

**San Marcos Unified School District
Middle School Behavior Code 2013-2014**

A behavior code is provided to each student because the students, the parents, and the staff expect and demand a respectful, safe, secure, and orderly campus. These procedures comply with San Marcos Unified School District Policy, as well as state and federal laws, and are based on timely and consistent consequences for conduct which is disruptive to our campus. This behavior code was developed by staff, students and parents. **The San Marcos Unified School District desires to build responsibility, respect for others, respect for the school, and respect for self.**

DEFINITION OF SCHOOL CONSEQUENCES

Detention

A student may be held in a detention room or classroom before school, during lunch or after school. A student receives a detention for choosing to violate school rules. Please see the Student Planner where the infractions are listed.

Thursday PM/Saturday School

Thursday PM/Saturday School assignments are issued to students as a consequence for inappropriate behavior, multiple tardies to class and/or truant to class or school. During the Thursday PM/Saturday School assignment, students write a reflective essay about their behavior and explain how the inappropriate behavior will be changed. Campus cleanup activities may also take place during Thursday PM/Saturday School.

Alternative Learning Center (ALC)

This consequence can be used in place of a one day suspension at home or for less severe infractions than an out of school suspension requires. Students are removed from the regular classes and receive regularly scheduled assignments. If a behavior problem occurs in ALC, a home suspension may result.

Suspension/Expulsion

Suspension or Expulsion will be imposed only when other means of correction fail to bring about proper conduct. However, any student, including students with exceptional needs may be suspended—and possibly expelled—for any of the reasons specified in California Education Code sections 48900 and 48915(a), or if the school determines that the student's presence causes a danger to persons or property or threatens to disrupt the instructional process. A suspension removes a student from campus from one to five days, after which time the student may return. Expulsion, by contrast, is a formal process that entails suspension and a hearing at the District Office to determine if a student will be dismissed from their current educational setting. Students who have been expelled by the Governing Board may not attend any school or program operated by the San Marcos Unified School District until the Governing Board acts to lift the Expulsion. The duration of an Expulsion is the rest of the current semester and the following semester.

Daily/Weekly Performance Agreements

Any student who fails to comply with school and classroom expectations, after teacher and administrative interventions, may be placed on a Daily/Weekly Performance Agreement. Criteria for placing students on performance agreements will be based upon the significance of the violations and/or the number of violations. Any student receiving multiple referrals in a given year may be placed on a performance agreement. Violation of the agreement may result in other consequences.

Suspensions

When a student is suspended from school, he/she has violated CA Education Code 48900. The following infraction descriptions are how the suspensions are decided. All cases recommended for expulsion will be investigated and determined on specific facts.

➤ **Behavior: FIGHTING (48900 Section A)**

Students are expected to seek non-violent and constructive solutions to conflict.

Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person or aiding and abetting in commission of physical injury. Mutual combat fighting means two or more students are both actively involved or engaged in a fight. For example, if an aggressor hits another student, and the "victim" strikes back and becomes engaged in a fight with the aggressor, this is considered mutual combat. Battery is when an aggressor strikes another student and the "victim" does not fight back or when a student willfully used force or violence upon the person. If two students are actively engaged in a fight, but one stops fighting or is unable to fight back, and the second student continues to beat him/her, then this incident has turned into a battery.

Consequences: Students involved in fighting for the first time within a three-year period while enrolled in middle school may be suspended for a period of five days. Additionally, students may be subject to arrest. Mediation and anger

management counseling may be required as a condition of returning to school. Consequences for a second fighting offense while enrolled in middle school: The student may be referred to alternative education for the remainder of the semester of the occurrence plus an additional semester. Students who commit an assault, battery or cause severe injury are subject to arrest and/or referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion.

➤ **Behavior: DANGEROUS OBJECTS** (48900 Section B)

Students are expected to maintain a safe environment in the school free of weapons and/or dangerous objects. Possessed, sold or otherwise furnished any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object unless, in the case of possession of any such object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with concurrence by the Principal or the designee of the Principal.

