



**DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT
PLAN
AND
STUDENT CODE OF
CONDUCT

2013-2014**

WEATHERFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Weatherford ISD is to teach, challenge, and inspire each student in a safe, nurturing environment to succeed in the global community.

2013-2014
STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT & CAMPUS HANDBOOK
REQUIRED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Weatherford ISD Parents/Guardians,

For students to be successful and reach their maximum potential in school, it takes a strong partnership between the home and school. We believe that every student should have the opportunity to learn and every teacher have the opportunity to teach in the most desirable environment. One of the most important lessons education should teach is that of self-discipline. To that end, expectations for WISD students are universal. All students are expected to do right thing, make good choices, and treat others as they want to be treated. As your child's best teacher, we need your support in this educational endeavor as we guide our students to model this behavior. Please read and discuss with your daughter/son the *Campus Student Handbook* and the District's *Student Code of Conduct*. This year both documents may be read electronically at www.weatherfordisd.com. After reading this information, please sign and return the verification of receipt.

As required by state law, the Board of Trustees has officially adopted the *Student Code of Conduct* and *Campus Student Handbooks* in order to promote a safe and orderly learning environment for every student. Weatherford Independent School District policy requires that each campus publish a student handbook. Student handbooks--addressing curriculum, grading, extracurricular activities, student conduct, and other information that students and parents are likely to need during the school year--are posted online. A "hard" copy will be provided only upon the parent's request. The *Campus Student Handbook* and the District's *Student Code of Conduct* shall also be provided to newly enrolled students and any other person on request. The *Campus Student Handbook* and District's *Code of Conduct* shall be reviewed and approved annually by the Board and shall constitute an extension of Board policy. The student and parent should each sign this page in the space provided below, and then return the page to the student's school within the next 10 days. Should you have any questions about the *Campus Student Handbook* or the District's *Student Code of Conduct*, please contact the principal.

Best wishes for an outstanding school year!



Nita Ellis, Ed. D.
Executive Director of Student Services

My child and I understand that the Weatherford ISD Student Code of Conduct and the Campus Student Handbook (found at www.weatherfordisd.com) contain information that my child and I may need during the school year and that all students will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subjected to the disciplinary consequences outlined in the Code. We have been offered the option to receive a paper copy or to electronically assess online these documents for the 2013-2014 school year.

My signature acknowledges that we have been offered the option to receive a paper copy the Student Handbook and the WISD Student Code of Conduct for 2013-2014 by request. My signature does not indicate agreement with the contents of the Weatherford ISD Campus Student Handbook and the Student Code of Conduct for 2013-2014. Failure to sign this form does not exempt me/us from compliance with the laws, policies, rules, and regulations of the state and school district.

Print Name of Student: _____ **Grade Level** _____

Signature of Student: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Date: _____

Please return signed Acknowledgement Form to your child's teacher.

Weatherford Independent School District

What's Public? What's Not? 2013-2014 Release of Student Information

Federal and state laws safeguard student records from unauthorized inspection or use and provide parents and “eligible” students with certain rights. This document is provided to WISD parents in an effort to communicate standard operating procedures and parent rights regarding the release of information.

ATTENTION PARENTS: Most Student Information Is Confidential

Virtually all information pertaining to individual student performance (i.e. individual test scores, grades, discipline records, medical information, etc.) is considered confidential and is not released to the general public without a parent’s consent.

“Directory Information” Is Public Unless Parents Make A Request In Writing

Certain information about WISD students is considered “directory information” and will be released to anyone who follows the procedures for requesting the information (Policy FL LOCAL) unless the parent or guardian objects to the release of the directory information about the student.

Weatherford ISD has designated the following information as directory information: the student’s name, address, telephone listing, electronic mail address, photograph, degrees, honors and awards received, date and place of birth, major field of study, dates of attendance, grade level, most recent educational institution attending and participation in officially recognized activities and sports, as well as the weight and height of members of athletic teams.

If you do not want Weatherford ISD to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the principal in writing within ten (10) days of the issuance of this notice. This information may be used for campus purposes and may be included in class rosters and directories requested by parent/teacher organizations or may be released to outside agencies or vendors. Directory Information may be disclosed to requesting third parties without written consent from the parent, unless the parent requests in writing that the information is not to be released. Failure to return this form within ten school days will result in the above mentioned information being subject to release to a requestor.

Keep in mind:

- The law gives parents the right to have their child’s “directory information” kept private. The information may be restricted to outside parties *if* the objection is made in writing to the principal within ten school days after the parent or student has been provided this notice. **A signature form is provided by WISD at the beginning of the school year and as part of the Back-to-School Packet.**
- WISD goes a step further by honoring privacy requests any time they are received throughout the year.
- School employees follow federal and state laws, as well as local Board policy with regard to releasing “directory information.”

Before you fill out your parental consent signature form, please read the rest of this document for implications of such a decision.

Special Notice to Parents:

Requesting that all student “directory information” be marked “private” may keep your child from being honored in the school yearbook, press releases, publications, etc. Because of this fact, many parents ask that the District only mark for privacy the child’s address and telephone number. This prevents the unwanted

solicitations and/or junk mail, but allows the school district the ability to include the child's directory information in press releases, publications and yearbooks. **Parents who want their child(ren) in the yearbook and press releases check the second box on the FERPA Parent Signature Form.**

Photographs

A parent's request to withhold a child's photograph must be made in writing annually to the child's principal. **A parent who does not want a photo released of their child(ren) for any reason (including yearbook), must check the first box on the FERPA Parent Signature Form.** Please be advised that withholding a child's photograph will mean that the child cannot be included in the school yearbook or any other District publication or website.

Staff and Student Telephone Directories

Weatherford ISD does not publish a telephone directory of student and/or employee addresses or telephone numbers. The Parent-Teacher-Association at some campuses do produce such directories for distribution to PTA members only. Use, however, is restricted to PTA members for PTA or school-related purposes.

Telephone Notification System

Weatherford ISD utilizes a telephone notification system that allows WISD to conduct emergency, outreach and attendance notifications through an automatic calling system. Parents may opt out of participation in this system online through a parent portal. Otherwise, students enrolled in WISD and all WISD employees are included in the system to be called, emailed and/or texted as deemed necessary and appropriate by WISD.

E-mail Addresses

Weatherford ISD employee e-mail addresses are public and may be released upon request. A student's, parent's, and/or employee's personal e-mail address is considered private and will not be released by Weatherford ISD to the general public unless permission is first granted.

Video & Audio Recordings

State law allows videos to be taken of students for:

- 1) academic/classroom purposes,
- 2) safety demonstrations,
- 3) extra-/co-curricular participation, and
- 4) media coverage.

This letter serves as official notice that WISD's Communications Department may be photographing or videotaping students throughout the school year in an effort to communicate the WISD mission, vision and goals. This videotaping may occur during regular school operations in an effort to communicate district programs and feature teachers and students at work during the education process. **If for any reason you do not want your child to be videotaped for WISD communication purposes, please notify the campus principal in writing.**

Web Site Photos

Weatherford ISD's web design policy allows the use of student photographs on the campus and District web pages providing that the parent has not restricted such use in writing to the campus principal/district. These pictorial web pages are used to honor students and chronicle events held at each child's school.

FERPA is explained in detail on our District's website at: www.weatherfordisd.com Individual questions may be directed to the Communications Department by calling 817-598-2800.

If you want your child to be included in WISD publications, yearbooks and press notices, but simply want to avoid mail or telephone calls from outside vendors, check the second box on the parent signature form.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) Signature Form

DIRECTORY INFORMATION NOTIFICATION

Certain student information is considered *directory information* and will be released to anyone who follows procedures for requesting it as specified in Policy FL(LOCAL), **unless written objection is received by the principal within ten (10) days** of the issuance of this notice. This information may be used for campus purposes and may be included in class rosters and directories requested by parent/teacher organizations or may be released to outside agencies or individuals who comply with procedures as specified in Policy FL(LOCAL). The Weatherford Independent School District has designated the following as *directory information*:

1. Student's name	9. Dates of attendance
2. Address	10. Grade level
3. Telephone listing	11. Degrees, awards and honors received
4. Electronic mail address	12. Major field of study
5. Date and place of birth	13. Enrollment status
6. Participation in officially recognized activities and sports	14. Most recent school previously attended
7. Photograph	15. Student identification numbers or identifiers that cannot be user alone to gain access to electronic educational records
8. Weight and height of members of athletic teams	

In accordance with the *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), the above designated "Directory Information" may be disclosed to requesting third parties without the written consent of the parent. However, the parent does have the right to prevent the release of the above designated information. In order to object to the release of any of the above information, please mark the designated box below and return this form to the school office. PLEASE BE AWARE THAT REQUESTING "NO DIRECTORY" INFORMATION BE RELEASED ON THIS CHILD WILL MEAN THAT HIS/HER NAME AND PICTURE CANNOT BE PLACED INTO ANY PUBLICATION SUCH AS THE YEARBOOK, ATHLETIC PROGRAMS, HONOR ROLL LIST, ETC. This form must be returned to the principal of your child's school within ten (10) school days after you have been provided this notice. Failure to return this form by that date will result in the above mentioned information being designated as "directory information" for your child, subjecting the information to release.

(Check only one.)

- Release **NO** directory information for my child. (Please read bold statement above)
- Release directory information **ONLY** for school publications such as the yearbook, athletic programs, honor roll list, etc., but release no other directory information for this child to vendors or other requestors "outside" of the school district.

[Please see other side.]

FOR ALL STUDENTS:

Use of Student Work in District Publications

Occasionally, the Weatherford Independent School District wishes to display or publish student artwork or special projects on the District's web site and in District publications. The District agrees to only use these student projects in this manner.

Do you give the District permission to use your child's artwork or special project on the District's web site and/or in District publications?

Yes

No

Notification in the Event of an Emergency

Can we text message your cell phone in the event of an emergency?

Yes

No

On what cell number do you want to receive our text message? _____

GRADE 7-12 STUDENTS ONLY:

**Parent's Objection to the Release of Student Information to
Military Recruiters and Institutions of Higher Education**

Federal Law requires that WISD release to military recruiters and institutions of higher education, upon request, the name, address, and telephone number of secondary students enrolled in the District, unless the parent or eligible student directs the District not to release information to these types of requestors without prior written consent. *(Check only if you object to release.)*

- I choose to object to the release of directory information to a military recruiter or to an institution of higher education with the name, address, and telephone number of my secondary student.

Print Name of Student: _____

Signature of Student: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Date: _____

WEATHERFORD ISD NETWORK/INTERNET ACCESS AGREEMENT

STUDENT AGREEMENT/PARENT AGREEMENT

Student's Name _____ Grade _____ School _____

I have read the WISD Computer Acceptable Use Policy and administrative regulations found on pages 72-75 of the *WISD Student Code of Conduct*. I agree to abide by the provisions of this policy and I understand violation of these provisions will result in disciplinary action and complete revocation of system access.

Student's signature _____ Date _____

PARENT OR GUARDIAN AGREEMENT

I have read the WISD Acceptable Use Policy and administrative guidelines found on pages 72-75 of the *WISD Student Code of Conduct*. In consideration for the privilege of using the District's electronic Network/Internet systems, I hereby release WISD, its operators, and any institutions with which they are affiliated from any and all claims and damages of any nature arising from my child's use of, or inability to use, the system, including, without limitation, the type of damage identified in the District's policy and administrative regulation.

I give permission for my child to use WISD's Computer Network/Internet facilities and certify that the information contained on this form is correct.

I do not give permission for my child to use WISD's Computer Network/Internet facilities.

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

Date _____ Home Telephone Number _____

**WEATHERFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT PLAN
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**WEATHERFORD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
DISCIPLINE MANAGEMENT PLAN
2013-2014**

CONTENT OF APPROVED PROGRAM

Community Involvement

Representatives from all segments of the local education community are involved in developing, implementing, and reviewing the District's *Discipline Management Plan*. Selected teachers, administrators, students, and parents from each instructional level, as a committee, developed the plan in 1985-86. A committee made up of parents, representatives from the business community, teachers, and administrators reviewed and updated the plan in 1995. Changes to the plan were made in 1996, 1997, 2004, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 by the District Education Improvement Committee to bring compliance with Chapter 37 of the *Texas Education Code*. The DEIC will continue to review and evaluate the implementation of the plan yearly.

Campus Discipline Person

The campus discipline person(s) on each campus shall be the principal or a designee. Duties shall include the authority to:

1. Assess and implement the District Discipline Management Program;
2. Remove a student from campus for emergency reasons;
3. Refer students to community resources when appropriate;
4. Assign students to alternative education programs;
5. Suspend a student for not more than three days at a time;
6. Convene the Campus Improvement Team to review and evaluate campus discipline procedure as needed; and
7. Convene the Placement Review Committee to determine placement of a student when a teacher refuses to accept a return to class of such student.

The Board or its designee is authorized to expel students.

Rights and Responsibilities of Students

All students are entitled to enjoy the basic rights of citizenship recognized and protected by law for persons of their age and maturity. District schools shall foster a climate of mutual respect for the rights of others. Each student is expected to respect the rights and privileges of other students, teachers, and District staff. Students shall exercise their

rights responsibly, in compliance with rules established for the orderly conduct of the District's educational mission. The District's rules of conduct and discipline are established to achieve and maintain order in the school. Students who violate the rights of others or who violate District or school rules shall be subject to disciplinary measures designed to correct the misconduct and to promote adherence by all students to the responsibilities of citizens in the school community. Specifically, all WISD students are expected to:

1. Do the right thing.
2. Make good choices.
3. Treat others like they want to be treated.

Student responsibilities for achieving a positive learning environment at school or school-related activities shall include:

1. Attending all classes daily and on time;
2. Being prepared for each class with appropriate materials and assignments;
3. Being clean, neatly groomed, and appropriately dressed;
4. Exhibiting respect toward self and others;
5. Conducting themselves in a responsible manner;
6. Paying required fees and fines, unless they are waived;
7. Refraining from violations of *Student Code of Conduct*;
8. Obeying all school rules, including safety rules;
9. Seeking changes in school policies and regulations in an orderly and responsible manner through appropriate channels;
10. Cooperating with staff in investigation of disciplinary cases and volunteering information when the student has knowledge relating to a serious offense.

Rights and Responsibilities of Parents

Throughout this plan, "parent" means a person standing in parental relation including the parent, legal guardian, or person having lawful control of the student. It does not include a person to whom the parent/child relationship has been terminated or a person not entitled to possession or access to the child by court order.

