

RPS Behavior Violations

Responses and Levels of Behavior Violations

Problem behaviors are divided into five levels of violations with examples of interventions and disciplinary responses.

- Interventions are opportunities for students to learn appropriate behavior.
- Disciplinary responses should be the least severe response possible.

For each violation on the charts, the first (●) is the minimum disciplinary action. There should be a logical relationship between the severity, frequency and duration of the offense to the age of the student and administrative action.

Factors to consider prior to a disciplinary action

- Student's age, maturity and understanding of the impact of their behavior
- Student's ability and/or willingness to repair the harm caused by their behavior
- Previous interventions implemented and disciplinary responses imposed
- The circumstances and severity, frequency and duration of the behavior
- The student's IEP or 504 plan, if applicable

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Level 1

Level 1 violations are typically addressed by staff members when a student has minimal or no prior violations. The staff response is to teach and practice the expected behavior so students learn and demonstrate safe, respectful and responsible behaviors. Staff members are expected to use a variety of teaching and classroom management strategies.

Level 1: Examples of Interventions and Responses

Support interventions aim to correct and teach alternative behavior so students can learn and demonstrate safe and respectful behavior. School staff members are expected to use a variety of methods and classroom management strategies that may include one or more of the following:

- Reminders and redirection
- Role play
- Written reflection/apology
- Seat change
- Teacher/student conference
- Daily progress sheet on behavior
- In class time-out / “Take a Break”
- Check-in / Check-out
- Restitution
- Removal from class to another supervised classroom (short-term) / Buddy Class
- Change in schedule
- Loss of privileges
- Detention
- Student Contract

Appropriate staff interventions may involve the parent/guardian and other members of the school community. Interventions may include:

- Parent/guardian notification
- Parent/guardian conference
- Conflict resolution
- Contract between teacher, student and parents
- Peer mediation
- Restorative circle
- Referral

Level 1 Violations							
SR=State Reportable							
	Levels					SR	Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5		
Academic Dishonesty (Cheating or Plagiarizing) (School Board Policy 541.1) Cheating is the act of copying, photographing, allowing your own work to be copied, revealing test content, altering scores or records, citing issues. Plagiarizing is the act of using another person's ideas or expression in writing or speaking without acknowledging the source. Copying work from a book, computer source or another individual.	●	●	●				
Disrespectful to Adults/Others Using words or actions that are impolite or indicate a lack of respect or courtesy.	●	●					

Disruptive Behavior (School Board Policy 541.1) Acts that disrupt or threaten to disrupt the educational process in the classroom, hallways, or at school functions, including, but not limited to, disobedience, disrespectful behavior, inappropriate language, horseplay, discrimination, or defiance of authority or any conduct tending to cause disruption or arouse alarm, anger or resentment in others	•	•	•				X	
Engaging in Verbal Conflict Disrupting the school environment by engaging in a loud argument that includes disparaging comments or discussion or potential physical conflict.	•	•						
Inappropriate Language Using inappropriate words or topics of conversation in school.	•	•						
Insubordination/Noncompliance with Behavior Expectations (School Board Policy 541.1) Failure to comply with the instructions of school staff when current behavior prevents success of the student or impacts learning.	•	•	•				X	
Physical Contact (No Bodily Harm) Students engage in non-serious but inappropriate physical contact, such as pushing, horseplay, wrestling.	•	•	•					
Student Dress (School Board Policy 541.1) Manner of dress or personal grooming that does not fit within the policies or guidelines practiced by the school or district.	•	•						
Technology Misuse/Violation This includes being off-task, treating Chromebooks carelessly and sharing material without permission.	•	•	•					
Theft, Minor (School Board Policy 541.1) The unauthorized taking or keeping of the property of another, including but not limited to school supplies, food, etc..	•	•					X	
Truancy In the building or on the school grounds but not in attendance at assigned class.	•	•					X	

Level 2

Level 2 violations generally result in interventions and/or disciplinary responses that involve support staff and/or school administration. These actions aim to increase the student's skills, positive view of schooling and positive experiences at school so that misbehavior is less likely to continue or escalate. A severe occurrence may be treated as a violation at a higher level. Repeated instances of a level 2 violation may be treated as a violation at a higher level only when appropriate interventions have been attempted over a reasonable amount of time and documented in the student's record.