Definition: Students may not possess any dangerous object, which constitutes a potential threat to the safety and security of the school. Students are hereby informed not to bring any of the following items to campus or any school-related activity (to include but not limited to): gun, BB gun, cap gun, dart gun, pellet gun, spot marker gun, stun gun, model gun, toy gun, squirt gun, replica gun, "zip gun", rifle, model rifle, pistol, revolver, taser, semi-automatic weapon, model semiautomatic weapon, toy semiautomatic weapon, knife, locking blade, switchblade knife, butterfly knife, pocket knife, Swiss Army knife, pen knife, key chain knife, kitchen knife, box knife, exacto-knife, dirk, dagger, ice pick, razor, blades, bombs, pipe bomb, ammunition, time bomb, containers of inflammable fluids, stink bombs that may cause allergic reactions, clubs, Billy-club, black jack, slingshot, nunchaku, sand club, sandbag, metal knuckles. Any metal plate with radiating points with one or more sharp edges, spike jewelry and apparel, safety pins as decoration or apparel, chains (including wallet chains), pepper spray or mace, anything that expels a projectile by force of air or explosion, fireworks or any incendiary devices, lighters, pressurized cartridges, laser pointers, using or flashing of laser pointers, and replica weapons.

Consequences: Students that bring dangerous objects to school may receive up to a five day suspension from school and possible referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion on the first offense. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Mediation or counseling may also be required.

➤ **Behavior: CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES** (48900 Section C & D)

Students are expected to be drug, alcohol and weapon free. Students may not possess, use, sell, be under the influence of, or furnish any amount of controlled substance, alcohol, or intoxicant of any kind. These include, but are not limited to alcoholic beverages, narcotics, marijuana, methamphetamines, inhalants, hallucinogens, abused use of prescription drugs or over-the-counter medication including cough medicine. All prescription and over-the-counter medication must remain in the possession of the school nurse. In addition, students may not offer, arrange or negotiate to sell any of the above and then furnish a substitute item intended to represent the controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.

Consequences: Students found in possession of, or use alcohol, marijuana, intoxicants or any controlled substance, while under the school's jurisdiction may be suspended for up to five days. Upon returning to school after the suspension, the student and parent/guardian will sign "A Return to School Drug/Alcohol Agreement" and the student will be placed in a school counseling group. If the student has committed a previous alcohol, marijuana, intoxicant, or controlled substance infraction, or if the student commits another controlled substance infraction, he/she may be referred to the Governing Board for mandatory Expulsion. Students who are in possession of more than an ounce of marijuana may be suspended for up to five days and may be referred to the Governing Board for Expulsion on the first offense, and law enforcement may be contacted. False Representation: Students who provide other persons with an item intended to represent any alcohol, intoxicant, marijuana, or controlled substance product may receive the same consequences as someone who furnishes a controlled substance/intoxicant.

➤ **Behavior: ROBBERY** (48900 Section E)

Students are expected to respect the property of others. Students may not commit or attempt to commit robbery or extortion. This includes the theft of any property not belonging to student or any attempt made to force or create fear in others while attempting to or stealing property belonging to someone else.

Consequences: The consequences for robbery or extortion may range from suspension to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. The student and/or parent/guardian may be responsible for returning the stolen property or for full payment of the property. In addition, law enforcement will be contacted. Appropriate intervention counseling or campus projects may be part of this process. **Video surveillance may be used to protect some vulnerable or high-risk areas on campus.**

➤ **Behavior: DAMAGE TO PROPERTY** (48900 Section F)

Students are expected to respect the property of others.

Consequences: The consequences for attempting to cause or causing damage to other's property will range from suspension to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. The student and/or parent/guardian will be responsible for payment for the damage. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling or campus projects may be part of this process, as well as campus beautification. **Video surveillance may be used to protect some vulnerable or high-risk areas.**

➤ **Behavior: THEFT** (48900 Section G)

Students are expected to respect the property of others.