Parents have the responsibility to:

1. Make every effort to provide for the physical needs of the child;
2. Teach the child to pay attention and obey the rules;
3. Ensure the child attends school regularly and promptly report and explain absences and tardiness to the school;
4. Encourage and lead the child to develop proper study habits at home;
5. Participate in meaningful parent-teacher conferences to discuss the child's school progress and welfare;

6. Attend parent-training workshops for home reinforcement of study skills and specific curriculum objectives;
7. Keep informed of school policies and academic requirements of school programs;
8. Participate in school-related organizations;
9. Ensure the child is clean and appropriately dressed at school and school-related activities;
10. Discuss report cards and school assignments with the child;
11. Bring to the attention of school authorities any learning problem or condition that may relate to their child's education;
12. Maintain current home, work, and emergency telephone numbers, e-mail address, and other pertinent information at the school;
13. Cooperate with school administrators and teachers;
14. Ensure the child attends school tutorials when required or as the need arises;
15. Submit a signed statement that they understand and consent to the responsibilities outlined in this plan (specific objections or concerns should be submitted in writing to the principal.);
16. Control the child. Under the *Texas Family Code*, a student's parent is legally liable for property damage proximately caused by (A) the negligent conduct of the student if such conduct is reasonably attributable to the negligent failure of the parent to exercise that duty, or (B) the willful or malicious conduct of a student who is at least 12 but under 18 years of age.
17. Discuss questions or complaints regarding disciplinary measures taken with the teacher or campus administration in accordance with Policy FNG (LOCAL).

Parents have the right to:

1. Request, with the expectation that the request will not be unnecessarily denied:
 - a. The addition of a specific academic class in the course of study of the parent's child in keeping with the required curriculum. Sufficient interest must be shown in the addition of a class to make it economically practical to offer the class;
 - b. That the parent's child be permitted to attend the class for credit if above the child's grade level, whether in the child's school or another school, unless the Board or its designated representative expects that the child cannot perform satisfactorily in the class;
 - c. That the parent's child be permitted to graduate from high school earlier than the child would normally graduate, if the child completes each course required for graduation; and
 - d. Have a child who graduates early as provided in "c" above, participate in graduation ceremonies at the time the child graduates.
2. Access to all written records of the school district concerning the parent's child as provided by law, including curriculum and materials to be used during the year; [33.004]
3. Access to a copy of each state assessment instrument administered under law;
4. Review all teaching materials, textbooks, and other teaching aides used in the classroom of a parent's child and review each test administered to the parent's child after the test is administered. Likewise, the school district shall make

- teaching materials and tests readily available for review by parents with reasonable hours for review;
5. Complete access to any meeting of the Board of Trustees of the school district, other than a closed meeting held pursuant to law;
 6. Full information regarding the school activities of a parent's child except as provided by law;
 7. Petition the Board of Trustees designating the school in the District that the parent's child will attend as provided by law, who shall grant such request unless it determines that there is a reasonable basis for denial;
 8. Reasonable access to the school principal, or to a designated administrator with the authority to reassign a student, to request a change in the class or teacher to which the parent's child has been assigned; if, the reassignment or change would not affect the assignment or reassignment of another student;
 9. Prohibit a psychological examination, test, or treatment unless the examination, test, or treatment is required by law;
 10. Prohibit the making of a video tape of a child or record or authorize the recording of the child's voice, beyond purposes related to co-curricular or extracurricular activity or purpose related to a regular classroom instruction;
 11. Remove the parent's child temporarily from a class or other school activity that conflicts with the parent's religious or moral beliefs if the parent presents or delivers to the teacher of the parent's child a written statement authorizing the removal of a child from a class or other school activity. A parent is not entitled to remove the parent's child from a class or other school activity to avoid a test or to prevent the child from taking a subject for the entire semester, nor is such child exempt from satisfying grade level or graduation requirements in a manner acceptable to the school district;
 12. Utilize a grievance procedure under which the Board shall address each complaint that the Board receives concerning a violation of a right;
 13. A parent must give written consent before a student may be referred to an outside counselor for care or treatment of a chemical dependency or emotional or psychological conduct.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

One or more conferences shall be held during each school year between a teacher and the parents of his/her students. This does not apply to a student over 18 years of age and not living with parent. The District shall document its efforts to schedule and conduct required parental conferences.

A teacher or other school employee may request a conference with a student's parent(s) whenever that teacher or employee perceives the need for parental cooperation in enforcing the *Student Code of Conduct*.

Scholastic Penalties

A student suspended from his or her regular classes may earn credit for work missed if the student satisfactorily completes the assignments for the period of suspension within a reasonable time designated by the teacher. No grade penalty will be imposed on work made up within the guidelines for make-up work for other absences.

Students who are expelled without services will not receive credit for work missed during expulsion. Special Education students will receive educational services during expulsion as determined by the Individual Education Plan Team.

STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Purpose of the *Student Code of Conduct*

The *Student Code of Conduct* is the District's response to the requirements of Chapter 37 of the *Texas Education Code*. The Code provides methods and options for managing students in the classroom and on school grounds, disciplining students, and preventing and intervening in student discipline problems.

The law requires the District to define misconduct that may—or must—result in a range of specific disciplinary consequences including removal from a regular classroom or campus, suspension, placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), or expulsion from school.

This *Student Code of Conduct* has been adopted by the Weatherford ISD Board of Trustees and developed with the advice of the District-level committee. This Code provides information to parents and students regarding standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct, and procedures for administering discipline. It remains in effect during summer school and at all school-related events and activities outside of the school year until an updated version adopted by the board becomes effective for the next school year.

In accordance with state law, the Code shall be posted at each school campus or shall be available for review at the office of the campus principal. Additionally, the Code will be posted on the District's web site. Parents shall be notified of any conduct violation that may result in a student being suspended, placed in a DAEP, or expelled from WISD.

Because the *Student Code of Conduct* is adopted by the WISD Board of Trustees, it has the force of policy; therefore, in case of conflict between the Code and the student handbook, the Code shall prevail.

Please Note: The discipline of students with disabilities who are eligible for services under federal law (Individuals with *Disabilities Education Act* and Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*) is subject to the provisions of those laws.

Jurisdiction

The objective of Weatherford ISD is to provide students with a quality educational program, which encourages the acquisition, exchange, and application of ideas. This objective can best be achieved in an environment, which promotes cooperation and is free from disruptions that interfere with the educational process.

Students are expected, therefore, to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner to contribute in a positive way to the school. All WISD students are expected to:

1. Do the right thing.
2. Make good choices.
3. Treat others like they want to be treated.

Student conduct should reflect respect and consideration for the personal and property rights of others as well as cooperation with the faculty and student body as a whole. All students are expected to conform to school policies and rules.

The District has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the District. The District has the right to search a student's locker or desk when there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the District.

Jurisdiction may be relinquished to parents (guardians, or other person possessing lawful control) at school-related activities with signed, written notification to school employee on some occasions but such release will not interfere with the event. The written request must have the principal's approval, and the parent must personally contact the school employee prior to leaving the event with the child.

Reporting Crimes

School administrators shall report crimes as required by law and shall call local law enforcement when an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed on campus.

Revoking Transfers

The District has the right to revoke the transfer of a nonresident student for violating the District's Code.

Discipline Management Training

All personnel shall be certified as having received training in the District's discipline management program. The training session shall be scheduled and conducted as part of the staff development program. No other activities may substitute for discipline management training.

The objectives of the training session shall be to familiarize each professional and paraprofessional employee with the District's rules of student conduct, its discipline

management techniques and implementation, and the appropriate procedures for suspension, removal, and expulsions.

Documentation that all professional and paraprofessional personnel have completed the discipline management training shall be maintained in a campus office file for discipline management matters.

At least one discipline management training session may be scheduled, as needed, each semester so that new employees, or employees whose performance appraisals indicate the need to improve or reinforce discipline management skills, may receive the necessary training. Discipline training materials and information will be available to parents upon request from the principal.

Notice to Staff

A copy of the *Texas Education Code* and WISD policies that pertain to student suspension, removal to alternative education programs, and expulsion shall be distributed to all professional personnel during staff development or teacher preparation days.

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

School rules and the authority of the Weatherford Independent School District to administer discipline apply whenever the interest of the District is involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes and school-sponsored activities.

The District has disciplinary authority over a student:

1. During the regular school day and while the student is going to and from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity on District transportation;
2. During lunch periods in which a student may be allowed to leave campus;
3. While the student is in attendance at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;
4. For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;
5. When retaliation against a school employee or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;
6. When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event;
7. For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line;
8. For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of another district in Texas;
9. When the student commits a felony, as provided by *Texas Education Code 37.006* or *37.0081*; and
10. When the student is required to register as a sex offender.

The District has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the District.

The District has the right to search a student's locker or desk when there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the District.

Reporting Crimes

School administrators shall report crimes as required by law and shall call local law enforcement when an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed on campus.

Revoking Transfers

The District has the right to revoke the transfer of a nonresident student for violating the District's Code.

Participating in Graduation Activities

The District has the right to limit a student's participation in graduation activities for violating the District's Code. Participation might include a speaking role, as established by District policy and procedures.

Students eligible to give the opening and closing remarks at graduation shall be notified by the campus principal. Notwithstanding any other eligibility requirements, in order to be considered as an eligible student to give the opening or closing remarks, a student shall not have engaged in any misconduct in violation of the District's Code, resulting in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation. The valedictorian and salutatorian may also have speaking roles at graduation. No student shall be eligible to have such a speaking role if he or she engaged in any misconduct in violation of the District's Code resulting in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

See DAEP—Restrictions during Placement on page 38, for information regarding a student assigned to DAEP at the time of graduation.

Standards for Student Conduct

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not
- Behave in a responsible manner, always exercising self-discipline
- Attend all classes, regularly and on time
- Prepare for each class; take appropriate materials and assignments to class
- Meet District and campus standards of grooming and dress
- Obey all campus and classroom rules
- Respect the rights and privileges of students, teachers, and other District staff and volunteers
- Respect the property of others, including District property and facilities
- Cooperate with and assist the school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline.
- Adhere to the requirements of the *Student Code of Conduct*

The District may impose campus or classroom rules in addition to those found in this *Student Code of Conduct*. These rules may be posted in classrooms or given to the student and may or may not constitute violations of the *Student Code of Conduct*.

A student whose behavior shows disrespect for others, including interference with learning and a safe environment, will be subject to disciplinary action.

General Conduct Violations

The categories of conduct below are prohibited at school, in vehicles owned or operated by the District, and at all school-related activities, but the list does not include the most severe offenses. In the subsequent sections on out-of-school Suspension, DAEP Placement, Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses, and Expulsion, certain offenses that require or permit specific consequences are listed. Any offense, however, may be severe enough to result in Removal from the Regular Educational Setting as detailed in that section.

Disregard for Authority

Students shall not:

- Fail to comply with directives given by school personnel (insubordination).
- Leave school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission.
- Disobey rules for conduct on District vehicles.
- Refuse to accept discipline management techniques assigned by a teacher or principal.

Mistreatment of Others

Students shall not:

- Use profanity or vulgar language or make obscene gestures;
- Fight or scuffle (for assault see *DAEP Placement and Expulsion*);
- Threaten a District student, employee, or volunteer, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment;
- Engage in bullying, harassment, or making hit lists (see the glossary for all three terms);
- Engage in conduct that constitutes sexual or gender-based harassment or sexual abuse, whether by word, gesture, or any other conduct, directed toward another person, including a District student, employee, or volunteer;
- Engage in conduct that constitutes dating violence (see glossary);
- Engage in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts.
- Participate in hazing (see the glossary);
- Cause an individual to act through the use of or threat of force (coercion);
- Commit extortion or blackmail (obtaining money or an object of value from an unwilling person);
- Engage in inappropriate verbal, physical, or sexual conduct directed toward another person, including a District student, employee, or volunteer; or

- Record the voice or image of another without the prior consent of the individuals being recorded or in any way that disrupts the educational environment or invades the privacy of others.

Property Offenses

Students shall not:

- Damage or vandalize property owned by others. (For felony criminal mischief see *DAEP Placement* or *Expulsion*);
- Deface or damage school property—including textbooks, technology and electronic resources, lockers, furniture, and other equipment—with graffiti or by other means;
- Steal from students, staff, or the school; or
- Commit or assist in a robbery or theft even if it does not constitute a felony according to the *Texas Penal Code* (for felony robbery, aggravated robbery, and theft see *DAEP Placement* and *Expulsion*).

Possession of Prohibited Items

Students shall not possess or use:

- Fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device;
- A razor, box cutter, chain, or any other object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person;
- A “look-alike” weapon;
- An air gun, paint, or BB gun;
- Ammunition;
- A stun gun;
- A pocket knife or any other small knife;
- Mace or pepper spray;
- Pornographic material;
- Tobacco products, including electronic cigarettes;
- Matches or a lighter;
- A laser pointer for other than an approved use; or
- Any articles not generally considered to be weapons, including school supplies, when the principal or designee determines that a danger exists. (For weapons and firearms see *DAEP Placement* and *Expulsion*).

Possession of Telecommunications or Other Electronic Devices

Students shall not:

- Display, turn on, or use a telecommunications device, including a cellular telephone or other electronic device on school property during the school day unless it is approved by the teacher or person on duty.

Illegal, Prescription, and Over-the-Counter Drugs

Students shall not:

- Possess or sell seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount (for illegal drugs, alcohol, and inhalants see *DAEP Placement* and *Expulsion*);
- Possess, use, give, or sell paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance (see the glossary for “paraphernalia.”);
- Possess or sell look-alike drugs or attempt to pass items off as drugs or contraband;
- Abuse the student’s own prescription drug, give a prescription drug to another student, or possess or be under the influence of another person’s prescription drug on school property or at a school-related event (see the glossary for “abuse”);
- Abuse over-the-counter drugs;
- Possess, use, give, or sell K2, spice, and bath salts, which are classified as controlled substances (per HB 2118 and SB 331);
- Be under the influence of prescription or over-the-counter drugs that cause impairment of the physical or mental faculties (see the glossary for “under the influence”); or
- Have or take prescription drugs or over-the-counter drugs at school other than as provided by WISD policy.