Level 2: Examples of Interventions and Responses

These interventions may involve the school administration and aim to correct behavior by stressing the seriousness of the behavior while keeping the student in school.

- Parent/guardian notification
- Parent/guardian conference
- Restorative justice strategies
- School community service
- Referral to Student Teacher Assistance Team (STAT)
- Monetary restitution
- **Removal (up to five) to another supervised classroom during a designated subject/class**
- In-school suspension
- Student conference
- Detention
- Referral to outside resources
- Utilization of lower-level consequences in addition to the above

Level 2 Violations							
SR=State Reportable							
	Levels					SR	Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5		
Bullying (School Board Policy 113) Bullying is intimidating, threatening, abusive, or harmful conduct that is objectively offensive. The definition of bullying contains the following three criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Behavior is repeated or forms a pattern. 2. Involves either a real or perceived power imbalance between students. 3. Materially and substantially interferes with a student's education. 		●	●	●	●	X	

The conduct is defined as something that: may cause, or causes fear of physical harm to person or property; violates an expectation of privacy; defames; causes intentional infliction of emotional distress; or is directed at a student's characteristics.						
Cyberbullying Cyberbullying is bullying (as defined under Bullying) using technology or electronic communication.	•	•	•	•	X	
Fighting, Less Serious (School Board Policy 541.1) Mutual physical combat that does not result in injury or a substantial disruption to the school environment, other than the disruption of the fight itself. A student who retaliates, promotes or instigates will be considered part of the fight. This is regardless of who initiates the fight or whether the student believes he/she was fighting in self-defense.	•	•			X	
Gang Activity (School Board Policy 541.1) Any activity that promotes or assists a gang including creating graffiti, emblems, symbols, hand signs, jewelry and/or clothing are not allowed. Gang activity is defined by the following criteria: (1) the student belongs to or associates with (2) a group of three or more people who band together under a common identifying symbol, sign, or name, and (3) the participant participates in a separate violation listed in the handbook to further an implicit or explicit goal of the gang/group.	•	•	•	•	X	
Harassment (School Board Policy 541.1) Harassment is participating in or conspiring with others to engage in acts that injure, degrade, intimidate or disgrace other individuals or classes based on: race, gender, disability, religion or creed, national origin or culture, age or grade level, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or any physical or mental attributes. Harassment includes words, spoken or written, and/or any actions that negatively impact an individual or groups as defined above.	•	•	•	•	X	
Harassment, Sexual (School Board Policy 541.1) Includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical contact or other unwelcome verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature.	•	•	•	•	X	

Level 2 Violations, continued
 SR=State Reportable

	Levels					SR	Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5		
Out of Bounds/Out of area (School Board Policy 541.1) Leaving expected area such as classroom, lunchroom or campus without permission.		•					
Over-the-Counter Medications Students using or distributing nonprescription medication in an unauthorized manner.		•					
Pornography Accessing, viewing or showing sexually inappropriate materials.		•	•				
Reckless Behavior, Less Serious (No Bodily Harm) Recklessness involves the creation of an unjustifiable risk of harm to others and a conscious (and sometimes deliberate) disregard for or indifference to that risk.		•	•				
Refusal to Cooperate with School Administrative Staff A student, who has already been sent to the office for misbehavior, continues to fail to comply with directions from staff.		•	•				
Sexual misconduct/Indecent Exposure Engaging in sexual contact with another person, including intentional touching of clothing covering a person's intimate parts or intentional removal or attempted removal of clothing covering a person's intimate parts or clothing covering a person's undergarments. Intentionally exposing private parts to another. This includes, but not limited to, sexual intercourse or sexual penetration, sexual contact, indecent exposure, or masturbation.		•	•	•			
Technology-Unauthorized or Inappropriate Use of District Technology Resources (School Board Policy 107) See full definition online .		•	•	•		X	
Threats or Intimidation (School Board Policy 541.1) Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.		•	•	•		X	
Tobacco, Use of (School Board Policy 541.1) To include students found to be in use of tobacco or a product that may be used to distribute tobacco or the chemical nicotine while in the school building, or on school grounds.		•	•			X	
Vandalism/Property Related (School Board Policy 541.1) Willful defacing or the destruction of any property.		•	•	•		X	
Verbal or Written Abuse to Staff, Threatening Abusive communication directed at staff which includes words or actions that threaten the individual's safety and security.		•	•	•		X	