Consequences: The consequences for theft may range from suspension and arrest to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. Theft of electronic devices may result in suspension and may result in arrest. The student and/or parent/guardian will be responsible for returning the stolen property or for full payment of the property. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling or campus projects may be part of this process, as well as campus beautification. **Video surveillance may be used to protect some vulnerable or high-risk areas on campus.**

➤ **Behavior: TOBACCO** (48900 Section H)

Students are expected to live healthy life-styles. Students may not possess or use tobacco, or any products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel.

Consequences: Students found in possession or who use tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine may receive the following consequences: First offense within a three-year period while enrolled at a SMUSD Middle School: the student may be suspended for a maximum of five days and/or referred to a school counseling program. Consequences for a second offense: The student will be suspended for five days. In addition, law enforcement will be contacted with any tobacco referral.

➤ **Behavior: OBSCENITY, PROFANITY & VULGARITY** (48900 Section I)

Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect and to practice responsible and honest behavior. Students may not engage in obscene acts or engage in habitual profanity or vulgarity, which includes: writing, speaking, gesturing or acting in contempt of sacred or holy things, or using foul or coarse language.

Consequences: The consequences for engaging in obscene acts or habitual profanity or vulgarity may range from Detention to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. Appropriate counseling or campus projects may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: PARAPHERNALIA** (48900 Section J)

Students are expected to live healthy life-styles and to be drug, and alcohol free. Students may not possess, offer, arrange, or negotiate to sell any drug paraphernalia as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code. Examples of paraphernalia include, but are not limited to, pipes, bongs, roach clips, rolling papers, and any other devices used in conjunction with illicit substances.

Consequences: Students who possess, offer, arrange, or negotiate to sell drug paraphernalia will receive consequences ranging from a five day suspension to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. A second offense may result in a referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: DEFIANCE AND DISRUPTION** (48900 Section K)

Students are expected to follow all school rules and respect the authority and direction of school staff; to behave in a safe and orderly manner; to maintain a safe environment in the school; and to treat all members of the school community with respect. Students may not be defiant, disruptive, disrespectful, or deceptive (refuse to provide name or ID card). These behaviors negatively impact the orderly operations of classroom or general educational environment of the school.

Consequences: Students who defy the directions of a school employee or disrupt the orderly operation of any school related activity may receive consequences ranging from ALC through referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, students who run from or attempt to evade a school official may be referred to alternative education on the first offense. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: RECEIVING STOLEN PROPERTY** (48900 Section L)

Students are expected to respect the property of others.

Consequences: Possession or receipt of stolen property is considered a felony. Students who knowingly receive stolen property may be suspended and may be referred to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: POSSESSED AN IMITATION FIREARM (48900 Section M)**

Students are expected to maintain a safe environment in the school and to be weapon free. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm and leads a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm. This includes pellet guns, BB guns, and other "toy" guns which may be mistaken for a real firearm. Also this includes replica ammunition that could be mistaken for actual ammunition.

Consequences: Students may receive suspension and possible referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion on the first offense. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: COMMIT OR ATTEMPT TO COMMIT SEXUAL ASSAULT OR SEXUAL BATTERY (48900 Section N)**

Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect. As used in this section, sexual assault includes any sexual acts performed against the victim's will by means of force, violence, threats, or duress, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury on the victim. As used in this section, sexual battery means intentionally touching the breasts, buttocks, or groin area of another person without his/her consent.

Consequences: Students may receive suspension and referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion on the first offense. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. This is a mandatory Expulsion (Education Code 48915 c).

➤ **Behavior: HARASSED, THREATENED, OR INTIMIDATED A PUPIL WHO IS A WITNESS (48900 Section O)**

Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect. Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.