Misuse of Technology Resources and the Internet

Students shall not:

- Violate policies, rules, or agreements signed by the student or the student’s parent regarding the use of technology resources;
- Attempt to access or circumvent passwords or other security-related information of the District, students, or employees or upload or create computer viruses, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment;
- Attempt to alter, destroy, or disable District technology resources including but not limited to computers and related equipment, District data, the data of others, or other networks connected to the District’s system, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment;

- Use the Internet or other electronic communications to threaten District students, employees, or volunteers, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment;
- Send, post, or possess electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal, including cyberbullying and "sexting," either on or off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment; or
- Use e-mail or web sites to engage in or encourage illegal behavior or threaten school safety, including off school property if the conduct causes substantial disruption to the educational environment.

Safety Transgressions

Students shall not:

- Possess published or electronic material that is designed to promote or encourage illegal behavior or that could threaten school safety;
- Engage in verbal (oral or written) exchanges that threaten the safety of another student, a school employee, or school property;
- Make false accusations or perpetrate hoaxes regarding school safety;
- Engage in any conduct that school officials might reasonably believe will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence;
- Throw objects that can cause bodily injury or property damage; or
- Discharge a fire extinguisher without valid cause.

Miscellaneous Offenses

Students shall not:

- Violate dress and grooming standards as communicated in the student handbook;
- Cheat or copy the work of another;
- Gamble;
- Falsify records, passes, or other school-related documents;
- Engage in actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities; or
- Repeatedly violate other communicated campus or classroom standards of conduct.

General misconduct identified in the list of prohibited behaviors will result in application of one or more discipline management techniques consistent with law and the *Student Code of Conduct*. The principal or appropriate administrator will notify a student's parent by phone or in writing of any violation of the *Student Code of Conduct* that may result in a suspension, removal to a Discipline Alternative Education Program (DAEP), or expulsion. Notification will be made within three school days after the administrator becomes aware of the violation. The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to

applicable state and federal law in addition to the *Student Code of Conduct*. To the extent any conflict exists, state and/or federal law will prevail.

The District may impose campus or classroom rules in addition to those found in the *Student Code of Conduct*. These rules may be posted in classrooms or given to the student and may or may not constitute violations of the Code.

District Discipline Management Techniques

Discipline shall be designed to improve conduct and to encourage students to adhere to their responsibilities as members of the school community. Disciplinary action shall draw on the professional judgment of teachers and administrators and on a range of discipline management techniques. Discipline shall be correlated to the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, the student's attitude, the effect of the misconduct on the school environment, and statutory requirements.

Because of these factors, discipline for a particular offense, including misconduct in a District vehicle owned or operated by the District, unless otherwise specified by law may bring into consideration varying techniques and responses.

Since the District's primary responsibility in transporting students in District vehicles is to do so as safely as possible, the operator of the vehicle must focus on driving and not have his or her attention distracted by student misbehavior. Therefore, when appropriate disciplinary management techniques fail to improve student behavior or when specific misconduct warrants immediate removal, the principal may restrict or revoke a student's transportation privileges, in accordance with law.

Students with Disabilities

The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the *Student Code of Conduct*. To the extent any conflict exists, state and/or federal law shall prevail.

In accordance with the *Texas Education Code*, a student who is enrolled in a special education program may not be disciplined for conduct meeting the definition of bullying, harassment, or making hit lists (see the glossary) until an ARD committee meeting has been held to review the conduct.

In deciding whether to order suspension, DAEP placement, or expulsion--regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary--the District shall take into consideration a disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.

Techniques

The following discipline management techniques may be used—alone or in combination—for behavior prohibited by the *Student Code of Conduct* or by campus or classroom rules:

- Verbal correction, oral or written
- Cooling-off time or “time-out”
- Seating changes within the classroom or vehicles owned or operated by the District.
- Temporary confiscation of items that disrupt the educational process
- Rewards or demerits
- Behavioral contracts
- Counseling by teachers, school counselors, or administrative personnel
- Parent-teacher conferences
- Grade reductions for cheating, plagiarism, and as otherwise permitted by policy
- Detention, including outside regular school hours.
- Sending the student to the office or other assigned area, or to in-school suspension (ISS)
- Assignment of school duties such as cleaning, school service, or picking up litter
- Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation in extracurricular activities, eligibility for seeking and holding honorary offices, or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations
- Penalties identified in individual student organizations’ extracurricular standards of behavior
- Restriction or revocation of District transportation privileges
- School-assessed and school-administered probation
- Corporal punishment, unless the student’s parent or guardian has provided a signed statement prohibiting its use
- Out-of-school suspension (OSS), as specified in the *Suspension* section of this Code
- Placement in a DAEP, as specified in the DAEP section of this Code
- Placement and/or expulsion in an alternative educational setting, as specified in the Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Serious Offenses section of this Code
- Expulsion, as specified in the *Expulsion* section of this Code
- Referral to an outside agency or legal authority for criminal prosecution in addition to disciplinary measures imposed by the District
- Other strategies and consequences as determined by school officials

Notification

The principal or appropriate administrator shall notify a student's parent by phone or in writing of any violation that may result in a suspension, placement in a DAEP, or expulsion. Notification will be made within three school days after the administrator becomes aware of the violation.

Appeals

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the teacher or campus administration, as appropriate. Appeals or complaints regarding the use of specific discipline management techniques should be addressed in accordance with Policy FNG (LOCAL). A copy of the policy may be obtained from the principal's office or the central administration office or through Policy Online at the following address: www.weatherfordisd.com.

Consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of a grievance.

Removal from the School Bus

A bus driver may refer a student to the principal's office to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The principal must employ additional discipline management techniques, as appropriate, which can include restricting or revoking a student's bus riding privileges.

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

In addition to other discipline management techniques, misconduct may result in removal from the regular educational setting in the form of a routine referral or a formal removal.

Routine Referral

A routine referral occurs when a teacher sends a student to the assistant principal's office as a discipline management technique. The assistant principal may then employ additional techniques.

Formal Removal

A teacher or administrator **may** remove a student from class for a behavior that violates this Code to maintain effective discipline in the classroom. A teacher **may** also initiate a formal removal from class if:

1. The student's behavior has been documented by the teacher as repeatedly interfering with the teacher's ability to teach his or her class or with the student's classmates' ability to learn; or
2. The behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that the teacher cannot teach, and the students in the classroom cannot learn.

A teacher or administrator **must** remove a student from class if the student engages in behavior that under the *Texas Education Code* requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP or expelled. When removing for those reasons, the procedures in the subsequent sections on DAEP or expulsion will be followed. Otherwise, within three school days of the formal removal, the appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference with the student's parent; the student; the teacher, in the case of removal by a teacher; and any other administrator.

At the conference, the appropriate administrator shall inform the student of the misconduct for which he or she is charged and the consequences. The administrator shall give the student an opportunity to give his or her version of the incident.

When a teacher removes a student from the regular classroom and a conference is pending, the principal may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom
- In-school suspension
- Out-of-school suspension
- DAEP (Bridge Academy)

Returning Student to Classroom

When a student has been formally removed from class by a teacher for conduct against the teacher containing the elements of assault, aggravated assault, sexual assault, aggravated sexual assault, murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder, the student may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's consent.

When a teacher for any other conduct has formally removed a student, the student may be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's consent, if the placement review committee determines that the teacher's class is the best or only alternative available.

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting, Suspension, and/or Placement in the Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP)

Students may be suspended for any behavior listed in the Code as a general conduct violation, DAEP offense, or expellable offense.

In deciding whether to order out-of-school suspension, the District shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary),
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct, and
- The student's disciplinary history.

In-School Suspension

A student who fails to comply with classroom/campus rules and/or rules outlined in this Code may be assigned to in-school suspension (ISS) by the campus principal or designee. In this supervised setting, the student receives assignments in each course to the extent possible, with little or no opportunity for social interaction with peers.

Before placing a student in in-school-suspension, the administrator shall consider reasonable alternatives. If the administrator determines ISS is the most appropriate alternative, no other disciplinary action needs to precede such placement.

Before placing a student in ISS, the administrator shall conduct an informal conference and advise the student of the conduct with which s/he is charged and give the student an opportunity to respond to the charges. A student's parent/guardian shall be notified of the ISS placement by telephone or other reasonable means as soon as possible.

A parent may request that an ISS placement by the assistant principal be reviewed by the principal. The principal's decision to remove a student from the classroom by ISS for the reasons listed in the *Student Code of Conduct* in non-appealable.

Out-of-School Suspension

Students may be suspended for any behavior listed in the Code as a general conduct violation, DAEP offense, or expellable offense.

In deciding whether to order an out-of-school suspension (OSS), the District shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see the glossary),
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct, and
3. The student's disciplinary history.

Process--State law allows a student to be suspended for no more than three school days per behavior violation, with no limit on the number of times a student may be suspended in a semester or school year.

Before being OSS suspended a student shall have an informal conference with the appropriate administrator, who shall advise of which *Student Code of Conduct* violation he or she is accused. The student shall be given the opportunity to explain his or her version of the incident before the administrator's decision is made.

The number of days of a student's suspension shall be determined by the appropriate administrator, but shall not exceed three school days.

The principal or other appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and cocurricular activities.

A parent may request that an OSS suspension placement by an assistant principal be reviewed by the principal. The principal's decision to remove a student from the classroom by OSS suspension for the reasons listed in this Code is non-appealable.

Students with disabilities are subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the *Student Code of Conduct*. To the extent any conflict exists, state and/or federal law will prevail.

Removal to a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP)

The DAEP shall be provided in a setting other than the student's regular classroom. An elementary school student may not be placed in a DAEP with a student who is not an elementary school student.

For purposes of DAEP, elementary classification shall be kindergarten--grade 6 and secondary classification shall be grades 7--12. Summer programs provided by the District shall serve students assigned to a DAEP separately from those students who are not assigned to the program.

A student who is expelled for an offense that otherwise would have resulted in a DAEP placement does not have to be placed in a DAEP in addition to the expulsion.

In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the District shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary),
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct, and
- The student's disciplinary history.

Discretionary Placement: Misconduct That May Result in DAEP Placement

A student **may** be placed in a DAEP for the following conduct violations:

- Cheating or copying the work of another
- Throwing objects that can cause bodily injury or property damage
- Failing to comply with directives given by school personnel
- Leaving school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission
- Disobeying rules for conduct on school buses
- Directing profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures toward other students or a District employee
- Fighting
- Hazing
- Stealing from students, staff, or the school
- Damaging or vandalizing property owned by others
- Defacing or damaging school property—including textbooks, lockers, furniture, and other equipment—with graffiti or by other means
- Possessing fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device
- Discharging a fire extinguisher
- Possessing a knife, including a pocket knife
- Possessing a razor, box cutter, chain, or any other object that may be used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person
- Possessing or selling a "look-alike" weapon
- Possessing an air gun, BB gun, or paintball gun
- Possessing ammunition
- Possessing a stun gun
- Possessing mace or pepper spray
- Possessing or using any articles not generally considered a weapon, including school supplies, when the principal or designee determines that a danger exists
- Gambling
- Making false accusations or hoaxes regarding school safety
- Falsifying records, passes, or other school-related documents
- Committing extortion, coercion, or blackmail (obtaining money or another object of value from an unwilling person)
- Engaging in disruptive actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities
- Being insubordinate
- Refusing to accept discipline management techniques assigned by a teacher or principal.
- Forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force

- Committing or assisting in a robbery or theft even if it does not constitute a felony according to the *Texas Penal Code* (Felony robbery or theft offenses are addressed elsewhere in the *Student Code of Conduct*)
- Bullying, including intimidation by name-calling, using ethnic or racial slurs, or making derogatory statements that could disrupt the school program or incite violence
- Engaging in threatening behavior toward another student or District employee, on or off school property
- Engaging in harassment motivated by race, color, religion, national origin, disability, or age and directed toward another student or a District employee
- Engaging in any misbehavior that gives school officials reasonable cause to believe that such conduct will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence
- Engaging in inappropriate verbal, physical, or sexual contact directed toward another student or a District employee
- Engaging in conduct that constitutes sexual harassment or sexual abuse whether the conduct is by word, gesture, or any other sexual conduct, including requests for sexual favors directed toward another student or a District employee
- Inappropriate or indecent exposure of a student's private body parts
- Possessing or using matches or a lighter
- Possessing, smoking, or using tobacco products
- Possessing or selling look-alike drugs or items attempted to be passed off as drugs or contraband
- Possessing or selling seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount
- Possessing, using, giving, or selling paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance
- Abusing the student's own prescription drug, giving a prescription drug to another student, or possessing or being under the influence of another person's prescription drug on school property or at a school-related event
- Violating the District's policy on taking prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs at school
- Using a cellular telephone or other telecommunications device at school during the school day
- Possessing or using a laser pointer for other than an approved use
- Violating computer use policies, rules, or agreements signed by the student, and/or agreements signed by the student's parent
- Using the Internet or other electronic communications to threaten students, employees, or cause disruption to the educational program
- Sending or posting electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal
- Engaging in verbal or written exchanges that threaten the safety of another student, a school employee, or school property
- Possessing published or electronic material that is designed to promote or encourage illegal behavior or that could threaten school safety, using e-mail or web sites at school to encourage illegal behavior, or threatening school safety

- Possessing material that is pornographic
- Violating dress and grooming standards as communicated in the student handbook
- Repeatedly violating other communicated campus or classroom standards of behavior

Misconduct Identified in State Law

In accordance with state law, a student **may** be placed in a DAEP for any one of the following offenses:

- Involvement in a public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, including participating as a member or pledge, or soliciting another person to become a pledge or member of a public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang. (See glossary.)
- Involvement in criminal street gang activity. (See glossary.)
- Criminal mischief, not punishable as a felony.
- Assault (no bodily injury) with threat of imminent bodily injury.
- Assault by offensive or provocative physical contact.

In accordance with state law, a student **may** be placed in a DAEP if the superintendent or the superintendent's designee has reasonable belief (see glossary) that the student has engaged in conduct punishable as a felony, other than aggravated robbery or those listed as offenses involving injury to a person in Title 5 (see glossary) of the Texas Penal Code, that occurs off school property and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event, if the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process.

The appropriate administrator **may**, but is not required to, place a student in a DAEP for off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law if the administrator does not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred.

Mandatory Placement: Misconduct That Requires DAEP Placement

A student **must** be placed in a DAEP if the student:

- Engages in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school. (See glossary.)
- Commits the following offenses on school property or within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:
 - Engages in conduct punishable as a felony.
 - Commits an assault (see glossary) under *Texas Penal Code 22.01(a)(1)*.

- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person, or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug in an amount not constituting a felony offense. (School-related felony drug offenses are addressed in the *Expulsion* section.) (See glossary for “under the influence.”)
- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an alcoholic beverage; commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol; or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of alcohol, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony offense. (School-related felony alcohol offenses are addressed in the *Expulsion* section.)
- Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
- Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness or indecent exposure.
- Engages in expellable conduct and is between six and nine years of age.
- Commits a federal firearms violation and is younger than six years of age.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of retaliation against any school employee or volunteer on or off school property. (Committing retaliation in combination with another expellable offense is addressed in the *Expulsion* section of this Code.)
- Engages in conduct punishable as aggravated robbery or a felony listed under Title 5 (see glossary) of the Texas Penal Code when the conduct occurs off school property and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event and:
 - 1) The student receives deferred prosecution (see glossary),
 - 2) A court or jury finds that the student has engaged in delinquent conduct (see glossary), or
 - 3) The Superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief (see glossary) that the student engaged in the conduct.

Sexual Assault and Campus Assignments

If a student has been convicted of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children or convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against another student on the same campus, and if the victim’s parent or another person with the authority to act on behalf of the victim requests that the Board transfer the offending student to another campus, the offending student shall be transferred to another campus in the District. If there is no other campus in the District serving the grade level of the offending student, the offending student shall be transferred to a DAEP.

Emergency DAEP Placements

In an emergency, the principal or the principal’s designee may order the immediate placement of a student in a DAEP for any reason for which placement in a DAEP may be made on a nonemergency basis.

Process

Removals to a DAEP shall be made by the principal or appropriate campus administrator.

Conference

When a student is removed from class for a DAEP offense, the appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference within three school days with the student's parent, the student, and the teacher, in the case of a teacher removal.

At the conference, the appropriate administrator shall inform the student, orally or in writing, of the reasons for the removal and shall give the student an explanation of the basis for the removal and an opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal.

Following valid attempts to require attendance, the District may hold the conference and make a placement decision regardless of whether the student or the student's parents attend the conference.

Placement Order

After the conference, if the student is placed in the DAEP, the appropriate administrator shall write a placement order. A copy of the DAEP placement order shall be sent to the student and the student's parent.

Not later than the second business day after the conference, the Board's designee shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the placement order and all information required by Section 52.04 of the *Family Code*.

If the student is placed in the DAEP and the length of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines included in this Code, the placement order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

Coursework Notice

The parent or guardian of a student placed in DAEP shall be given written notice of the student's opportunity to complete a foundation curriculum course in which the student was enrolled at the time of removal and which is required for graduation, at no cost to the student. The notice shall include information regarding all methods available for completing the coursework.

Length of Placement

The duration of a student's placement in a DAEP shall be determined by the principal or District's designee.

The duration of a student's placement shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. DAEP placement shall be correlated to the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misconduct, the student's attitude, and statutory requirements.

The maximum period of DAEP placement shall be one calendar year except as provided below.

The District shall administer the required pre- and post-assessments for students assigned to DAEP for a period of 90 days or longer in accordance with established District administrative procedures for administering other diagnostic or benchmark assessments.

Exceeds One Year

Placement in a DAEP may exceed one year when a review by the District determines that:

- The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to District employees, or
- Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

The statutory limitations on the length of a DAEP placement do not apply to a placement resulting from the Board's decision to place a student who engaged in the sexual assault of another student so that the students are not assigned to the same campus.

Exceeds School Year

Students who commit offenses requiring placement in a DAEP at the end of one school year may be required to continue that placement at the start of the next school year to complete the assigned term of placement.

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond the end of the school year, the principal or District designee must determine that:

- The student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others, or
- The student has engaged in serious misbehavior (see glossary) that violates the District's Code.

Exceeds 60 Days

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is sooner, a student's parent shall be given notice and the opportunity to participate in a proceeding before the Board or the Board's designee.

Appeals

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the campus administration. Appeals regarding the decision to place a student in a DAEP should be addressed to Dr. Nita Ellis, Executive Director of Student Services. Student or parent appeals regarding the process used for the placement decision, such as issues related to the administrator's handling of the conference or proper notice being provided, should be addressed in accordance with Policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of this policy may be obtained from the principal's office or the central administration office Policy Online at: www.weatherfordisd.com .

Disciplinary consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of an appeal. The decision to place a student in a DAEP cannot be appealed beyond the Board.

Restrictions during Placement

The District does not permit a student who is placed in a DAEP to participate in any school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular or cocurricular activity, including seeking or holding honorary positions and/or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations.

A student placed in a DAEP shall not be provided transportation unless he or she is a student with a disability who has transportation designated as a related service in the student's IEP.

For seniors who are eligible to graduate and are assigned to a DAEP at the time of graduation, the placement in the program shall continue through graduation, and the student shall not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and related graduation activities.

Placement Review

A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the Executive Director of Student Services at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall be given the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus. The student may not be returned to the classroom of a teacher who removed the student without that teacher's consent.

Additional Misconduct

If during the term of placement in a DAEP the student engages in additional misconduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the appropriate administrator may enter an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

Notice of Criminal Proceedings

The office of the prosecuting attorney shall notify the District if a student was placed in a DAEP for certain offenses including any felony, unlawful restraint, indecent exposure, assault, deadly conduct, terroristic threats, organized crime, certain drug offenses, or possession of a weapon, and:

- Prosecution of a student's case was refused for lack of prosecutorial merit or insufficient evidence and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication (see glossary), or deferred prosecution will be initiated; or
- The court or jury found a student not guilty, or made a finding that the student did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision, and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

If a student was placed in a DAEP for such conduct, on receiving the notice from the prosecutor, the superintendent or designee shall review the student's placement and schedule a review with the student's parent not later than the third day after the superintendent or designee receives notice from the prosecutor. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the review.

After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent, the superintendent or designee may continue the student's placement if there is reason to believe that the presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers.

The student or the student's parent may appeal the superintendent's decision to the Board. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal. In the case of an appeal, the Board shall, at the next scheduled meeting, review the notice from the prosecutor and receive information from the student, the student's parent, and the superintendent or designee, and confirm or reverse the decision of the superintendent or designee. The Board shall make a record of the proceedings.

If the Board confirms the decision of the superintendent or designee, the student and the student's parent may appeal to the Commissioner of Education. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal.

Withdrawal during Process

When a student violates the District's Code in a way that requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP and the student withdraws from the District before a placement order is completed, the District may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order. If the student then reenrolls in the District during the same or a subsequent school year, the District may enforce the order at that time, less any period of the placement that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district. If the appropriate administrator or the Board fails to issue a placement order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order.

Newly Enrolled Students

The District shall continue the DAEP placement of a student who enrolls in the District and was assigned to a DAEP in an open-enrollment charter school or another district.

A newly enrolled student with a DAEP placement from a district in another state shall be placed as any other newly enrolled student if the behavior committed is a reason for DAEP placement in WISD.

If the student was placed in a DAEP by a school district in another state for a period that exceeds one year, WISD, by state law, shall reduce the period of the placement so that the total placement does not exceed one year. After a review, however, the placement may be extended beyond a year if the District determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or employees or the extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Emergency Placement Procedure

When an emergency placement occurs, the student shall be given oral notice of the reason for the action. Not later than the tenth day after the date of the placement, the student shall be given the appropriate conference required for assignment to a DAEP.

DAEP PLACEMENT GUIDELINES

Mandatory DAEP Placements

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Length of DAEP Assignment</u>
Conduct Punishable as a Felony (on school property)	30 days
Assault	
without injuries	15 days
with injuries	30 days
2 nd Offense	45 days or Expulsion
Marijuana, a Controlled Substance, or a Dangerous Drug (Not felony)	
1 st	45 days or 30 days with approved Drug Intervention Program*
2 nd	45 days or Expulsion
Alcoholic Beverage (Not felony)	
1 st	45 days or 30 days with approved Alcohol Awareness Program*
2 nd	45 days or Expulsion
Abuse Volatile Chemicals	
1 st	45 days or 30 days with approved Drug Intervention Program*
2 nd	45 days or Expulsion
Public Lewdness	45 days
Indecent Exposure	45 days
Retaliation Against School Employee	60 days
Title 5 Felony off Campus	60 days
Sex Offenders	60 days or as determined by designee
False Alarm or Report	
Limited Disruption	30 days
Significant Disruption	45 days or Expulsion

Discretionary DAEP Placements

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Length of DAEP Assignment</u>
All Discretionary Placements in DAEP	
1 st	15 days
2 nd	15 days or 30 days
3 rd and subsequent	30 days
Fighting (Immediate OSS or ISS on day of altercation)	
1st	OSS, ISS, or 15 days
2nd	15 days or 30 days
Repeated Misbehavior	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have exhausted all on-campus remedies. • Must have documented administrative-parent conference prior to placement conference to inform of possible DAEP placement for serious misbehavior. 	15 days
Truancy/Class Cut	
1 st - 2 nd	ISS or Detention
3 rd	Warning Letter, Parent Conference, and ISS or Detention
4th and subsequent	15 days and/or court filing

*** District-approved Drug Intervention Program and Alcohol Awareness Program**

- Must include required parent participation
- Any cost incurred will be paid by student or parent
- Program must be approved by DAEP counselor prior to participation for reduction of DAEP assignment or from approved list provided by DAEP counselor
- Must successfully complete before release from DAEP

Parent or student must forward documentation of completion to program counselor before release from DAEP.

Please Note: The duration of a student's placement in a DAEP will be determined by the principal or designee on a case-by-case basis. The DAEP assignment lengths above are guidelines for the administrator in determining the length of placements in DAEP. The administrator has the discretion to vary from the lengths above given the individual circumstances for each discipline occurrence. After the DAEP conference, if the student is placed in the DAEP and the length of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines included in the Student Code of Conduct, the DAEP placement order will give notice of the inconsistency.

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Serious Offenses

This section includes two categories of offenses for which the *Texas Education Code* provides unique procedures and specific consequences.

Registered Sex Offenders

Upon receiving notification in accordance with state law that a student is currently required to register as a sex offender, the administration must remove the student from the regular classroom and determine appropriate placement unless the court orders JJAEP placement.

If the student is under any form of court supervision, including probation, community supervision, or parole, the placement will be in either DAEP for at least one semester.

If the student is not under any form of court supervision, the placement may be in DAEP for one semester or the placement may be in a regular classroom. The placement may not be in the regular classroom if the Board or its designee determines that the student's presence:

1. Threatens the safety of other students or teachers,
2. Will be detrimental to the educational process, or
3. Is not in the best interests of the District's students.

Review Committee

At the end of the first semester of a student's placement in an alternative educational setting and before the beginning of each school year for which the student remains in an alternative placement, the District shall convene a committee, in accordance with state law, to review the student's placement. The committee shall recommend whether the student should return to the regular classroom or remain in the placement. Absent a special finding, the Board or its designee must follow the committee's recommendation.

The placement review of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made by the ARD committee.

Newly Enrolled Student

If a student enrolls in the District during a mandatory placement as a registered sex offender, the District may count any time already spent by the student in a placement or may require an additional semester in an alternative placement without conducting a review of the placement.

Appeals

A student or the student's parent may appeal the placement by requesting a conference between the Board or its designee, the student, and the student's parent. The conference is limited to the factual question of whether the student is required to register as a sex offender. Any decision of the Board or its designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Certain Felonies

Regardless of whether placement or expulsion is required or permitted by one of the reasons in the *DAEP Placement* or *Expulsion* sections, in accordance with *Texas Education Code 37.0081*, a student **may** be expelled and placed in either DAEP or JJAEP (Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program) if the Board or its designee makes certain findings and the following circumstances exist in relation to aggravated robbery or a felony offense under Title 5 (see the glossary) of the *Texas Penal Code*. The student must:

- Have received deferred prosecution for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Have been found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Have been charged with engaging in conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Have been referred to a juvenile court for allegedly engaging in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense; or
- Have received probation or deferred adjudication or have been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense.

The District may expel the student and order placement under these circumstances regardless of:

1. The date on which the student's conduct occurred,
2. The location at which the conduct occurred,
3. Whether the conduct occurred while the student was enrolled in the District,
or
4. Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.

Hearing and Required Findings

The student must first have a hearing before the Board or its designee, who must determine that in addition to the circumstances above that allow for the expulsion, the student's presence in the regular classroom:

1. Threatens the safety of other students or teachers,

2. Will be detrimental to the educational process, or
3. Is not in the best interest of WISD students.

Any decision of the Board or its designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Length of Placement

The student is subject to the placement until:

1. The student graduates from high school,
2. The charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor offense, or
3. The student completes the term of the placement or is assigned to another program.

Newly Enrolled Students

A student who enrolls in the District before completing a placement under this section from another school District must complete the term of the placement.

Expulsion

In deciding whether to order expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the District shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see glossary),
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct, and
- The student's disciplinary history.

Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion

Any Location

A student **may** be expelled for:

- Engaging in the following, no matter where it takes place:
 - Conduct that contains the elements of assault under *Texas Penal Code 22.01(a)(1)* in retaliation against a school employee or volunteer.
 - Criminal mischief, if punishable as a felony.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of one of the following offenses against another student, without regard to where the conduct occurs:
 - Aggravated assault
 - Sexual assault
 - Aggravated sexual assault
 - Murder
 - Capital murder
 - Criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder
 - Aggravated robbery
 - Breach of computer security
- Engaging in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school.

At School, Within 300 Feet, or at a School Event

A student **may** be expelled for committing any of the following offenses on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony. (See glossary for "under the influence.")

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of assault under Section 22.01(a)(1) against an employee or a volunteer.
- Engaging in deadly conduct. (See glossary.)

Within 300 Feet of School

A student **may** be expelled for engaging in the following conduct while within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school’s real property boundary line:

- Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault
- Arson (See glossary.)
- Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder
- Indecency with a child, aggravated kidnapping, manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, or aggravated robbery
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children
- Felony drug- or alcohol-related offense
- Use, exhibition, or possession of a firearm (as defined by state law), an illegal knife, a club, or prohibited weapon, or possession of a firearm (as defined by federal law)

Property of Another District

A student **may** be expelled for committing any offense that is a state-mandated expellable offense if the offense is committed on the property of another district in Texas or while the student is attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of a school in another district in Texas.