Level 3

Level 3 violations **may result** in a short-term removal from school for part of a day or an entire school day. The duration of the short-term removal, if issued, is to be limited as much as possible while adequately addressing the behavior.

A severe occurrence may be treated as a violation at a higher level. Repeated instances of a level 3 violation may be treated as a violation at a higher level only when appropriate interventions have been attempted over a reasonable amount of time and documented in the student's record.

Level 3: Examples of Interventions and Responses

These interventions may involve the temporary, short-term removal of a student from the school environment

because of the severity of the behavior. The duration of the dismissal (or removal), if issued, is to be limited as

much as is practicable while adequately addressing the behavior.

- Parent/guardian notification
- Parent/guardian conference
- Dismissal (up to one complete school day)
- Suspension (1 or more school days)
- Referral to outside resources
- Utilization of lower-level consequences in addition to the above

Level 3 Violations SR=State Reportable							
	Levels						Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5	SR	
Alcohol, Possession/Use/Under the Influence Possession, use or being under the influence of any alcoholic product while on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.			•	•			X
Controlled Substance, Possession/Use Any unlawful possession or transportation of any controlled substance; or unlawfully being under the influence of any controlled substance; or possession of equipment or devices used for taking controlled substances while on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.			•	•			X
Drug, Possession/Use Any unlawful possession or transportation of any drugs; unlawfully being under the influence of any drugs; or possession of equipment or devices used for taking drugs while on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.			•	•			X

<p>False Allegations Against Student or Staff Any knowingly or recklessly false allegation against a staff member or student, written, spoken or otherwise communicated which is harmful to their reputation or which may impede the ability of the staff member to perform assigned duties.</p>			•	•		
<p>Fighting, Serious (School Board Policy 541.1) Mutual physical combat that results in injury, creates a substantial disruption involving large numbers of students, and/or results in the potential for continued fighting. A student who retaliates, promotes or instigates will be considered part of the fight. This is regardless of who initiates the fight or whether the student believes he/she was fighting in self-defense.</p>			•	•		X
<p>Reckless Behavior, More Serious (Bodily Harm) Recklessness involves the creation of an unjustifiable risk of harm to others and a conscious (and sometimes deliberate) disregard for or indifference to that risk.</p>			•	•		
<p>Repeated Misuse of District Technology Resources Purposeful use of district technology resources in a way that violates district policy.</p>			•	•		X
<p>Pyrotechnics Having in possession fire starting materials or fireworks.</p>			•	•		X
<p>Theft (School Board Policy 541.1) The unauthorized taking or keeping of the property of another.</p>			•	•		X
<p>Trespassing, Including During Periods of Dismissal or Suspension (School Board Policy 541.1) Being physically present on school property or at a school activity after being directed to leave by a school administrator or other person lawfully responsible for the control of the premises.</p>			•	•		

Level 4

Level 4 violations have the potential to significantly impact the safety of the school environment. These violations may result in the removal of a student from the school environment due to the severity of the behavior. Incidents at this level may be referred for expulsion depending on the circumstances.

Level 4: Examples of Interventions and Responses

These interventions may involve the temporary, short-term removal of a student from the school

environment because of the severity of the behavior. The duration of the short-term suspension, if issued, is

to be limited as much as is practicable while adequately addressing the behavior.