Consequences: Suspension and possible referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion on the first offense. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: FURNISHING OR SELLING SOMA (48900 Section P)**

Students are expected to live healthy life-styles and to be drug and alcohol free. Students may not unlawfully offer, arrange to sell, negotiate to sell, or sell the prescription drug Soma.

Consequences: Students who unlawfully offer, arrange to sell, negotiate to sell, or sell the prescription drug Soma may receive consequences ranging from suspension to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: HAZING (48900 Section Q)**

Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect. Students may not engage in, or attempt to engage in hazing.

Consequences: The consequences for engaging in hazing may range from Thursday PM/Saturday School to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: SEXUAL HARASSMENT (48900.2)**

Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect. Students may not engage in conduct constituting sexual harassment such as, but not limited to, unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature, including harassment for sexual orientation or gender identity severe enough to have a negative impact upon another student's academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment. Any student wishing to make a complaint of sexual harassment should immediately report it to an Assistant Principal or a Counselor. Complaints must be initiated no later than six months from the date of the initial problem.

Consequences: The consequences for sexual harassment may range from a warning through referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process. A student's class schedule may be changed to limit contact with the student being harassed.

➤ **Behavior: HATE VIOLENCE (48900.3)**

Students may not cause, attempt to cause, threaten to cause, or participate in an act of hate violence as defined in Ed Code 33032.5. This includes, but is not limited to, any verbal, visual, or physical injuring or intimidating behavior associated with anger towards other persons based upon race, color, ancestry, national origin, disability, gender, sexual orientation or gender identity, or religious preference. This includes racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, and religious slurs.

Consequences: The consequences for hate violence will range from suspension through referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: HARASSMENT, THREATS, INTIMIDATION & BULLYING (48900.4)**

Students are not to ridicule, harass, humiliate, or intimidate another student or district personnel while on school grounds, at a school sponsored activity, while traveling to and from school, on a school bus, or during any activity related to school attendance. A behavior that is unwanted or unwelcomed or is repeated over time and constitutes sexual harassment, hate violence, or creates an intimidating or hostile educational environment falls under the category of bullying.

Consequences: Detention to possible referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion on the first offense may occur. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect. Students may not intentionally engage in bullying behavior such as harassment, threats, or intimidation directed against any other student(s), that is severe enough to disrupt class work, create disorder, and invade the rights of the other student(s) by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This includes verbal, non-verbal, and physical acts. Some of these activities would include symbols that are considered to be gang, hate, racially motivated, or sexual orientation slurs.

Consequences: The consequences for harassing, threatening or intimidating behavior may range from suspension through referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

➤ **Behavior: TERRORIST THREATS (48900.7)**

Students are expected to treat all members of the school community with respect. Students may not make terrorist threats against school officials and/or property as defined in AB 307, Chapter 405. These acts include any written or oral statement by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in great bodily injury, death, or property damage in excess of \$1000 with the specific intent that the statement is taken as a threat, even if there is not intent of actually carrying it out.

Consequences: The consequences for terrorist threats will range from suspension to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

LIST OF SUSPENDABLE AND EXPELLABLE OFFENSES

The following list of offenses may result in Suspension, referral to Alternative Education, arrest, and/or expulsion from the San Marcos Unified School District. All cases recommended for Expulsion will be investigated and determined on specific facts.

MANDATORY Recommendation of Expulsion: (Education Code 48915c)

- Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm.
- Brandishing a knife at another person.
- Selling a controlled substance/alcohol
- Committing or attempting to commit sexual assault
- Possession of an explosive

QUASI-MANDATORY/PERMISSIVE Recommendation of Expulsion: (Education Code 48900-48915a)

- ❖ The Governing Board is required to make an additional finding that either of the following conditions exists:
- ❖ Other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct. That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the pupil causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the pupil or others.