While in DAEP

A student **may** be expelled for engaging in documented serious misbehavior (see glossary) that violates the District’s Code, despite documented behavioral interventions while placed in a DAEP. For purposes of discretionary expulsion from DAEP, serious misbehavior means:

1. Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
2. Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
3. Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code; or

4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
 - a. Public lewdness under Section 21.07, Penal Code;
 - b. Indecent exposure under Section 21.08; Penal Code;
 - c. Criminal mischief under Section 28.03, Penal Code;
 - d. Personal hazing under Section 37.152; or
 - e. Harassment under Section 42.07(a)(1), Penal Code, of a student or District employee.

Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion

A student **must** be expelled under federal or state law for any of the following offenses that occur on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

Under Federal Law

- Bringing to school a firearm, as defined by federal law, when the offense occurs on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property. “Firearm” under federal law includes:
 - Any weapon (including a starter gun) that will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive.
 - The frame or receiver of any such weapon.
 - Any firearm muffler or firearm weapon.
 - Any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade.

Under the *Texas Penal Code*

- Using, exhibiting, or possessing the following, as defined by the *Texas Penal Code*:
 - A firearm (any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile through a barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance or any device readily convertible to that use), unless the use, exhibition, or possession of the firearm occurs at an off-campus approved target range facility while participating in or preparing for a school-sponsored shooting sports competition or a shooting sports educational activity that is sponsored or supported by the Parks and Wildlife Department or a shooting sports sanctioning organization working with the department.
 - An illegal knife (knife with a blade over 5½ inches; hand instrument, designed to cut or stab another by being thrown; dagger, including but not limited to a dirk, stiletto, and poniard; bowie knife; sword; or spear) or prohibited knife (such as a switchblade knife).
 - A club (see glossary) such as an instrument specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with the instrument, including a blackjack, nightstick, mace, and tomahawk.

- A prohibited weapon, such as an explosive weapon, a machine gun, a short-barrel firearm, a firearm silencer, knuckles, armor-piercing ammunition, a chemical dispensing device, a zip gun, or a tire deflation device. (See glossary.)
- Behaving in a manner that contains elements of the following offenses under the *Texas Penal Code*:
 - Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault
 - Arson (See glossary.)
 - Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder
 - Indecency with a child
 - Aggravated kidnapping
 - Aggravated robbery
 - Manslaughter
 - Criminally negligent homicide
 - Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children
 - Behavior punishable as a felony that involves selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, a dangerous drug, or alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol
- Engaging in retaliation against a school employee or volunteer combined with one of the above-listed mandatory expulsion offenses.

Under Age Ten

When a student under the age of ten engages in behavior that is expellable behavior, the student shall not be expelled, but shall be placed in a DAEP. A student under age six shall not be placed in a DAEP unless the student commits a federal firearm offense.

Emergency

In an emergency, the principal or the principal's designee **may** order the immediate expulsion of a student for any reason for which expulsion may be made on a nonemergency basis.

Process

If a student is believed to have committed an expellable offense, the principal or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a hearing within a reasonable time. The student's parent shall be invited in writing to attend the hearing.

Until a hearing can be held, the principal may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom
- In-school suspension

- Out-of-school suspension
- DAEP

Hearing

A student facing expulsion shall be given a hearing with appropriate due process. The student is entitled to:

- Representation by the student's parent or another adult who can provide guidance to the student and who is not an employee of the District,
- An opportunity to testify and to present evidence and witnesses in the student's defense, and
- An opportunity to question the witnesses called by the District at the hearing.

After providing notice to the student and parent of the hearing, the District may hold the hearing regardless of whether the student or the student's parent attends.

The Board of Trustees delegates to the Executive Director of Student Services authority to conduct hearings and expel students.

Board Review of Expulsion

After the due process hearing, the expelled student may request that the Board review the expulsion decisions. The student or parent must submit a written request to the Superintendent within seven days after receipt of the written decision. The Superintendent must provide the student or parent written notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting at which the Board will review the decision.

The Board shall review the record of the expulsion hearing in a closed meeting unless the parent requests in writing that the matter be held in an open meeting. The Board may also hear a statement from the student or parent and from the Board's designee.

The Board shall hear statements made by the parties at the review and will base its decision on evidence reflected in the record and any statements made by the parties at the review. The Board shall make and communicate its decision orally at the conclusion of the presentation. Consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of the hearing.

Expulsion Order

After the due process hearing, if the student is expelled, the Board or its designee shall deliver to the student and the student's parent a copy of the order expelling the student.

Not later than the second business day after the hearing, the Executive Director of Student Services shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the expulsion order and the information required by Section 52.04 of the *Family Code*.

If the length of the expulsion is inconsistent with the guidelines included in the *Student Code of Conduct*, the expulsion order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

Length of Expulsion

The length of an expulsion shall be correlated to the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, the student's attitude, and statutory requirements.

The duration of a student's expulsion shall be determined on a case-by-case basis. The maximum period of expulsion is one calendar year except as provided below.

An expulsion may not exceed one year unless, after review, the District determines that:

- The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to District employees, or
- Extended expulsion is in the best interest of the student.

State and federal law require a student to be expelled from the regular classroom for a period of at least one calendar year for bringing a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school. However, the Superintendent may modify the length of the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

Students who commit offenses that require expulsion at the end of one school year may be expelled into the next school year to complete the term of expulsion.

Withdrawal during Process

When a student has violated the District's Code in a way that requires or permits expulsion from the District and the student withdraws from the District before the expulsion hearing takes place, the District may conduct the hearing after sending written notice to the parent and student.

If the student then reenrolls in the District during the same or subsequent school year, the District may enforce the expulsion order at that time, less any expulsion period that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district.

If the appropriate administrator or the Board fails to issue an expulsion order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings.

Additional Misconduct

If during the expulsion, the student engages in additional conduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the appropriate administrator or the Board may issue an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

Restrictions during Expulsion

Expelled students are prohibited from being on school grounds or attending school-sponsored or school-related activities during the period of expulsion.

No District academic credit shall be earned for work missed during the period of expulsion unless the student is enrolled in a JJAEP or another District-approved program.

Newly Enrolled Students

The District shall continue the expulsion of any newly enrolled student expelled from another district or an open-enrollment charter school until the period of the expulsion is completed. If a student expelled in another state enrolls in the District, the District may continue the expulsion under the terms of the expulsion order, may place the student in a DAEP for the period specified in the order, or may allow the student to attend regular classes if:

1. The out-of-state district provides the District with a copy of the expulsion order, and
2. The offense resulting in the expulsion is also an expellable offense in the WISD

If a student is expelled by a district in another state for a period that exceeds one year and the district continues the expulsion or places the student in a DAEP, the District shall reduce the period of the expulsion or DAEP placement so that the entire period does not exceed one year, unless after a review it is determined that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or District employees, or
2. Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Emergency Expulsion Procedures

When an emergency expulsion occurs, the student shall be given verbal notice of the reason for the action. Within ten days after the date of the emergency expulsion, the student shall be given appropriate due process required for a student facing expulsion.

DAEP Placement of Expelled Students

The District may provide educational services to any expelled student in a DAEP; however, educational services in the DAEP must be provided if the student is less than ten years of age.

EXPULSION TERM GUIDELINES

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Term of Expulsion</u>
Firearm	Calendar year*
Illegal Knife	90 days**, review after 45 days served in DAEP
Club	90 days**, review after 45 days served in DAEP
Prohibited Weapon	90 days**, review after 45 days served in DAEP
Title V Felony on School Property	90 days**, review after 45 days served in DAEP
Felony Drug Offense	90 days**, review after 45 days served in DAEP
Discretionary Expulsion	90 days**, review after 45 days served in DAEP
Sex Offenders	60 days or as determined by designee

* No option to serve in DAEP

** Minimum number of days, assignment may be up to a calendar year depending on the severity of the offense and the assessed danger the student poses to themselves and others.

OTHER ISSUES

Attendance Policies

Philosophy

It is the philosophy of the Weatherford Independent School District and the State of Texas that regular student attendance is essential to increased academic achievement and success. Developing habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility are expected of all students. It is important that communication and cooperation between the home and school be established. Parents are encouraged to check with the school when in doubt as to their child's attendance or punctuality. School attendance is required for most students by state law.

Regular school attendance is essential for a student to make the most of his or her education—to benefit from teacher-led and school activities, to build each day's learning on the previous day's, and to grow as an individual. Absences from class may result in serious disruption of a student's mastery of the instructional materials; therefore, the student and parent should make every effort to avoid unnecessary absences. Two state laws, one dealing with compulsory attendance, the other with attendance for a student's final grade or course credit, are of special interest to students and parents. They are discussed below.

Compulsory Attendance

State law requires that a student between the ages of six and 18 attend school, as well as any applicable accelerated instruction program, extended year program, or tutorial session, unless the student is otherwise excused from attendance or legally exempt.

A student who voluntarily attends or enrolls after his or her 18th birthday is required to attend each school day until the end of the school year. If the student is under 21 years old. In addition, if a student 18 or older has more than five unexcused absences in a semester the District may revoke the student's enrollment. The student's presence on school property thereafter would be unauthorized and may be considered trespassing. [See Policy FEA.]

Students enrolled in prekindergarten or kindergarten are required to attend school. State law requires attendance in an accelerated reading instruction program when kindergarten, first grade, or second grade students are assigned to such a program. Parents will be notified in writing if their child is assigned to an accelerated reading instruction program as a result of a diagnostic reading instrument. A student will be required to attend any assigned accelerated instruction program, which may occur before or after school or during the summer, if the student does not meet the passing standards on the state assessments for his or her grade level and/or applicable subject area.

Exemptions to Compulsory Attendance

State law allows exemptions to the compulsory attendance requirements for several types of absences if the student makes up all work. These include the following activities and events:

- Religious holy days;
- Required court appearance;
- Activities related to obtaining United States citizenship;
- Service as an election clerk;
- Documented health-care appointments for the student or a child of the student, including absences for recognized services for students diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders. A note from the health-care provider must be submitted upon the student's arrival or return to campus; and
- For student in conservatorship (custody) of the state;
- Mental health or therapy appointments; or
- Court-ordered family visitations or any other court-ordered activity, provided it is not practicable to schedule the student's participation in the activity outside of school hours.

As listed in the student handbooks in Section I at **Accommodations for Children of Military Families**, absences of up to five days will be excused for a student to visit with a parent, stepparent, or legal guardian who has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or immediately returned from certain deployments.

Failure to Comply with Compulsory Attendance

School employees must investigate and report violations of the state compulsory attendance law. A student absent without permission from school; from any class; from required special programs, such as additional special instruction (termed "accelerated instruction" by the state) assigned by a grade placement committee and basic skills for ninth graders; or from required tutorials will be considered in violation of the compulsory attendance law and subject to disciplinary action.

A court of law may also impose penalties against both the student and his or her parents if a school-aged student is deliberately not attending school. A complaint against the parent may be filed in court if the student:

- Is absent from school on ten or more days or parts of days within a six-month period in the same school year, or
- Is absent on three or more days or parts of days within a four-week period.

For a student younger than 12 years of age, the student's parent could be charged with an offense based on the student's failure to attend school. If a student age 12 through age 17 violates the compulsory attendance law, both the parent and student could be charged with an offense. [See Policy FEA(LEGAL).]

Other specifics about student attendance can be found in the handbook for students.

Tardies

Student tardiness is considered a disruption and shall not be tolerated. Guidelines regarding tardies, including exceptions, can be found in the *Campus Student Handbook*. Failure to comply with the guidelines shall result in disciplinary action.

Decisions on Absences/ Discipline Management Techniques

The decision of determining excused or unexcused absences shall be the responsibility of the principal or designee and any absence, regardless of the number, shall be considered and dealt with on its own merit. Violations of attendance policies may result in disciplinary action, including, but not limited to: parent conferences, detentions, make-up hours, required tutorials, loss of privileges, in-school suspension, placement in Discipline Alternative Education Program, referrals to a law enforcement agency, and/or referrals to courts.

Makeup Work

Students shall have makeup privileges for excused absences. It is the responsibility of the student to secure assignments missed, and make up all work according to time allotted by the teacher or make-up policies outlined in the student handbook. Failure to complete assignments according to the guidelines will result in no credit for such assignments. Parents and students should understand that certain types of school work cannot be assigned to home because of teacher explanations needed by the student.

Students who miss school without having an excused absence shall not receive credit for work missed during the unexcused absence period. No make-up work for credit shall be allowed for schoolwork missed because of such unexcused absence. No credit shall be given for grades taken during periods with unexcused absences.

Denial of Credit/Promotion for Excessive Absences

Students in grades 1-8 shall not be promoted if he/she has been in attendance fewer than 90% of the 175 school days (18 or more absences). Students in grades 9-12 who do not maintain 90% attendance in each class per semester may not receive credit for the semester course. Attendance is recorded for each grading period and is reported on the student's report card.

Appeals Process

Parents of students who have accumulated more absences than allowed for class credit or promotion may present a written appeal for extenuating circumstances to the Attendance Review Committee appointed by the principal and authorized by the Board. After the review of all pertinent documents and information, the campus Attendance Review

Committee may grant a student the opportunity to regain credit by meeting designated requirements. Students whose petitions for credit are denied may appeal the Campus Attendance Committee's decision, in writing, to the Superintendent or designee within five days of the attendance committee hearing. Responsibility for requesting consideration of extenuating circumstances rests with the student and his/her parent.

Change of Address/Phone Numbers

Parents/students are required to immediately report changes in their home address or home/work phone numbers to the school office.

It is imperative that the school has accurate phone numbers in the event of an emergency. WISD uses an emergency notification program to call, email, and/or text households. This information must be updated regularly as it is information that each school needs. Falsification of information is a violation of TEC 21.063.

Detention

A student may be detained before or after school hours, during lunch or assigned to a Saturday class for one or more days if he/she violates the *Student Code of Conduct* or *Campus Student Handbook*. The student's parents/guardian will be notified of the reason for the detention and should make arrangements for the student's transportation.

Discrimination

The District does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, creed, ethnicity, religion or disabling condition in providing educational services. Students or parents who believe that they have been discriminated against should first bring the matter to the teacher's attention. If the outcome of that discussion is not satisfactory, the student or parent(s)/guardian(s) who have a grievance regarding possible discrimination should contact the campus principal and/or the Title IX Coordinator, Richard Crosby, Director of Human Resources, at 817-598-2836. Patti Young, Executive Director of Special Programs has been designated to coordinate compliance with the non-discrimination requirements of Section 504 of the *Rehabilitation Act of 1973*.