- Parent/guardian notification
- Parent/guardian conference
- Suspension, in excess of one complete school day
- Interim alternative educational placement
- Referral to outside resources
- Utilization of lower-level consequences in addition to the above

Level 4 Violations SR=State Reportable							
	Levels						Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5	SR	
Arson Intentional destruction or damage to school or district building or property by means of fire.				•	•	X	•
Assault (School Board Policy 541.1) Assault is doing an act with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death or intentionally inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily harm upon another.				•			•
Criminal Sexual Conduct (School Board Policy 541.1) Sexual conduct amounting to a violation includes criminal “sexual contact” or any other sexual act that would be a criminal act if committed by an adult.				•	•		•

Level 4 Violations, continued
SR=State Reportable

	Levels						Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5	SR	
Controlled Substances, Soliciting/Selling The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, or purchase of any controlled substances; or possession of equipment or devices used for preparing drugs while on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.				•	•	X	•
Drugs, Soliciting/Selling The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, or purchase of any drugs; or possession of equipment or devices used for preparing drugs while on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities.				•	•	X	•
Extortion The obtaining of property from another person with consent, although unwillingly, through the use of force, or a threat of force.				•		X	•
False Alarm/Bomb Threat (School Board Policy 541.1) Causing a substantial disruption to the school environment and/or placing student at risk by making a false report or activating an alarm.				•		X	
Hazing (School Board Policy 108) Committing an act against a student or coercing a student into an act that is demeaning, humiliating or creates a substantial risk or harm to a person in order for the student to be initiated into or affiliated with a student organization or grade level. Apparent permission, cooperation, or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the actions taken by the district.				•		X	
Reckless or Careless Driving (School Board Policy 541.1) Driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property.				•			•
Robbery The obtaining of property from another person against their will and without the consent of the victim by a use of force, or a threat of force.				•		X	•
Threats, Terroristic (School Board Policy 541.1) Comments, actions or conduct that specifically threatens physical harm or violence to the person of another. See MN Statue online .				•	•	X	•
Weapon, Possession of real or replica (School Board Policy 541.1) Possession of a sharp object, knife, gun, projectile or look-alike designed or used in a harmful manner. Students who are aware of a weapon must report it immediately or will be considered a participant.				•		X	•

Level 5

Level 5 violations require the principal to notify the Superintendent or designee. These behaviors may result in police notification and/or expulsion.

Level 5: Examples of Interventions and Responses

These interventions involve the removal of the student from the school environment because of the severity of the behavior and parent/guardian notification and conference. They may involve placement of the student in a safe environment that provides additional structure to address behavior. These interventions focus on maintaining the safety of the school community and ending self-destructive and/or dangerous behavior.

- Interim alternative educational placement
- Referral to outside resources
- Expulsion or exclusion (an act of the Board of Education)
- Utilization of lower level consequences in addition to the above

Level 5 Violations SR=State Reportable							
	Levels						Police Notification
	1	2	3	4	5	SR	
Assault, Aggravated (School Board Policy 541.1.) The intentional infliction of substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm upon another, or committing an act with a firearm, dangerous weapon or other weapon with intent to cause fear in another of immediate bodily harm or death.					•	X	•
Bomb/Explosive Device (School Board Policy 111) Bombs, grenades, mines, rockets, missiles, pipe bombs, or similar devices designed to explode and capable of causing bodily harm or property damage.					•	X	•
Weapon/Firearm (School Board Policy 111) Gun or rifle that fires ammunition by force of explosion or combustion. Does not include BB guns, air guns, or lookalike guns.					•	X	•
Incapacitation Device, Possession, with use or intent to use (School Board Policy 111) A device designed to temporarily immobilize or incapacitate people such as taser, stun gun or tear gas derivative.					•	X	•
Possession/Use of a Dangerous Weapon Other Than a Firearm (School Board Policy 111) A device designed or modified as a weapon that is capable of producing death or great bodily harm. Examples include knife with a					•		•

blade of 2.5 inches or longer, replica firearm, BB gun, or brass knuckles.							
Possession/Use of Other Weapon or Object, not a firearm and not meeting Minnesota Statute Dangerous Weapon definition, with use or intent to use Device not manufactured as a dangerous weapon or non-conventional weapon capable of producing bodily harm, substantial bodily harm, or fear of bodily harm. Examples include knives with blades under 2.5 inches, box cutters, razor blades, etc. Use or intent must be present.					•		•