- Fighting or causing physical injury or assault or battery on a school employee
- Possession of weapons, knives, explosives, dangerous object(s) of no reasonable use to a student
- Possession or use of a controlled substance, alcohol, intoxicant, or paraphernalia
- Offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a substance represented to be a controlled substance
- Committed robbery, extortion, or theft
- Vandalism to school property or private property
- Display of graffiti or creating graffiti
- Possession or use of tobacco
- Excessive use of profanity or repeated vulgarity
- Possession of an imitation firearm
- Defiance or disruption of school activities
- Possession of stolen property
- Sexual harassment or obscene acts
- Racial slurs or hate violence
- Intimidation or harassment of students, witnesses or staff members
- Intentional terrorist harassment, threats or intimidation against school staff or property
- Aiding or abetting a person who injures/attempts to injure others

The jurisdiction for all school rules will be enforced while on school grounds; while coming to or going from school; during school hours whether on or off campus, while truant from school, and during or while coming to or going from a school-sponsored activity. (Education Code 48900 & 48915)

SEARCHES AND SEIZURES

The law provides school officials with wide latitude to search students and their possessions in the ongoing effort to maintain a safe and secure campus. Some of this effort may involve the use of surveillance cameras in public areas of the campus that are considered to be high risk for improper activity. Professionally trained detection dogs are also used for random searches in classrooms and lockers. In addition, items left unsecured or unattended on school grounds may be confiscated and inspected by school officials. To decrease theft and vandalism in the P.E. locker rooms, any items left in gym lockers during and after P.E. class may be confiscated and inspected by school personnel. School officials are not required to notify parents prior to conducting a search or questioning a student, however, parents will be notified that a search has taken place.

When a school official has reasonable suspicion that a student may be in possession of contraband or dangerous objects, the student will be asked to empty all pockets, remove shoes and socks, and provide the official access to other personal items (backpacks, lockers) that may contain contraband or dangerous objects. Reasonable suspicion may also warrant school officials' use of a metal detector to identify concealed weapons or a breathalyzer to determine if a student is under the influence of alcohol. It is hoped that all students will be cooperative, as school officials will make every attempt to be unobtrusive and respectful of privacy. Students should be aware that grounds for suspicion commonly include being out of bounds without permission or a report by another student, parent or staff member of possession of contraband or dangerous objects or unusual behavior. Students should also be aware that any contraband or dangerous objects found in their possession would be assumed to belong to them. If a student should discover contraband or dangerous objects on campus, he/she should go directly to an assistant principal or other staff member and turn it over without delay.

OTHER BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

ATHLETIC EVENTS AND DANCES

Extracurricular events are an important part of the middle school experience. The staff wants to provide an atmosphere where students and parents will feel there is a secure environment. Extra-curricular attendance is a privilege rather than an automatic right. Students who have attendance, academic or disciplinary issues may not be allowed to attend extra-curricular activities. The following conditions must also be met:

1. All students must have a school picture ID card.
2. Students are not allowed to bring open containers to extracurricular events.
3. Students may not leave and then return to an event.
4. No loitering is allowed around the entrances or grounds of an event.
5. Dances are only open to the students of that school.
6. Students shall not participate in 'freaking' or sexually explicit dancing. (If students persist in this behavior, they will be removed from the dance and parent will be contacted.)

7. The school's dress code applies for all extracurricular activities.
8. Students must attend school to be permitted to attend or participate in athletic events and dances on the same day.

Consequences: Penalties will range from warning to referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. This range may include removal from an event or loss of attendance privileges at extra curricular events.

ATTENDANCE

State law requires pupils to attend their assigned classes every day school is in session. Any student missing more than 12 days for any one class in a semester may not receive a passing grade for that class. All absences not cleared by a note, or parent phone call to the Attendance Office within 72 hours, will be considered truant and the student may be assigned a Thursday PM/Saturday School. The absence must be cleared for the truancy to be removed. Parent requests for early dismissal or late arrival due to medical appointments and family emergencies will be permitted. The student must be signed out from the Attendance Office by an adult listed on the student's emergency card prior to leaving campus.