Disruption of Class

Any behavior which violates the rules of a particular classroom and interferes with the teacher's opportunity/ability to present material or the other students' opportunity/ability to concentrate on the material or their assignments is considered a disruption of class and may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the *Student Code of Conduct* and Chapter 37 of the *Texas Education Code*. Conduct that disrupts the educational activities of a school and violates state law includes, but is not limited to:

- Emissions by any means of noise of an intensity that prevents or hinders classroom instruction
- Enticement or attempted enticement of students away from classes or other school activities that students are required to attend
- Prevention or attempted prevention of students from attending classes or other school activities that students are required to attend
- Entrance into a classroom without the consent of either the principal/designee or teacher and either through acts of misconduct and/or use of loud or profane language causing disruption of class activities
- False alarms, bomb threats, and false 911 calls
- Emissions of offensive smells from devices such as stink/smoke bombs

Dress Code (revised July 2013)

Philosophy

Since personal grooming has a direct bearing upon an atmosphere conducive to learning and since propriety of dress and neatness in grooming is reflected in the general welfare of the school, students are expected to come to school appropriately dressed and neatly groomed; clothing shall be clean. Recognizing that extremes in dress and poor grooming in school is a definite hindrance to the building of proper values and to an environment conducive to academic endeavors, the school principal is charged with the responsibility of insisting that the student body maintains acceptable dress and proper grooming while in attendance during school hours and at school functions. All students are expected to adhere to common practices of modesty, cleanliness, and neatness; to dress in a respectful manner within the acceptable standards of the community and in such a manner as to contribute to the academic atmosphere, not detract from it. Students who fail to comply with the dress code may be subject to disciplinary actions. Clarification regarding apparel, hair, and/or accessories should be obtained prior to wearing it to school; this approval can be obtained from the campus administration.

The student and his/her parents may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that the student's dress and grooming:

1. Shall not give school officials reason to believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from school activities; or
2. Shall not create a health or other hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of other students.

The principal or assistant principal has final judgment on whether or not a student is in compliance with the dress code.

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

All Elementary and Secondary Schools

Hair/Makeup

1. Hair shall be neat, clean, and well groomed.
2. Hair must not obstruct the student's vision or a view of the student's face.
3. No extreme style or color that is reasonably likely to cause disruption shall be allowed. Ex.: Mohawks, liberty spikes, and designs in hair are samples of unacceptable styles.
4. Unnatural hair coloring shall not be permitted. This shall include, but shall not be limited to: pink, red, purple, blue, or green hair color, and/or black lipstick. Hair coloring and/or grooming that is unnatural shall be prohibited if deemed by the principal as a distraction.

Apparel

5. Any clothing or accessory (belt) with improper fit (exceeding one size beyond correct size) shall not be allowed on campus. The waist of pants must be worn at the proper place of the anatomy and not low around the hips. No sagging, bagging pants or shorts shall be permitted.
6. Garments must have a finished, stitched hem. Manufactured boot-cut slits are acceptable. Rips in jeans or slits in skirt(s) that are not at least fingertip length will be considered a violation. Clothing that exposes large areas of skin will not be permitted.
7. Shorts or skirts must allow students to be able to stand, sit, and/or bend with modesty. Shorts and skirts must be "finger-tip length," that is the length cannot be shorter than the level where the finger tips fall when the student's hands are at his/her sides.
8. Shorts must be hemmed, cuffed, or rolled and be of a non-revealing fabric/style. Mesh shorts must be double-lined. Shorts and/or clothing worn in secondary physical education classes are not to be worn in the regular classroom. The building principal—in connection with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity--may regulate the dress and grooming of student who participate in the activity.
9. Mesh shirts, half-shirts, halter-tops, tank tops, and crop tops that show the bare midriff when the student's hands are extended above the head is not permitted.
10. Tops with straps less than 2 inches wide and/or without a standard armhole are prohibited.
11. Students shall wear clothing and undergarments in keeping with their gender. Pajamas and/or sleepwear are not permitted.
12. Shirts and blouses shall be appropriately buttoned.
13. Shoes, boots, or sandals are to be worn. House shoes/slippers may not be worn. Steel-toed boots, cleats, skates, shoes with rollers, spikes, taps, and/or boots or shoes with sharp studs are not allowed. Some school activities, instructional settings, and programs including, but not limited to, physical education, athletics, labs, shops, cooperative education programs, and internships may require the wearing of a designated type of shoe or the prohibition of some shoes for safety reasons.

14. Clothing, accessories, and/or belongings featuring pictures, emblems, or writings that promote inappropriate subjects such as death, suicide, racism, gang-related attire and the occult are not permitted. Neither may clothing, accessories, and/or belongings advertise or depict tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any prohibited substances or activities. Messages that are lewd, offensive, vulgar, inappropriately suggestive, or obscene are not appropriate. Shirts, backpacks, clothing, accessories, and/or other possessions that depict or name groups, whether real or fictional, that are well known for promoting illegal activities, including but not limited to murder, rape, suicide, sexual references, drug usage, etc., shall not be worn.
15. Tight-fitting clothing is not permitted without a covering garment that when worn alone meets the other guideline of this dress code. This may include but not be limited to: camisoles, leggings, leotards, leotard-type clothing, biking shorts/tights (spandex), wind/running shorts, or athletic/athletic-type girdle.
16. Clothing must be worn as intended. For example: Overalls must be worn with a shirt or a blouse, and straps must be properly secured/buttoned over both shoulders. The waistband of the overalls must be worn at the waist.

Accessories

17. No jewelry or trinket that is noisy and/or promotes undue distraction in the school environment shall be permitted.
18. No “chains” (including wallet chains) are allowed.
19. Spiked jewelry and mouth “grillz” shall not be permitted.
20. Sunglasses and hair curlers are not appropriate.
21. Body piercing is restricted to the ear. Bandages, tape, or other coverings used for the express purpose of covering body piercing jewelry and spacers will not be allowed.
22. “Gauging” of the ears, or any part of the body, is prohibited.
23. Students are not permitted to write on skin and/or clothing items. Temporary tattoos will not be allowed on the face or neck, unless designated by the principal on a spirit day.
24. Hats, caps, beanies, bandannas, sweat bands, or other head covering apparel are not allowed on campus.
25. No trench coats or dusters.

Male General Dress Code

26. Facial hair must be neatly trimmed and clean.
27. Sleeveless shirts are not permitted.

Female General Dress Code

28. Skirts featuring high slits are not appropriate for school.
29. Low-cut sundresses, sheer blouses, see-through blouses, or any clothing that exposes undergarments and/or breast cleavage is prohibited.

Please be advised that backpacks, shoes, belt buckles, purses, clothing and any other school supplies must adhere to the WISD dress code.

BRIDGE CAMPUS (DISTRICT'S DAEP) DRESS CODE

For the safety of all students, the dress code for the District's Disciplinary Alternative School, Bridge, shall contain additional, stringent, dress code requirements. The Bridge School Dress Code shall be presented to the student and parents at the time of placement in the Bridge School.

CONSIDERATIONS

In reviewing with students the appropriateness of dress and grooming to meet the prescribed standards, school officials are to consider:

1. Rules are in effect for the time the District has jurisdiction over the student;
2. Dress for social functions and special activities will be determined by the sponsors of these functions and will be announced prior to the occasion;
3. In connection with extra-curricular activities, the coach, sponsor, or other person in charge may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity.

Students electing to participate in courses and activities not required to complete graduation requirements must meet reasonable dress and grooming specifications prescribed by the teacher, coach, sponsor, or director of the course or activity. Some examples of these are U.I.L. competitive activities, such as band, speech, choir, drama, and all team sports; all career and technology cooperative work programs, such as Distributive Education and Industrial Cooperative Training; and Vocational and Industrial Arts courses where long hair and loose clothing may endanger the student.

Violations

The administration of each campus shall provide proper notification to students and parents prior to any change in dress and grooming standards.

If the student's dress or grooming is objectionable under these provisions, the principal or assistant principal shall request the student to make appropriate corrections. If the student refuses, the administrator shall notify the student's parent and request that the parents make the necessary correction. If both the student and parent refuse, the principal shall take disciplinary action. Appropriate disciplinary procedures shall be followed to include removal from school until the student is in compliance with the dress code.

The building administration shall use its discretion in questions concerning the dress code. Where there is a question on the dress or appearance of a student, the school administrators' decision shall be final. Students who repeatedly disregard rules of dress

or grooming shall be considered insubordinate and shall be subject to further discipline management techniques as described in the *Student Code of Conduct*.

Fighting

A hostile encounter between students to settle differences whether verbal or physical, including but not limited to, verbal exchanges, shoving between students, and/or mutual combat that results in physical contact or bodily injury is considered fighting. School employees on each campus may notify law enforcement personnel when a fight occurs and it will be at the discretion of the law enforcement officer who responds as to whether an arrest should be made or a citation issued. Should the officer make the decision to arrest one or more students, the citation which is issued can range up to \$500 for each student. **Fighting is considered disruptive and will result in disciplinary action, which may include but is not limited to, placement in the District's DAEP program, suspension, and/or a fine by the Municipal/Justice of the Peace court.**

Fraternities, Sororities, Secret Societies, Gangs

Policy adopted by the Board of Trustees strictly prohibits the organization of any fraternity, sorority, gang, or secret society. The state law defines these organizations as those which take in additional members on the basis of the decision of its membership, rather than upon the free choice of any pupil in the school who is qualified by the rules of the school to fill the special aims of the organization. The District is committed to keeping schools free from threats or any harmful influence of groups or gangs that advocate disruptive behavior while under District supervision. Gang activity is considered a serious offense and shall be subject to disciplinary and legal action.

Gang-Related Behavior

Any behavior which is commonly associated with gang activities or gang-related affiliation, including, but not limited to, the violation of the established District dress code (i.e. baggy pants worn low on the waist), the possession of gang paraphernalia (i.e. bandanas, chains, etc.), the intimidation of students or staff members in the name of or under the guise of gang activities, the use of gang graffiti or gang colors, or the use of symbols, tattoos, identifying language, gestures, or hand signals which are commonly associated with gang activities/insignias, is considered gang-related behavior and will result in disciplinary action. For purposes of this rule, a "gang" means an organization that seeks to advance its interest by illegal and/or violent means. In determining the identity of gangs, associated attire, activities, and insignias, the school district will consult with local law enforcement authorities.

Going To and From School

While the District does not assume responsibility for the acts of students to and from school, it may take disciplinary action if the circumstances warrant. On the way to and

from school, students shall not loiter, litter, trespass, abuse, assault another, or create a nuisance for residents or businesses of the community.

Harassment/Hate Language/Name Calling/Threats

While the school protects freedom of speech, hate language/speech on or within 300 feet of school property or at a school-sponsored or at a school-related activity on or off school property that reasonably will lead directly to disruption of the educational process or to a substantial interference with the rights of others to an equal educational opportunity is grounds for discipline. Students, teachers, parents, and/or school/District visitors shall refrain from insulting, threatening, intimidating, or any derogatory statements/gestures of a personal nature which are likely to cause disruption of the orderly operation of the school, which invade the rights of other persons, or which are severe or pervasive as to create a hostile learning environment or incite violence. Examples of “hate language/speech” and/or forms of harassment include, but are not limited to, slurs of another person’s character, family, race, religion, sex, ethnic origin, physical appearance, intellectual ability, or disability expressed orally, symbolically, and/or in writing. Engaging in verbal, non-verbal, written, or physical exchanges that threaten the safety of another student, school employee, or volunteer, on school property or within 300 feet of school property or at a school related function will not be tolerated. Students engaging in hate language/speech, bullying, and/or any other form of harassment will be subject to consequences as outlined in the *Student Code of Conduct*, the *Employee Handbook*, and the *Campus Student Handbook*.

Hazing

Hazing subjects persons to indignity, humiliation, physical abuse, or threat of abuse, social or other isolation, shame or disgrace. A student shall neither engage, encourage, nor assist any other person in any form of hazing. Students, who engage in hazing, either individually or in concert with other students, shall be subject to disciplinary action. “Hazing” is defined as any intentional, knowing or reckless act as defined by the *Texas Education Code* occurring on or off school property directed against a student, by one person alone or acting with others, that endangers the mental or physical health or the safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are or include other students. Examples of hazing include physical brutality; excessive physical activity such as calisthenics; excessive consumption/consumption of food/drink/drugs dangerous to a person’s welfare; or requiring the performance of illegal/embarrassing/humiliating acts.

Interrogations and Searches

School officials may search a student's outer clothing, pockets, or property by establishing reasonable cause or securing the student's voluntary consent. Vehicles parked on school property are under the jurisdiction of the school. The school reserves the right to search any vehicle if reasonable cause exists. A student will be held responsible for any prohibited objects or substances, such as alcohol, drugs, or weapons that are found in his/her car and will be subject to disciplinary action by the District as

well as referred for criminal prosecution. Searches of vehicles may be conducted any time there is reasonable cause to do so, with or without the presence of the student.

Areas such as lockers, which are owned by the District and jointly controlled by the District and student, may be searched at any time. Students should not expect privacy in materials left in lockers. Purses, book bags, and other containers may be searched at any time without reasonable suspicion. Students shall not place, keep, or maintain any article or material in school-owned lockers that is forbidden by District policy or that would lead school officials to reasonably believe that it would cause a substantial disruption on school property or at a school-sponsored function.

Administrators and teachers have the right to question students regarding their conduct or the conduct of others.

Lockers/Vehicles

The school's lockers are the sole property of the District. No expectancy of privacy should exist for the lockers. They are subject to search on a random or other basis. Vehicles parked on campus or the contents of them will be subject to search with reasonable cause as determined by the administration.

Periodically, specially trained drug detection dogs may be used to locate prohibited substances in the school or on the school campus. If the dog alerts on a locker or vehicle, it will be searched. A refusal to permit inspection is grounds for expulsion. The campus principal or designee will involve the local law enforcement and utilize state laws, as well as school discipline, in this program.

