

## Student Behavioral Violations

- Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism
- Arson
- Assault
- (Physical) Aggression
- Computer Misuse, Tampering, and Trespass
- Dangerous Weapons
- Discriminatory Harassment
- Disobedience
- Disruptive Conduct
- Distributing Alcoholic Beverages
- Distributing Illegal Drugs, Controlled Substances Prescription, or Over-the-counter Drugs
- Distributing Marijuana
- Extortion, Blackmail, Coercion
- False Alarm
- False Reporting
- False Threats
- Fighting
- Firearms
- Fireworks, Explosives, Chemicals, and Incendiary Devices
- Gambling
- Graffiti
- Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying
- Hate Group Activity
- Hazing
- Inappropriate Language
- Inappropriate Touching
- Interference with School Authorities
- Intimidation of School Authorities
- Lewd Conduct
- Malicious Property Damage
- Misrepresentation
- Other Exceptional Misconduct
- Possessing or Using Illegal Drugs, Controlled Substances, Prescription, or Over-the-counter Drugs
- Possessing or Using Alcoholic Beverages
- Possessing or using Marijuana
- Possessing or Using Tobacco Products (electronic vapor devices)
- Possession of Stolen Property
- Robbery
- Rule-breaking
- Selling Alcoholic Beverages
- Selling Illegal Drugs, Controlled Substances, Prescription, or Over-the-counter Drugs
- Selling Marijuana
- Sexual Assault
- Sexual Harassment
- Theft
- Threats of Violence
- Trespass

## What Happens if a Student Breaks a Rule?

When a student is accused of breaking a rule, they have the right to explain their side of the story to school staff before they are disciplined. A family may also meet with school staff to help identify, problem solve, and consider other disciplinary responses. However, if the offense is significant, the student may be suspended or expelled.

In order for a school leader to emergency expel a student, a school must have sufficient cause to believe that the student's presence poses: (a) an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel; or (b) an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process. If a student is suspended, expelled, or emergency expelled they will receive the written Notice of Disciplinary Action (NDA) within 24 hours.

***If you have questions regarding the discipline appeals process, please contact [discipline@seattleschools.org](mailto:discipline@seattleschools.org)***

## What if a Student Thinks They Are Being Treated Unfairly?

If the school leader proposes a disciplinary response, and a student thinks that is unfair or inappropriate, the student has the right to appeal the imposed discipline. The various processes for appealing are contained in the Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook, which may be obtained from the student's school, from the Student Discipline Office at 206-252-0820 or on the Seattle Public Schools' website at [www.seattleschools.org](http://www.seattleschools.org)

## Notice to Students and Families Required by Federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989

Seattle Public Schools prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of drugs and alcohol by anyone on school property, on school-sponsored transportation, or as part of school activities. Compliance with this rule is mandatory; students who disregard the prohibition may be subject to a disciplinary response. Seattle Public Schools offers or can assist in arranging access to drug and alcohol education, counseling, and recovery support. For further information, contact your school leader, school social worker or counselor.

### SEATTLE SCHOOL BOARD

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# Seattle Public Schools

## Student Rights & Responsibilities

2022-2023



SUPERINTENDENT  
Dr. Brent Jones



## Mission

Seattle Public Schools is committed to eliminating opportunity gaps to ensure access and provide excellence in education for every student.

## Vision

Every Seattle Public Schools' student receives a high-quality, world-class education and graduates prepared for college, career, and community.

## Equity and Compliance Policy:

Seattle Public Schools (SPS) provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. For students and members of the public, the following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination and may be reached by mail, by phone, or email as specified in the information below:

Seattle Public Schools MS 32-149  
PO Box 34165  
Seattle, WA 98124-1165

### **For sex discrimination concerns, including sexual harassment, contact:**

Title IX Grievance Coordinator (206) 252-0367  
title.ix@seattleschools.org

### **For disability discrimination concerns contact:**

ADA/Section 504 Grievance Coordinator  
(206)252-0885  
[504coordinator@seattleschools.org](mailto:504coordinator@seattleschools.org)

### **For all other types of discrimination, contact:**

Student Civil Rights, (206) 252-0306  
oscr@seattleschools.org

### **For employee questions about or requests for disability-related accommodations and/or complaints of alleged discrimination, including sexual harassment, contact:**

Chief of Human Resources  
Seattle Public Schools MS 33-157  
PO Box 34165  
Seattle, WA 98124-1165  
206-252-0024 or hreeoc@seattleschools.org



## Seattle Public School Commitments

Eliminating opportunity gaps and ensuring educational excellence for each student is the issue of our time. Seattle Public Schools recognizes:

- There is racial disproportionality in disciplinary responses within the district;
- Each situation involving discipline complex with underlying factors that require staff to understand the function of students' behaviors;
- Students, families, and caregivers have a right to be active partners in providing input prior to the school engaging in the disciplinary decision-making process;
- Those involved with the disciplinary decision-making process should consider mitigating and extenuating factors; and
- There is an undeniable negative impact when using exclusionary practices that can be directly correlated to a disengagement from school, lower graduation rates, and contribution to the school to prison pipeline.

## Seattle Public Schools and Staff Responsibilities:

Seattle Public Schools Staff are ethically bound to:

- Ensuring a safe and welcoming environment in our educational system;
- Seek out, attend, and engage in learning opportunities;
- Partner with students and families;
- Positive relationships with student and parent and guardian;
- Model and teach behavior; and
- Provide a high quality and anti-racist education for students.

For more information regarding Seattle Public Schools responsibilities, please refer to page 8 in the Student's Rights and Responsibilities handbook.

## School Safety and Security Services Program

Safety and Security staff support each school's principal in keeping the school safe. They may help address exterior issues, like unauthorized adults attempting to enter the building or interior issues, like students fighting. In all cases, their focus is on matters related to safety. The Safety and Security team is interested in fostering an optimal learning environment and acting as a deterrent to unsafe or poor behavior. While law enforcement may be called in extreme circumstances, like when there is a gun on campus, most safety issues are handled by Safety and Security and school administration team without law enforcement involvement. If you need help in staying safe in school, you can reach out to your school security specialist, principal, or the Safety and Security Office at 206-252-0707. (See, Board Policy No. 4311 and Superintendent Procedure No. 4311SP)

## Student Rights

As a member of the school community, you have the right to:

- A safe and welcoming classroom and school;
- Access to a high-quality education and school activities;
- Feel seen, heard, and valued;
- Have your family involved in your education;
- An actively anti-racist education;
- Culturally appropriate support; and
- Request appeal of suspensions and expulsions within five (5) school business days and emergency expulsions within three (3) school business days.

For more information regarding your rights, please refer to page 10 in the Student's Rights and Responsibilities handbook.

## Student Responsibilities

As a member of the school community, you should take personal responsibility to:

- Ask for help when needed;
- Treat others with respect;
- Attend and be prepared for school;
- Follow district and school rules;
- Follow dress code (Board Policy No. 3224); and
- Respect property (Board Policy No. 3520)

For more information regarding your responsibilities, please refer to page 11 in the Student's Rights and Responsibilities handbook.