Excused Absence/Tardy: (Make up work allowed)

- a. Personal illness
- b. Serious illness or death in the immediate family
- c. Medical and dental appointments
- d. Funerals
- e. Call to court/detained by law enforcement
- f. Religion

Consequences: Students with unexcused absences may be referred to an Assistant Principal for interventions and attendance make-up through Thursday PM/Saturday School. Excessive unexcused absences/truancies may result in referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB).

Independent Study Contracts: Students who face extended absence should inquire in the Assistant Principal's office about Independent Study Contracts. Study contracts are to be requested two weeks in advance prior to the student's leave of absence. No study contracts will be given within the last month before final exams.

BICYCLES, SKATEBOARDS, ROLLER SKATES, SCOOTERS

Bicycles, skateboards, scooters, and skates are used by some students for transportation to and from school. Once the school grounds are reached by the student, bicycles, skateboards, scooters, and skates may not be used for transportation on campus at any time. Parking for transportation items is provided. Bikes should be locked in the bike racks. Skateboards and scooters must be locked in skateboard lockers. All bike riders, skateboarders, roller skaters and scooter riders must wear a helmet while in transport on these vehicles. Consequences may occur if the student chooses not to wear a helmet.

Consequences: Penalties may range from warning through suspension and a citation by the School Resource Officer. The transportation item may be confiscated and the parent will be notified to retrieve the item from school.

CHEATING

Acts of academic dishonesty, which will not be tolerated within the San Marcos Unified School District, are listed below:

- Cheating on tests or theft and alteration of materials including homework
- Fabrication (any intentional falsification or invention of date, citation, or other authority in an academic exercise)
- Unauthorized collaboration
- Plagiarism (stealing and passing off as one's own the words or ideas of another)

Consequences: Any student involved in academic dishonesty will receive a zero on the work with no make-up permitted. Further penalty may be assessed depending on the nature of the cheating.

CLEAN CAMPUS

Trash and garbage should be placed in trash cans.

Consequences: Students who leave litter may be asked to perform ecology duty, on first offense. If a student does not want to complete ecology duty, a Lunch Detention may be assigned. Students may receive discipline for defiance on their second offense.

CLOSED CAMPUS/GUESTS/OFF-CAMPUS PASSES

All schools in the San Marcos Unified School District are closed campuses. This means that students may not leave the campus until their school day has been completed. In emergencies, parents must call the Attendance Office and make arrangements for the students to leave early. Students who need to leave campus during the school day must obtain a permit to leave through the Attendance Office in advance. Only persons conducting school business may be on campus and must immediately check in at the Administration Office. Students are not to bring guests to school to visit as this tends to be disruptive to the educational process, is a security issue and an added liability to the school.

Consequences: Students who leave campus during the school day without a permit will receive normal consequences for truancy and are subject to search if they return to campus.

COMPUTER/INTERNET ETHICS

Only students who have turned in parent permission to use the internet will have access to the internet. All students must follow the classroom teacher's directions regarding the internet and websites to use.

Consequences: First offense may result in a suspension. Further offenses may result in the removal of internet access for the remainder of the semester and further investigation by school administration.

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLICATION

No publication may be distributed on the school campus without the prior approval of the school administration. This includes school magazines, school newspapers, and fliers.

Consequences: Penalties may range from ALC to out of school suspension.

DRESS CODE

The middle schools in the SMUSD are environments for learning and business. Student dress and appearance should reflect this image. Students are expected to exercise good judgment and good taste regarding their dress and grooming so as not to disrupt the educational environment. Footwear must be worn at all times while the student is at school or at school sponsored activities. No flip-flops are allowed on campus. Clothing must be clean and in good repair. Pants are to be worn at waist level. The tops worn by both males and females should adequately cover the chest area and not expose excessive chest, cleavage or the midriff area. Female tops cannot allow bra straps to be seen. Skirts and shorts must be of appropriate length and provide adequate coverage when student is in both standing and sitting positions. In summary, clothing cannot expose body parts or be revealing and students should look like students while they are at school.