Motor Vehicle Usage

Only high school students possessing a valid driver's license are authorized to drive cars to and from school. Students are to exercise utmost caution driving on the school parking area and must observe a maximum speed of 10 M.P.H. Student drivers or passengers who endanger the safety of themselves or others will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include loss of driving/parking privileges on campus. Students shall obtain annual parking permits and must park in the designated area specified by the permit. Permits may be revoked for abuse of specified rules. A student assumes responsibility for damages to his/her vehicle while parked on school property or at a school function. If there is reasonable cause, school personnel and law enforcement officers are authorized to inspect cars parked on school premises. Loitering in school parking lots is not permitted.

Paging Device/Cellular Phone

Students in public schools are prohibited from using a paging device/cellular phone inside the school building during school hours, unless the student in attendance is an active member of a volunteer fire-fighting organization or a volunteer emergency medical services organization. Unauthorized use of a paging device/cellular phone is a violation of this section (*Education Code Section 37.082*) and the student shall be subject to discipline as provided by the *Student Code of Conduct*. The paging device/cellular phone may be confiscated by the school district if it is found to be used in an unapproved manner. The District may charge a \$15.00 fee for the return of the paging device or

cellular phone. Paging device/cellular phone means "a telecommunications device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor." Other electronic devices are addressed in the student handbook.

Parent Conference

When the principal or designee suspends a student for three consecutive days, he or she shall encourage the student's parent to attend a conference to discuss the disciplinary action and/or the student's misbehavior.

Personal Property/Bicycles/Skating Equipment

The school is not at any time responsible for students' private possessions. Students should mark all personal items. Students who ride bicycles, motorcycles, etc., to school should park and secure them in the assigned place immediately upon arrival. Skates, skateboards, roller blades, and/or roller shoes are not allowed to be used on school property for safety and storage/security reasons.

Physical Restraint

A District employee may, within the scope of the employee's duties, use and apply physical restraint to a student whom the employee reasonably believes it necessary in order to:

1. Protect a person, including the person using physical restraint, from physical injury;
2. Obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object;
3. Protect property from serious damage;
4. Remove, from a specific location, a student refusing a lawful command of a school employee, including from a classroom or other school property, in order to restore order or impose disciplinary measures; and/or
5. Restrain an irrational student.

Police Questioning of Students

The following guidelines apply when law enforcement officers or other lawful authorities desire to question or interview a student at school:

1. The principal shall verify and record identity of the officer or other lawful authority and request an explanation of the need to question or interview the student at school.
2. The principal ordinarily shall make reasonable efforts to notify the student's parents or other person having lawful control of the student. If the interviewer raises what the principal considers to be a valid objection to the notification, parents will not be notified.
3. The principal or a designee ordinarily shall be present during the questioning or interview. If the interviewer raises what the principal considers to be a valid

objection to a third party's presence, the interview shall be conducted without that person's presence.

4. On occasion of a student's violation of *Policy FNCF* (Drug/Alcohol Use/Abuse) and other policies deemed appropriate by the principal, the police will be requested to investigate possible law violations.

NOTE: Child Protective Services is not a law enforcement agency and does not follow these guidelines. Child Protective Agency conducts investigations per agency guidelines.

Publications

School-Sponsored Publications/Media

The District's professional employees shall exercise control over style and content of student speech in school-sponsored expressive activities so long as their actions are reasonably related to legitimate instructional concerns.

The District may refuse to disseminate or sponsor student speech that:

1. Might reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol use, inappropriate and irresponsible sexual behavior, or conduct otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order;
2. Is inappropriate for the level of maturity of the readers; and/or
3. Does not follow the direction of the professional employees who supervise the production of the publication.

Non-School Publications

The District's classrooms during the school day are provided for the limited purpose of delivering instruction to students in the courses and subjects in which they are enrolled. Classrooms shall not be used for distribution of any materials over which the school does not exercise control. Hallways in school buildings are provided for the limited purpose of facilitating the movement of students between classes and allowing access to assigned lockers. Hallways shall not be used for the distribution of any materials over which the school does not exercise control.

Each school campus shall designate an area where materials over which the school does not exercise control, that have been approved for distribution to students, as provided below, may be made available to students or distributed to students in accordance with the time, place, and manner restrictions developed and approved by the campus principal.

Distribution of written materials over which the District does not exercise control may be restricted, subject to the following guidelines:

1. When circumstances reasonably support a foreseeable interference with normal school operations that is both material and substantial resulting directly from a distribution, the District may limit the distribution.

2. Reasonable administrative regulations as to the time, place, and manner of distribution shall promote orderly administration of school activities by preventing disruption, but shall not be designed to stifle expression.
3. Content of the non-school-sponsored materials to be distributed shall conform to the following standards:
 - a. Materials that are obscene or sexually inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorse actions endangering the health and safety of students shall not be distributed.
 - b. Materials may not be forbidden if the portions or specific language objected to may also be found in material that is made available to students through school facilities, i.e., the school library or readings assigned by teachers.
 - c. Libelous material may be prohibited from distribution. Libelous material includes defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, which are made with knowledge of their falsity or reckless disregard for truth.
 - d. Publications that criticize Board members or school officials or advocate violation of school rules may be prohibited if they fall within the disruption standard described at “item 1” above. Advocacy directed toward inciting or producing imminent lawless or disruptive action and that is likely to incite or produce such action shall be restricted.
 - e. Hate literature that scurrilously attacks ethnic, religious, or racial groups, and similar irresponsible publication aimed at creating hostility and violence may be banned if they fall within the disruption standard described at “item 1” above.

Prior Review of Non-School Materials

All written material over which the school does not exercise editorial control that is intended for distribution to students at places under District jurisdiction according to the following procedures:

1. Material shall be submitted to the building principal or a designee for review.
2. The principal or designee shall approve or disapprove submitted material within twenty-four hours of the time the material is received. Failure to act within the twenty-four hour period shall be interpreted as disapproval.
3. The student may appeal disapproval to the Superintendent, who shall decide the appeal within three days of its receipt. Failure of the Superintendent to act within the three-day period shall be interpreted as disapproval.
4. If the request to distribute material was initiated by a student, disapproval may be appealed to the Board under Board Policy beginning at Level Three. If the request to distribute material was initiated by someone other than a student, disapproval may be appealed to the Board under Board Policy, beginning at Level Three.

School Resource Officer (SRO)

To assist with security, a local law enforcement officer serves as the School Resource Officer on secondary campuses. The SRO is available to inform students of their rights and responsibilities as lawful citizens, to provide informal counseling for students in special situations and to teach/answer questions that students may have regarding juvenile law. Students who display serious and/or illegal behavior may be issued a citation or placed under arrest by the SRO. The issuance of a citation for illegal behavior at school is at the discretion of the SRO and not determined by the school administration.

School Safety

The school district has the primary responsibility of assuring that its schools are safe. Students who by their behavior on or off school property pose an imminent threat to the safety of members of the school community will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and possible criminal penalties. Although the District has implemented safety procedures, the cooperation of students/ parents/guardians is essential to ensure school and student safety. Students should:

- Avoid behavior that is likely to put the student, other students, or school personnel at risk
- Follow the *Student Code of Conduct* and any additional rules for behavior and safety outlined in the *Campus Student Handbook* or rules established by the administrators, teachers, or bus drivers
- Know emergency evacuation routes and signals
- Follow immediately the instructions of administrators, teachers, and bus drivers who oversee the welfare and safety of students

In order to protect the safety of students and school personnel and to deter the possession or use of drugs, weapons, and other contraband at school and school-related activities, the District may employ surveillance and search devices including metal detectors, audio/video surveillance equipment, and canines as needed.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is defined as engaging in unwelcome sexual advances, requesting sexual favors, using sexually abusive or vulgar language or other verbal, visual, or physical conduct when such conduct interferes with a student's school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive school environment. The District prohibits students from engaging in conduct that constitutes sexual harassment or sexual abuse whether the conduct is by word, gesture, or other sexual conduct directed toward another student or District employee as defined in Policy FNCJ (LEGAL/LOCAL). The District believes that every student has the right to attend school and school-related activities free from all forms of discrimination on the basis of sex, including sexual harassment and shall investigate all complaints alleging sexual harassment. The District considers sexual harassment to be a serious offense and shall consider the full range of disciplinary options, including expulsion, according to the nature of the offense. A complaint alleging

sexual harassment by a student or staff member may be presented by a student and/or parent/guardian in a conference with the principal/designee or with the District Title IX Coordinator, Richard Crosby, Director of Human Resources (817-598-2836). The conference will be scheduled and held within five days of the request. The principal/designee or Title IX Coordinator will direct an investigation, which ordinarily will be completed within ten days. The student or parent/guardian will be informed if extenuating circumstances delay completion of the investigation. Oral complaints should be submitted in writing to assist in the District's investigation.

Student Handbook

A student handbook and the *Student Code of Conduct* containing policies and regulations on the rights and responsibilities of students will be made available electronically to all students and parents, teachers, administrators, and any other person on request, at the beginning of the school year. These documents shall also be provided to new professional employees, newly enrolled students, and any parent on request. Changes during the year shall be published and distributed during the next semester, but no later than the beginning of the next school year.

Each student and parent shall sign annually a statement that they have received and read the student handbook and code of conduct and acknowledge the responsibilities outlined there. Any concern with information provided may be addressed to principal or designee.

Students Taken Into Custody

Before a student at school is arrested or taken into custody by a law enforcement officer or other legally authorized person, the principal shall verify the official's identity and, to the best of his or her ability, verify the official's authority to take custody of the student. The principal shall then deliver over the student and immediately notify the Executive Director of Student Services and the parent or other person having lawful control of the student.

Tobacco

Students are not to smoke, chew, or be in possession of tobacco products including matches or a lighter on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property. Students violating this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action that may include, but is not limited to, placement in an alternative education program and may also include a citation by law enforcement authorities.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES CODE OF CONDUCT

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Students participating in extracurricular activities are first and foremost representatives of their school community and must exemplify appropriate behavior at all times, on and off campus. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege and not a right. Participants in extracurricular activities are held to a higher standard of conduct than the general student body and must be responsible, cooperative, and adhere to school policies and regulations at all times. Violations warranting probation, suspension or dismissal will be communicated to the parents.

EXTRACURRICULAR EXCUSED ABSENCE DEFINED

1. Personal illness/accident.
2. Funeral or death of family/friend.
3. Participation in another school activity.
4. An absence that has the approval/notification from sponsor. (Prior approval/notification is recommended.)

CONSEQUENCES-UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM PRACTICE

1. First unexcused absence will result in a warning. (Additional punishment or suspension from an individual activity can be imposed by the sponsor.)
2. Second unexcused absence will result in additional punishment or suspension from an individual activity. Notify parents of absence and remind them of the consequences of the third unexcused absence.
3. Third unexcused absence will result in dismissal from extracurricular activities.

CONSEQUENCES-UNEXCUSED ABSENCE FROM CONTEST

1. May result in immediate dismissal from extracurricular activities.

TOBACCO PRODUCTS, ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS

Due to health and safety considerations, use of tobacco products, drinking of alcohol beverages, or use or possession of illegal drugs will not be allowed any time. Any WISD administrator, faculty member, or law enforcement officer shall report such violation to the appropriate sponsor or coach and school principal.

CONSEQUENCES – TOBACCO PRODUCTS, ALCOHOL, ILLEGAL DRUGS

1. The first violation of the above statement will result in:

a. TOBACCO PRODUCTS

1. The first violation will result in:

a. Suspension from competition for the equivalent of 10% of the regularly scheduled events.

EX: Twenty soccer matches – Suspension = Two games

Ten football games – Suspension = One game

NOTE: The athlete will continue to practice.

b. Appropriate disciplinary measures determined by the head coach with approval from the Athletic Director.

c. Parent conference scheduled as soon as possible to review action taken and discuss referral for counseling.

NOTE: If the violation occurs when the athlete is in off-season, the suspension will be enforced at the beginning of his/her next sport in season.

b. ALCOHOL

1. The first violation will result in:

a. Suspension from competition for the equivalent of 20% of the regular scheduled events.

EX: Twenty soccer matches – Suspension=Four games

Ten football games – Suspension = Two games

NOTE: The athlete will continue to practice.

b. Appropriate disciplinary measures determined by the head coach with approval from the athletic director.

c. Parent conference scheduled as soon as possible to review action taken and discuss referral for counseling.

d. Documented counseling before returning.

NOTE: If the violation occurs when the athlete is in off-season, the suspension will be enforced at the beginning of his/her next sport in season.

c. ILLEGAL DRUGS

1. The first violation will result in:

a. Suspension from competition for the equivalent of 30% of the regularly scheduled events.

EX: Twenty soccer matches – Suspension = Six games

Ten football games – Suspension = Three games

NOTE: The athlete will continue to practice.

b. Appropriate disciplinary measures determined by the head coach with approval from the Athletic Director.

c. Parent conference scheduled as soon as possible to review action taken and discuss referral for counseling.

d. Drug testing (at parents' expense) before student returns to activity.

e. Documented counseling before returning.

NOTE: if the violation occurs when the athlete is in off-season, the suspension will be enforced at the beginning of his/her next sport in season.

2. A second violation, occurring any time during a student's secondary (grades 7-12) school career, will result in dismissal from all extracurricular activities for the contracted year.

NOTE: Upon a second violation where the athlete is an underclassman who wants to participate the next school year, the minimum consequence (see #1) must be satisfied before participation will be allowed.

CONSEQUENCES – COMMISSION OF AN UNLAWFUL ACT

A serious, unlawful act (i.e. theft, destruction of property, inappropriate communication via telecommunications device, etc.) could result in suspension from all extracurricular activities. Sponsor and administrative discretion will be used due to the broadness of this area.

CONSEQUENCES – VIOLATION OF SCHOOL RULES WHICH RESULT IN SUSPENSION (In-School or Out-of-School Suspensions)

The disciplinary action taken for a student who violates a school rule, which ends in suspension (In-School or Out-of-School Suspensions), will be consistent with school policy with the possibility of further disciplinary action as determined by the administration and the sponsor of each extracurricular activity involved. Students may not participate in extracurricular activities during the term of their suspension. The coach/sponsor may impose additional extracurricular sanctions as a result of a school suspension.

CONSEQUENCES-VIOLATION OF RULES IN CODE OF CONDUCT OF EACH EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY

A student who violates rules of the *Student Code of Conduct* of the extracurricular activity will be subject to disciplinary action according to the individual extracurricular organization.

EXTRACURRICULAR PARTICIPATION – HEALTH-RELATED

A student who has a health related illness or pregnancy would be subject to the rules of participation at the discretion of the sponsor of the individual activity.

