

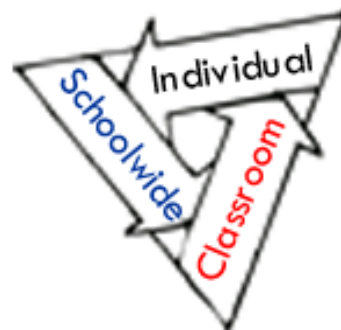
# STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Student discipline is an area where we get lots of questions. Your Contract states that it is recognized that every employee has the right and responsibility to expect acceptable behavior in the maintenance of a sound learning environment on the part of students who attend the district's schools. Applicable state WACs and RCWs are cited. The following elaborates upon those laws.

School district boards of directors are required to adopt policies which restore discipline to the classroom. RCW 28A.600.460 and School Board policy.

Teachers must be allowed to discipline for the following:

- Correcting a student who disrupts normal classroom activities;
- Abuses, or insults a teacher while carrying on his or her official duties;
- Willfully disobeys a teacher;
- Uses abusive or foul language directed at a district employee, school volunteer, or another student;
- Violates school rules; or
- Interferes with an orderly education process.



Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to: oral or written reprimands, written notification to parents of disruptive behavior, a copy of which must be provided to the principal. RCW 28A.600.460.

**Exclusion from Class:** A teacher may exclude from the teacher's classroom or activity area any student who creates a disruption of the educational process or is in violation of the building disciplinary standards while under the teacher's immediate supervision. **The student may be excluded from the classroom for all or any portion of the balance of the school day and two following days or until the principal or designee and the teacher have conferred,** whichever occurs first. Except in emergency situations however, the **teacher must attempt one or more forms of corrective action before excluding the student.** There is no limit to the number of times you use this exclusion, except for students on a behavior IEP. If the student has an IEP for behavior (not just an academic IEP), then you are limited to excluding him or her for up to 10 days per year. **In no event may an excluded student be returned to the instructional area during the balance of the class or activity period without the consent of the teacher.** RCW 28A.600.020.

- **State law requires the school to inform teachers of any incoming transfer student's history** of disciplinary actions, criminal or violent behavior, or other behavior that indicates the student could be a threat to the safety of educational staff or other students. (RCW 28A.225.330)

- **Principals must communicate the disciplinary action taken** by the principal to the school personnel who referred the student to the principal for disciplinary action. (RCW 28A.600.020)
- **A student committing an offense such as an assault, malicious harassment, malicious mischief, or other crimes against a teacher shall not be assigned to that teacher's classroom** for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other school where the teacher is assigned. (RCW 28A.600.460)
- **You have the right to report a student to the police** if that student has threatened or assaulted you. Just because you are a teacher, *you do not give up your rights under the law as a citizen.*

**You have the right to obtain an anti-harassment protection order against a student (or a student's parent)** if those individuals engage in behaviors that are abusive; threatening; seriously alarm, annoy, or harass; or would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress. (RCW 10. 14.020). Harassment of any kind, be it from a student, student's parent, administrator, or colleague is fully covered.

## Vancouver Exclusion Slip

Dear Principal:

I have excluded \_\_\_\_\_ from my classroom for the next two (2) days in accordance with RCW 28A.600.020. This student has created a disruption of the educational process in violation of the building disciplinary standards. I have attempted one or more alternative forms of corrective action.

In no event without my consent, may an excluded student return to my class during the class or activity period for up to the following two days until we have conferred.

Article 10.25 of our contract states that the term confer means that I have had the opportunity to provide input on a plan for disciplining the student, that my input has received full consideration, and your discipline decision was discussed with me before this student returns to my classroom.

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher's name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date