No gang-related signs, belts, insignia, colors or distinctive modes of dress are allowed on campus or at school sponsored activities. Clothing may not display profane, violent, obscene, or sexual based language or pictures or sexual based numbers such as "69" or other gang or hate related numbers, ethnic, or sexist slurs; identification of any alcoholic or tobacco product or message which names or pictures drugs, drug use, or drug slang of any type. Lakers, Dodger, Raiders, Padres, SD, Chargers and LA clothing or symbols are prohibited unless specified by the site administrator. Spike jewelry, belt buckles with initials, chains (including wallet chains) and bandanas are not allowed. During cold weather, gloves of all kinds are not allowed during school hours. Gloves will be allowed to be worn to and from school, but must be removed before the first period bell. Hoods on jackets are not allowed to be worn on jackets for the purpose of student identification.

All headgear is prohibited on campus. If a hat is required for sun protection, a school approved cap will be made available at a nominal fee. Headgear includes, but is not limited to, all caps, hats, beanies, bandannas, headbands, scarves and visors.

Examples of inappropriate clothing include: Strapless tops, halter tops, swimming attire, pajama clothing, tops that expose midriff skin, back-less shirts, tube tops, spaghetti strap tops, off the shoulder tops, crop tops, and sleeveless undershirts. Undergarments must be covered at all times.

Consequences: The clothing item may be exchanged for an appropriate top or bottom or the student's parent may be called to bring in appropriate clothing. Penalties will progress from 1st: Warning, 2nd: Detention, 3rd: Thursday

PM/Saturday School, 4th or more: ALC and/or out of school suspension. Gang-related symbols may result in suspension on the first event.

EXCESSIVE DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION

Excessive displays of affection are inappropriate on school grounds or at school sponsored activities. Public displays of affection are limited to hand holding on all middle school campuses.

Consequences: Penalties may range from warning, parent notification and ALC.

FINES

Books and school property are to be treated with care. Loss, damage, defacing or vandalism may result in a fine equal to the value of the damage or loss. The fine is to be paid by the student or parent within 30 days.

Consequences: Failure to pay fines may result in withholding of all grades, promotion certificate, yearbooks, dance tickets and extra-curricular events until such obligations and charges are paid.

GANG-RELATED ACTIONS

Gang-related signs, belts, belt buckles, insignia, colors, tattoos or distinctive modes of dress are unacceptable on campus or at school sponsored activities. Pants are to be worn at waist level. Graffiti, tagging, and graffiti instruments are prohibited on campus. Graffiti instruments include, but are not limited to, permanent markers, Sharpies, etching devices, and spray paint. (No SD, San Diego, Chargers, Padres, Dodgers, LA, Los Angeles, Raiders, Lakers gear, stickers or writing are allowed unless specified by the site administrator.)

Consequences: The consequences will follow those in the suspension Ed Code 48900.4 that were listed earlier and may range from suspension through referral to the Governing Board for Expulsion. In addition, law enforcement may be contacted. Appropriate counseling may be part of this process.

GUM AND/OR SUNFLOWER SEEDS

Students are not allowed to chew or possess gum or sunflower seeds on campus at any time.

Consequences: Penalties may range from campus beatification through suspension.

CAMPUS PASSES

Students out of class, for any reason, during the instructional period must have a campus pass in their possession.

Consequences: Penalties may range from detention through suspension.