WEATHERFORD ISD COMPUTER ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY

AVAILABILITY OF ACCESS

Access to WISD's computer network system (LAN's and WAN's), including the Internet, shall be made available to students and employees exclusively for instructional and administrative purposes and in accordance with administrative regulations. No students shall be given access without written consent of their parent/guardian.

Access to WISD's computer network system is a privilege, not a right. All users shall be required to acknowledge receipt and understanding of all administrative regulations governing use of the system and shall agree in writing to comply with such regulations and guidelines. Noncompliance with applicable regulations may result in suspension or termination of privileges and other disciplinary action consistent with District/Campus policies. Violations of law may result in criminal prosecution as well as disciplinary action by the District.

MONITORED USE

Electronic mail transmissions and other use of computer network systems by students shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated WISD staff to ensure appropriate use for educational or administrative purposes.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

The District shall not be liable for users' inappropriate use of electronic communication resources or violations of copyright restrictions, users' mistakes or negligence, or costs incurred by users. The District shall not be responsible ensuring the accuracy or usability of any information found on the Internet.

ACCEPTABLE USE (REGULATIONS)

The District's computer networks will be used only for administrative and educational purposes consistent with the WISD's mission and goals. Commercial use of WISD's computer networks is strictly prohibited.

Copyrighted software or data may not be placed or installed on any system connected to the WISD computer network system without permission from the holder of the copyright and such software **MUST** be licensed directly to WISD. Only the owner (s) or individuals the owner specifically authorized in writing may upload or install copyrighted material to the system. An inventory and archive of software is to be kept at each campus library.

USE OF PERSONAL COMPUTERS

Personal computers belonging to WISD employees and students may be connected to the Weatherford ISD network system only after receiving written permission from the WISD Technology Department. The owner and user of personal computers connected to the WISD network must grant Weatherford ISD full open access to any and all data stored on the personal computer. The owner and user of personal computers connected to the WISD network must agree to follow and abide by all WISD policies / procedures governing the use of technology. All personal computers must meet minimum hardware and software requirements in order to be considered for connection to the WISD network. Current hardware and software requirements will be available from the WISD Technology Department. Weatherford ISD assumes no liability for any direct or indirect damages arising from the user's connection of personal computers to the WISD network system.

SYSTEM ACCESS

Access to the District's electronic communications system will be governed as follows:

1. With approval of the Parent/Guardian, WISD students may be granted access to the District's network system.
2. The District will require that all passwords be changed every 30 days.
3. A student may apply for an account (with parental approval) and, in doing so, will be ultimately responsible for use of the account. Students with accounts will be required to maintain password confidentiality by not sharing the password with others.
4. Any system user identified as a security risk or having violated District and/or campus computer-use guidelines may be denied access to the District's computer/network system.
5. All accounts can be monitored and are not to be considered private. WISD shall be authorized to monitor or examine all system activities, including electronic mail transmissions, as deemed appropriate to ensure proper use of the system.

ONLINE CONDUCT

1. The individual in whose name a system account is issued will be responsible at all times for its proper use.
2. The system may not be used for illegal purposes, in support of illegal activities, or for any other activity prohibited by WISD policy.
3. System users may not use another person's system account.
4. System users must purge electronic mail in accordance with established retention guidelines.
5. System users may NOT redistribute, copy, or install copyrighted programs or data of any kind.
6. System users are expected to be polite to other network users.

7. System users are expected to use appropriate language; swearing, vulgarity, ethnic or racial slurs, and any other inflammatory language are prohibited.
8. System users pretending to be someone else when sending/receiving messages is considered inappropriate. Anonymous mailings are strictly prohibited.
9. Transmitting obscene or offensive messages, pictures or materials is strictly prohibited.
10. System users are prohibited from revealing personal information to others while on-line (addresses, phone numbers, etc.).
11. Using the network in such a way that would disrupt the use of the network by other users is prohibited.
12. The public posting of another user's message, without that user's permission is prohibited.
13. Entry into and use of IRC/"Chat" services is prohibited.
14. Access to external (non-WISD) email services is prohibited.

VANDALISM PROHIBITED

Any malicious attempt to harm or destroy WISD equipment or materials, data of another user, or any of the agencies or other networks that are connected to the Internet is prohibited. Deliberate attempts to degrade or disrupt system performance may be viewed as violations of WISD policy and administrative regulations and, possibly, as criminal activity under applicable state and federal laws. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creating of computer viruses.

Vandalism as defined above will result in the cancellation of system use privileges and will require restitution for costs associated with system restoration, hardware, or software costs.

FORGERY PROHIBITED

Forgery or attempted forgery of electronic mail messages is prohibited. Attempts to read, delete, copy, or modify the electronic mail of other system users or deliberate interference with the ability of other system users to send/receive electronic mail is prohibited.

INFORMATION CONTENT/THIRD PARTY SUPPLIED INFORMATION

System users and parents of students with access to the District's system should be aware that use of the system may provide access to other electronic communications systems in the global electronic network (Internet) that may contain inaccurate and/or objectionable material.

A student knowingly bringing prohibited materials into the school's electronic environment will be subject to a suspension and/or a revocation of privileges on the District computer systems and will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the *Student Code of Conduct*.

TERMINATION/REVOCAION OF SYSTEM USER ACCOUNT

WISD may suspend or revoke a system user's access to the District's system upon violation of District policy and/or administrative regulations regarding acceptable use. Termination of a student account for the violation of online policy will extend for a period of one year.

Termination of a student's access will be effective on the date the principal or District coordinator receives notice of student's withdrawal or of revocation or system privileges, or on a future date if so specified in the notice.

DISCLAIMER

WISD's computer network system is provided on an "as is, as available" basis. The District does not make any warranties, whether express or implied, including, without limitation, those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose with respect to any services provided by the system and any information or software contained therein. The District does not warrant that the functions or services performed by, or that the information or software contained on, the system will meet the system user's requirements, or that the system will be uninterrupted or error-free, or that defects will be corrected.

Opinions, advice, services, and all other information expressed by system users, information providers, service providers, or other third party individuals in the system are those of the providers and not WISD.

WISD will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the District's computer network systems.

Glossary

The glossary provides legal definitions and locally established definitions and is intended to assist in understanding terms related to the *Student Code of Conduct*.

Abuse is improper or excessive use.

Aggravated robbery is defined in part by Texas Penal Code 29.03(a) when a person commits robbery and:

Causes serious bodily injury to another;

- Uses or exhibits a deadly weapon; or
- Causes bodily injury to another person or threatens or places another person in fear of imminent bodily injury or death, if the other person is:
 - 65 years of age or older, or
 - A disabled person.

Armor-piercing ammunition is handgun ammunition used in pistols and revolvers and designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor.

Arson is:

1. A crime that involves starting a fire or causing an explosion with intent to destroy or damage:
 - a. Any vegetation, fence, or structure on open-space land; or
 - b. Any building, habitation, or vehicle:
 - 1) Knowing that it is within the limits of an incorporated city or town,
 - 2) Knowing that it is insured against damage or destruction,
 - 3) Knowing that it is subject to a mortgage or other security interest,
 - 4) Knowing that it is located on property belonging to another,
 - 5) Knowing that it has located within it property belonging to another, or
 - 6) When the person starting the fire is reckless about whether the burning or explosion will endanger the life of some individual or the safety of the property of another.
2. A crime that involves recklessly starting a fire or causing an explosion while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance and the fire or explosion damages any building, habitation, or vehicle; or
3. A crime that involves intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion and in so doing:
 - a. Recklessly damages or destroys a building belonging to another, or
 - b. Recklessly causes another person to suffer bodily injury or death.

Assault is defined in part by *Texas Penal Code §22.01(a)(1)* as intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another; *Texas Penal Code §22.01(a)(2)* as intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury; and *Texas Penal Code §22.01(a)(3)* as intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another that can reasonably be regarded as offensive or provocative.

Bullying is when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the District and the school district's Board of Trustees or the Board's designee determines the behavior:

1. Has the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

This conduct is considered bullying if it:

1. Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator who is engaging in bullying and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and
2. Interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.

Chemical dispensing device is a device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of causing an adverse psychological or physiological effect on a human being. A small chemical dispenser sold commercially for personal protection is not in this category.

Club is an instrument specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death. A blackjack, mace, and tomahawk are in the same category.

Criminal street gang is three or more persons having a common identifying sign or symbol or an identifiable leadership who continuously or regularly associate in the commission of criminal activities.

Cyberbullying is the use of any electronic communication device to engage in bullying or intimidation.

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in the relationship. Dating violence also occurs when a person commits these acts against a person in a marriage or dating relationship with the individual who is or was once in a marriage or dating relationship with the person committing the offense, as defined by Section 71.0021 of the *Family Code*.

Deadly conduct occurs when a person recklessly engages in conduct that places another in imminent danger of serious bodily injury, such as knowingly discharging a firearm in the direction of an individual, habitation, building, or vehicle.

Deferred adjudication is an alternative to seeking a conviction in court that may be offered to a juvenile for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

Deferred prosecution may be offered to a juvenile as an alternative to seeking a conviction in court for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

Delinquent conduct is conduct that violates either state or federal law and is punishable by imprisonment or confinement in jail. It includes conduct that violates certain juvenile court orders, including probation orders, but does not include violations of traffic laws.

Discretionary means that something is left to or regulated by a local decision maker.

Explosive weapon is any explosive or incendiary bomb, grenade, rocket, or mine and its delivery mechanism that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage, or for the principal purpose of causing such a loud report as to cause undue public alarm or terror.

False Alarm or Report occurs when a person knowingly initiates, communicates, or circulates a report of a present, past, or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that he or she knows is false or baseless and that would ordinarily:

- Cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
- Place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or
- Prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, or place of assembly.

Firearm silencer means any device designed, made, or adapted to muffle the report of a firearm.

Graffiti are markings with paint, an indelible pen or marker, or an etching or engraving device on tangible property without the effective consent of the owner. The markings may include inscriptions, slogans, drawings, or paintings.

Harassment is:

- Conduct that meets the definition established in Policies DIA(LOCAL) and FFH(LOCAL); or
- Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another student, is sexually intimidating, causes physical damage to the property of another student, subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint, or maliciously and substantially harms another student's physical or emotional health or safety.

Hazing is an intentional or reckless act, on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization.

Hit list is a list of people targeted to be harmed, using a firearm, a knife, or any other object to be used with intent to cause bodily harm.

Knuckles are any instrument consisting of finger rings or guards made of a hard substance and designed or adapted for inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with a fist enclosed in the knuckles.

Machine gun is any firearm that is capable of shooting more than two shots automatically, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

Mandatory means that something is obligatory or required because of an authority.

Paraphernalia are devices that can be used for inhaling, ingesting, injecting, or otherwise introducing a controlled substance into a human body.

Possession means to have an item on one's person or in one's personal property, including but not limited to clothing, purse, or backpack; a private vehicle used for transportation to or from school or school-related activities, including but not limited to an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle; telecommunications or electronic devices; or any other school property used by the student, including but not limited to a locker or desk.

Public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang means an organization composed wholly or in part of students that seeks to perpetuate itself by taking additional members from the students enrolled in school based on a decision of its membership rather than on the free choice of a qualified student. Educational organizations listed in Section 37.121(d) of the *Texas Education Code* are excepted from this definition.

Reasonable belief is a determination made by the superintendent or designee using all available information, including the information furnished under Article 15.27 of the *Code of Criminal Procedure*.

Self-defense is the use of force against another to the degree a person reasonably believes the force is immediately necessary to protect himself or herself.

Serious misbehavior means:

- Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
- Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
- Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
 - Public lewdness under Section 21.07, *Penal Code*;
 - Indecent exposure under Section 21.08, *Penal Code*;
 - Criminal mischief under Section 28.03, *Penal Code*;
 - Personal hazing under Section 37.152; or
 - Harassment under Section 42.07(a)(1), *Penal Code*, or of a student or District employee.

Serious or persistent misbehavior includes but is not limited to:

- Behavior that is grounds for permissible expulsion or mandatory DAEP placement
- Behavior identified by the District as grounds for discretionary DAEP placement
- Actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities

- Refusal to attempt or complete school work as assigned
- Insubordination
- Profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures
- Leaving school grounds without permission
- Falsification of records, passes, or other school-related documents
- Refusal to accept discipline assigned by the teacher or principal

Short-barrel firearm is a rifle with a barrel length of less than 16 inches or a shotgun with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun that, as altered, has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

Terroristic threat is a threat of violence to any person or property with intent to:

- Cause a reaction of any type by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
- Place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury;
- Prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building; room, place of assembly, or place to which the public has access; place of employment or occupation; aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance; or other public place;
- Cause impairment or interruption of public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service;
- Place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or
- Influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state (including the District).

Tire deflation device is defined in part by Section 46.01 of the *Texas Penal Code* as a device, including a caltrop or spike strip, that, when driven over, impedes or stops the movement of a wheeled vehicle by puncturing one or more of the vehicle's tires.

Title 5 offenses are those that involve injury to a person and include murder; kidnapping; assault; aggravated assault; sexual assault; aggravated sexual assault; unlawful restraint; indecency with a child; injury to a child, an elderly person, or a disabled person; abandoning or endangering a child; deadly conduct; terroristic threat; aiding a person to commit suicide; and tampering with a consumer product. [See FOC(EXHIBIT)]

Under the influence means lacking the normal use of mental or physical faculties. Impairment of a person's physical or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior, the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use, or by admission. A student "under the influence" need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action.

Use means voluntarily introducing into one's body, by any means, a prohibited substance.

Zip gun is a device or combination of devices, not originally a firearm, but adapted to expel a projectile through a smooth-bore or rifled-bore barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance.

WISD STRATEGIC PLAN 2013-2018

Mission Statement

The mission of the Weatherford ISD is to teach, challenge, and inspire each student in a safe, nurturing environment to succeed in the global community.

Vision Statement

WISD will be the world-class district of choice.

Value Statements

- We value and respect all students, employees, parents, partners, and our community.
- We demonstrate visionary leadership.
- We engage in and promote personal and organizational learning.
- We make data-driven decisions.
- We practice ethical behavior and personal integrity.

WISD Strategic Goals

1. Focus on Student Success
2. Focus on Students, Parents, and Communities
3. Focus on Operational Excellence
4. Focus on Employees and Organizational Development
5. Focus on Stewardship



WEATHERFORD ISD
"Your Child: Our Mission"