

Behavior Definitions

Minor Offense (Teacher Managed) Definitions:

Disruption: Behavior causing an interruption that disrupts or interferes with the educational process of others. Disruption includes blurting out; sustained loud talking, yelling or screaming; noise with materials; and/or sustained out of seat behavior.

Defiance/Disrespect: Brief or low-intensity verbal or physical refusal to follow directions; talking back; rudeness to adults; refusal to deliver and/or return school correspondence when required.

Failure to Follow Behavior Matrix: Failure to be respectful, responsible, or safe in the school setting, as defined by the behavior matrix.

Food in Class/Gum: Eating in the classroom outside of designated meal or snack times; sneaking or hoarding food in one's desk; chewing gum on school grounds.

Inappropriate Language (minor): Engagement in low-intensity instance of inappropriate language.

Physical Contact (minor): Engagement in non-serious, but inappropriate physical contact. Example: Playing with a peer's hair during class, sitting on laps, etc.

Property Misuse: Student deliberately impairs the usefulness of the property or engages in low-intensity misuse of property, without destroying said property. Can be school property or an individual's property, including student's own property.

Off-task Behaviors: Deliberate or unintentional procrastination, stalling, dawdling, etc., used to get out of performing a task or assignment. When deliberately directed at staff, it is considered defiance. Example: prolonged pencil sharpening or repeated bathroom breaks are off-task, while crumpling the assignment or throwing it away is defiance.

Major Offense (Office Managed) Definitions:

Assault: Intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical violence against another, such as fighting, hitting, punching, striking with an object, kicking, hair pulling, scratching, etc., for the purpose of hurting and/or injuring another or another's possessions.

Cheating: Student copies another student's work, plagiarizes, hides notes or answers on body or possessions, etc.

Destruction of Property: Student participates in an activity that results in destruction or disfigurement of property, either school property or individual property

Inappropriate Language/Profanity: Student delivers verbal messages that include swearing, name calling, or use of words in an inappropriate way.

Lying: Student fabricates untrue stories, either through making up a story or omitting parts of the story.

Mean Physical: Student engages in physical behavior that involves force on another person where injury may occur, including “horseplay,” “goofing around,” physical contact during games (above and beyond accidental contact), etc. Contact may include striking with an object (example: purposefully kicking a ball at a student who is not playing). Other examples include hitting, punching, striking with an object, kicking, hair pulling, scratching that occur to a lesser extent than assault.

Mean Verbal: Student engages in the delivery of direct, written, indirect (“talking about” a third party to someone), or technology-based messages that involve intimidation, teasing, taunting, threats, insulting remarks, rude noises, or spreading rumors that would hurt feelings or is otherwise disrespectful towards a student. The delivery of disrespectful messages in any format related to gender, ethnicity, sex, race, religion, disability, physical features, or other protected class.

Technology Violation: Student engages in inappropriate (as defined by school technology policy) use of cell phone, pager, music/video players, camera, tablet and/or computer.

Third Offense of a Teacher Managed Behavior: Student engages in repeated minor (teacher managed) behavior. Prior to sending student to the office for “third strike,” teacher must have used two different classroom interventions (Conference with student, in-class time out, Think Sheet, apology, restitution, privilege loss, parent contact or other action as required by student IEP/Behavior Plan).

Other Major Offense Definitions, Not Included on Office Discipline Referral Form

Arson: Student plans and/or participates in malicious burning of property.

Bomb Threat: Student delivers a message of possible explosive materials being on-campus, near campus, and/or pending explosion.

Gang Affiliation: Student uses gesture, dress, and/or speech to display affiliation with a gang.

Inappropriate Display of Affection: Student engages in inappropriate verbal and/or physical gestures/contact, of a sexual nature to another student/adult.

Plagiarism: The student has signed a person's name without that person's permission, or claims someone else's work as their own.

Theft: Student is involved by being in possession of, having passed on, or being responsible for removing someone else's property.

Use/Possession of Alcohol, Tobacco, Drugs, Weapons, Combustibles: Student is in possession of or is using alcohol, tobacco, illegal/prescription drugs/substances or imitations, knives/guns or other objects readily capable of causing bodily harm, or combustible substances/objects readily capable of causing bodily harm and/or property damage (matches, lighters, firecrackers, gasoline, lighter fluid).