OUT OF BOUNDS

Students are expected to remain in areas where adequate supervision is provided by administrators, teachers, teachers' aides or campus supervisors. This means that designated areas of the campus are closed to students during assemblies, breaks, lunch and extra-curricular activities. Out-of-Bounds areas include, but are not limited to, parking lots, bike racks, athletic fields, private property and areas surrounding the campus. Boundary lines are clearly marked and labeled. All students are to remain on campus during the school day unless special permission has been granted by the Administration.

Consequences: Students returning from an out-of-bounds area are subject to search. Penalties will range from Thursday PM/Saturday School to suspension.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR

Every student has the right to an appropriate and orderly learning environment. Any behavior in class, which results in the loss of academic learning time, is considered a disruption.

Consequences: At the first behavioral disruption the teacher gives the student a verbal warning and contacts the parent by phone to discuss the behavior. The teacher has the option of assigning a detention by notifying the parent and the Assistant Principal's office.

At the second behavioral disruption, the teacher may have the student removed from the class and send a referral to the Assistant Principal's office detailing the behavior infraction and date of first parent contact. The Assistant Principal will meet with the student, may assign a consequence and notify the parent.

If a third behavioral disruption occurs, the student will be referred to the Assistant Principal's office, parents will be contacted and the student will be removed from class so as not to disrupt the education of the other students. As possible alternatives the student may be placed in ALC.

If a student is disrupting the learning in class or exhibiting unsafe behaviors, the teacher will call the office for campus security. The campus security personnel consults with the student who will choose to remain in class while following all rules or be escorted to the office. In either case, a parent will be called by the teacher or an administrator.

TARDIES

Students are expected to arrive promptly to every class – everyday. Middle schools expect that all students will be seated and ready to learn when the bell rings. When students arrive late to class, instruction is disrupted for all other students.

TRUANCY

Every student is expected to attend school daily and be on time for class. If a student is absent from class without a valid excuse or leaves class without the teacher's permission, he/she is considered truant.

Consequences: Parent is notified of the truancy and a Thursday PM/Saturday School may be assigned. Habitual truancy will result in a suspension from school and a referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). The SARB process is controlled by the juvenile court system and may result in a court appearance, fine and/or a weekend in a juvenile detention facility.

POSSESSION OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Cellular phones, iPods or other electronic devices are not permitted to be in audible mode while students are in class. Students must understand they will not be given permission to leave class in order to answer a phone call or text message. The school will not investigate or be responsible for loss or theft of electronic devices. The use of CD players or other electronic devices is prohibited during class time. Students may not record, video, or take a picture of another student or staff without prior written consent. Any student who takes a photo or video of another student in a bathroom or locker room may be suspended, and may be recommended for expulsion. Students who send inappropriate text messages or photos may be subject to disciplinary consequences including suspension or recommendation for expulsion.

Consequences: Items may be retained in the Assistant Principals' office for pickup at the end of the student's school day. At teacher or administrator request, a parent/guardian may be required to pick up the student's electronic device. If these devices interfere with the educational process the student may receive a referral and the device will be taken to the office. Students must understand they will not be given permission to leave class to answer a phone call. The school will not be responsible for loss or theft of electronic devices. As a precaution, students are strongly encouraged to write down all serial numbers and etch items with the student's ID on CD players, video games, cameras, MP3 players, iPods and cell phones. Cell phones and iPods are allowed to be used before and after school, but not during class time. Ear buds must be put away and not visible during class time.

ACTIVITIES AND INTERVENTIONS TO MODIFY STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND/OR INCREASE ACADEMIC SUCCESS:

Student Study Team (Meeting with student, parent, teachers, counselor, administration to discuss options)

- Counselor Mediation
- Unplugged
- Safe Groups
- Anti-Bullying Program
- Community based Family Counseling
- School Resource Officer (San Diego County Sheriff's Department)
- School Attendance Review Team (SART)
- School Attendance Review Board (SARB)
- School based Discipline: Warning, Detention, In-School Suspension, Thursday PM/Saturday School, Out of School Suspension
- AVID
- School based Counseling

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