and other people's time. The school should attempt to develop and encourage an attitude of individual responsibility towards the quality of life in the School community.

The code of behavior expected from our students rests on three basic rules: respect for themselves; respect for others; respect for their own and others' property. When problems of behavior arise, they will be dealt with according to regulations developed by the administration and implemented as required under Board policy.

Each student in our school has the right to be treated with respect, courtesy and consideration by every other student, teacher, school employee, or other adult in the school. He/she has the right to know what the rules are; to appeal to higher authority when he/she feels unfairly treated, or when he/she thinks that no objective hearing has been allowed.

However, persons in charge of classrooms and of the school as a whole must have the authority to carry out their work for the benefit and safety of everyone concerned without constant arguments. In the interest of safety and order in the school it is expected that students obey directions first and ask questions later.

Good behavior in the school is extremely important to the school program. In maintaining discipline, teachers must be able to proceed with the assurance that support will be forthcoming from the parents, the principals, the Director, and from the School Board.

The following guides to good discipline are recommended:

- Good discipline is usually positive rather than negative in nature;
- Good discipline is fair and dignified;
- Conferences with teacher, Director, and parents should be used as necessary to bring about acceptable classroom behavior.

Corporal punishment will not be used under any circumstances. Please refer to the Student and Faculty Handbooks for specific procedures relating to the student code of behavior.

5.51 STUDENT INVOLVEMENT IN DECISION MAKING

The Board will consider student opinions in establishing policies, particularly those in the area of student privileges and other areas of special importance to students. The administration will maintain open lines of communication with students so that the students may voice their views and suggestions on school regulations and programs. Students shall be welcomed at Board meetings and granted privileges of speaking in line with such privileges extended to parents/guardians of TIS students, faculty and others invited by the Board.

5.51.1 STUDENT'S RIGHT TO APPEAL TO THE SCHOOL BOARD

In cases of student expulsion students and/or parents or guardians of the student may appeal the decision of the Director to the Board.

5.51.2 SEARCHES AND QUESTIONING ON SCHOOL PREMISES AND AT SCHOOL SPONSORED TRIPS

Authority to Search Student:

The Director, teachers, or school security guard may make a reasonable search of a student on the school premises or on a school-sponsored trip if there is reasonable belief that the student has in his possession an item, which is contrary to school rules.

The search shall be made in the presence of a third party.

5.52 STUDENTS RECORDS

Student records are defined as all official files and data directly related to children, that is the student's cumulative record. They include, but are not necessarily limited, to: identifying data, academic work, level of achievement (grades, standardized test scores), placement information such as Individualized Education Plans, attendance data and health records. Other information may be collected by the school, but shall not be considered official and will not be forwarded to other schools or agencies.

5.53 ACCESS TO RECORDS

The parent, legal guardian or student, if the student is 18 or over, will, upon written request to the Director, have the opportunity to receive a copy of official student records as well as an interpretation of those records, have the right to question those data, and if a difference of opinion is noted, will be permitted to file a letter in the cumulative folder stating his/her position.

School personnel having access to those data will be any faculty member or administrator dealing directly and regularly with the student.

Student transfer records will be given to parents at the time of the student's withdrawal from school or records will be forwarded to prospective schools at the request of the parents except when there is an outstanding debt to TIS as defined in the Finance section 3.30.

5.54 STUDENT ATTENDANCE/STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Regular attendance is important for the student to obtain maximum benefit from the educational program. Whenever a student must be absent, parents are expected to notify the homeroom teacher of the reason for absence. Absences must be excused by the school in order for the students to be eligible to receive credit for the schoolwork missed. Absences will be tracked per day in elementary and per class in secondary.

If a student accrues 10 or more absences per semester, the school reserves the right to review the students' situation and (possibly) recommend retention or loss of enrolment in the school.

The school recognizes the potential educational value of trips to other places; however this policy wishes to emphasize the importance of regular daily attendance to continued academic development. Important and often crucial skills are developed with direct teacher instruction. The interchange of ideas and information between and among students is a valuable learning experience. Given the inquiry, constructive, hands-on approach to learning; parents must understand that the school is unable to provide work that duplicates the missed in-class experience.

Almost all late arrivals are avoidable. Students are expected to be on time to every class. Three late arrivals will count as one absence.

5.55 SECONDARY SCHOOL ACADEMIC PROBATION

The Principal will maintain procedures for academic probation. Such procedures are designed to ensure student success. Regular and formal communication between faculty and parents will be the keystone to this process. Administrative policies regarding academic probation will be contained in the faculty and student

handbooks and will also be communicated to the parents. Students who successfully complete the guidelines for academic probation will be considered as regular students again and will be able to participate in activities as normal. Students who are still unsuccessful at the end of the probationary period will face the following consequences:

- Any student in grades 7 or 8 who has failed to achieve a score of 2 (on the 1 to 7 grading scale) in two core courses may be retained at the end of the year;
- Any high school student failing to achieve a score of 2 (on the 1 to 7 grading scale) in three core courses or failing to achieve a 2 and carrying two “2’s” in other core courses at the end of the year will not be readmitted to the school unless the secondary faculty and Director recommend re-admission.

5.56 STUDENT SUSPENSIONS

Students whose behavior violates school rules, interferes with the educational program and/or whose behavior results in the destruction of school property may at the discretion of the Director be suspended from school for a period of up to ten days. Suspension from school may be either in school or out of school at the discretion of the Director.

Before any case of suspension a student will be informed of the reason(s) for suspension and be given an opportunity to present the student’s side of the story. A student whose presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process may be removed immediately from the school.

Upon termination of the suspension period the student may return to school after the parent or guardian has had a conference with the Director.

5.57 STUDENT EXPULSIONS

The Director may expel any student(s) whose behavior violates school rules, interferes with the educational program and/or whose behavior results in the destruction of school property. If the student denies the charges leading to expulsion, the student shall have the right to an explanation of the evidence supporting the charges and an opportunity to present the student’s side of the story. A student whose presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process may be removed immediately from school. The Director will ensure that the student’s rights to due process will be followed.