

2022-23 Code of Conduct Proposed Changes

1. Introduction- Change the order of paragraphs in the introduction to be more welcoming. Move one paragraph to end of the code (page 4)

Add the following as proposed by the equity committee for the board policy on suspension:

Spencerport Central Schools is an equal opportunity educational system and will work to ensure that our curriculum and instructional materials reflect the needs of our students. The responsibility of education throughout the Spencerport learning community involves making connections and providing students opportunities to enhance their personal and academic well-being. Spencerport is responsible for educating each and every student through a culturally responsive approach to provide equity and access for all.

Add the following regarding restorative practices:

The incorporation of Restorative Practices during the 2022-23 school year will provide guideposts for students and staff when code of conduct violations allow for alternative approaches to discipline. When successfully integrated throughout the school culture and climate, Restorative Practices create safe and productive learning spaces where students develop social and emotional skills and strong relationships with peers and adults.

2. Tip Line Page: Add the following information (new page 5)

Getting Help with a Problem

Confidential Tip Line

Ensure Safety for All...Make the Call at 1-877-474-9403. There is no need to leave your name or number. For emergencies, please always call 911.

Use the confidential tip line to report threats of violence, suicide and illegal activity that could harm children in our schools.

How does it work?

A toll-free number has been assigned for our school district. When you dial this number from a touch-tone phone, you will be advised how to leave your information — and not to include your name or other facts that could identify you. Then, record your message.

What type of information should be reported?

Please report any facts, remarks or actions that could jeopardize the safety of our children, staff, or school/ Examples of harmful or threatening behavior might include:

- *Violence*
- *Theft*

- *Drug or alcohol abuse*
- *Talk of Suicide*
- *Sexual Harassment*
- *Weapons*

Who can call this number?

Everyone within our school, including: students, teachers, staff, parents, and administrators.

3. Prohibited Student Behavior-Delete the following sentence (page 24)

4. Possessing a weapon. ~~Authorized law enforcement officials are the only persons permitted to have a weapon in their possession while on school property or at a school event.~~

4. Add the following potential behavioral penalty (page 27):

9. Suspension or revocation of student's access to district computers and Internet connections – principal, assistant principal, or superintendent

5. Mandatory minimum suspension periods removed to allow for restorative practices and Superintendent discretion (beginning page 32)

2. Students who commit violent acts other than bringing a firearm to school

Any student, other than a student with a disability, who is found to have committed a violent act, other than bringing a firearm onto school property, ~~shall~~may be subject to suspension from school ~~for at least two days~~. If the proposed penalty is ~~the minimum a~~ two-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds a five-day suspension, the student and the student's parents will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The principal has the authority to modify the minimum two-day suspension on a case-by-case basis.

3. Students who are repeatedly substantially disruptive of the educational process or repeatedly substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom

Any student, who repeatedly is substantially disruptive of the educational process or substantially interferes with the teacher's authority over the classroom, will may be suspended from school for at least up to five days or a long term suspension may be sought.

For purposes of this code of conduct, "repeatedly and substantially disruptive" means engaging in conduct that results in the student being removed from the classroom by teacher(s) pursuant to Education Law §3214(3-a) and this code on four or more occasions during a semester, or three or more occasions during a trimester.

If the proposed penalty is the minimum five days suspension, the student and the student's Parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for an informal conference given to all students subject to a short-term suspension. If the proposed penalty exceeds the minimum five-day suspension, the student and the student's parent will be given the same notice and opportunity for a hearing given to all students subject to a long-term suspension. The Superintendent has the authority to modify the minimum five day suspension on a case-by-case basis. In deciding whether to modify the penalty, the Superintendent may consider the same factors considered in modifying a one-year suspension for possessing a firearm.

4. Students who possess, sell, distribute or share alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia, or are under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Any student who is in possession of, selling, distributing or sharing alcohol, cannabis (marijuana), an illegal drug including prescription or over the counter medications, mood altering substances, look alike drugs or alcohol, drug paraphernalia including electronic cigarettes (vapes) when a substance other than nicotine is present, or is under the influence of a drug, cannabis (marijuana), or alcohol will be subject to a long term suspension from school.

Before being suspended, the student will have the opportunity for a hearing pursuant to Education Law §3214. Students found guilty as a result of their hearing will be suspended from school typically for five to twenty weeks for a first offense. Second and subsequent offenses will result in long term suspension from school for a minimum of twenty school weeks.

The Superintendent has the authority to modify the suspension on a case-by-case basis.

The principal or designee may communicate with the parent and student regarding the possibility of a program of support for the student if initiated by the Superintendent.