

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

DEFINITION

Discipline is the positive direction of behavior toward established standards of conduct, fully understood and based upon reason, judgment, and the rights of others.

Ideal discipline is self-directed and self-controlled. Schools, communities and parents share the responsibility for helping students develop self-discipline.

Discipline is necessary to assure an orderly environment in which each person may live and learn to his/her full capabilities in harmony with others.

When self-control falters and self-discipline fails, disciplinary forces outside the individual must be imposed to protect the rights of others.

In the Todd County schools, as in the communities at large, certain rules and procedures are established to guide students through constructive growth and into mature adulthood. The rules and procedures are basically the same from kindergarten through grade twelve (12). Parents, teachers and others responsible for the welfare and education of these students must cooperate to interpret and enforce these rules.

PROCEDURES

A violation of school rules could result in (a) a conference with the student, (b) notification of parents and (c) appropriate disciplinary action that could include suspension or expulsion.

In addition to the rules and regulations of the Todd County schools outlined here, all persons are expected to obey the laws of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the State of South Dakota and of the United States. On school property violation of public law in the following categories will result in action by school authorities regardless of whether or not criminal charges are pressed: arson; assault; burglary; bomb threats; extortion or blackmail; larceny; vandalism; robbery; sale, possession or use of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs; trespassing; unlawful interference with or harassment of school authorities.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. send your child to school as required by South Dakota Law (SDCL 13-27-1); exceptions SDCL 13-27-3 and Chapter V, Section 20, Rosebud Sioux Tribe Law and Order Code;
2. make certain your child's' attendance at school is regular and punctual and all absences are properly excused;
3. insist that your child is clean, dressed in compliance with school rules of sanitation and safety, and in a fashion that will not disrupt classroom procedures;
4. be sure your child is free of communicable disease and is in as good health as possible;
5. guide your child from the earliest years to develop socially acceptable standards of behavior, to exercise self-control, and to be accountable for his/her actions;
6. teach your child, by word and example, respect for law, for the authority of the school, and for the rights and property of others;
7. know and understand the rules your child is expected to observe at school; be aware of the consequences for violations of these rules; and, accept legal responsibility for your child's actions;
8. instill in your child a desire to learn; encourage a respect for honest work and an interest in exploring broader fields of knowledge; and
9. become acquainted with your child's' school, its staff, curriculum and activities; attend parent-teacher conferences and school functions.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

1. take advantage of the academic opportunities offered at school;
2. support and participate in school activities;
3. attend school regularly and punctually; excuses for absences or tardiness must be in writing by a parent or guardian;
4. remain on the school campus during the school day; permission to leave must be in writing by an administrator, nurse or attendance clerk;

5. be self-controlled, reasonably quiet, and non-disruptive in classrooms, hallways, study areas, school buses, on school property, and at school activities;
6. be clean and dress in compliance with school rules of sanitation and safety, and in fashion that will not disrupt classroom procedures;
7. be reasonable, modest, self-controlled, non-suggestive and considerate in your relationships with other students;
8. strive for mutually respectful relationships with teachers;
9. keep your language and gestures respectful and free of profanity or obscenities;
10. respect private, public, and school property;
11. obey the school rule against use or possession of tobacco by students and the "Drug Free Schools" rule on school property or while attending school-sponsored activities; and
12. be informed regarding student rights and responsibilities;

TEACHER & STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES

1. reflect a personal enthusiasm for teaching and learning and a genuine concern for the individual student;
2. guide learning activities so students learn to think and reason, assume responsibility for their actions, and respect the rights of others;
3. participate in the establishment of school rules and regulations regarding student behavior; explain these rules to students, and require observance of them;
4. be fair, firm, and consistent in enforcing school rules in classrooms, hallways, restrooms, school buses, on the school campus, and at all school-sponsored activities;
5. give positive reinforcement for acceptable behavior;
6. demonstrate, by word and personal example, respect for law and order self-discipline;

7. refer to a counselor or administrator any student whose behavior requires special attention; and
8. inform parents regarding student achievement and behavior; and consult with parents whenever necessary.

PRINCIPALS' RESPONSIBILITIES

1. create the best teaching-learning situation possible, exercising all authority assigned by the superintendent and school board;
2. organize school schedules and teaching assignments and require effective classroom management and instruction;
3. take leadership in establishing reasonable rules and regulations for the well-ordered operation of the school;
4. make these rules and regulations known to and understood by students, parents and all school staff;
5. receive teacher or counselor referrals of students with behavior problems, confer with these students, communicate with parents, and set up cooperative procedures for bringing about modification of the students' behavior;
6. be fair, firm, and consistent in all decisions affecting students, parents and staff;
7. demonstrate, by word and personal example, respect for law and order self-discipline and genuine concern for all persons coming under your authority;
8. become acquainted with your students by visiting classrooms and attending school activities; and
9. maintain open lines of communication between school and home.

SCHOOL BOARD, SUPERINTENDENT, & DISTRICT ADMINISTRATORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

1. maintain a well-trained staff at all levels;

2. inform the community what is expected of Todd County students and what happens if rules are violated;
3. give full support to the staff charged with the responsibility for enforcing discipline in accordance with District Policy and South Dakota law;
4. develop programs which provide for students with special needs;
5. be fair and consistent in making the final decisions regarding those students whose behavior problems have been appealed from individual schools to the superintendent and school board, in accordance with district policy and South Dakota law; and
6. become acquainted with the schools, staff and students, by visiting building regularly and by attending school activities.

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