

1 All decisions by the Transylvania County Board of Education (the “board”) related to student
2 behavior are guided by the board’s educational objective to teach responsibility and respect for
3 cultural and ideological differences and by the board’s commitment to creating safe, orderly, and
4 inviting schools. Student behavior policies are provided in order to establish (1) expected
5 standards of student behavior; (2) principles to be followed in managing student behavior; (3)
6 consequences for prohibited behavior—~~or drug/alcohol policy violations~~; and (4) required
7 procedures for addressing misbehavior.

9 A. PRINCIPLES

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11 The reasons for managing student behavior are to (1) create an orderly environment in
12 which students can learn; (2) teach expected standards of behavior; (3) help students
13 learn to accept the consequences of their behavior; and (4) provide students with the
14 opportunity to develop self-control. The following principles apply in managing student
15 behavior.

- 16
17 1. Student behavior management strategies will complement other efforts to create a
18 safe, orderly, and inviting environment.
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20 2. Positive behavioral interventions will be employed as appropriate to improve
21 student behavior.
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23 3. Responsibility, integrity, civility, and other standards of behavior will be
24 integrated into the curriculum.
- 25
26 4. Disruptive behavior in the classroom will not be tolerated.
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28 5. Consequences for unacceptable behavior will be designed to help a student learn
29 to comply with rules, to be respectful, to accept responsibility for his or her
30 behavior, and to develop self-control.
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32 6. Strategies and consequences will be age and developmentally appropriate.

34 B. COMMUNICATION OF POLICIES

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36 Board policies related to student behavior are codified mainly in the 4300 series. The
37 superintendent shall incorporate information from such policies into a Code of Student
38 Conduct that notifies students of the behavior expected of them, conduct that may subject
39 them to discipline, and the range of disciplinary measures that may be used by school
40 officials. At the discretion of the superintendent, the Code of Student Conduct may
41 include additional rules needed to implement the board’s student behavior policies. ~~Each~~
42 ~~school shall create a student behavior management plan that will~~ To elaborate further on
43 processes for addressing student misbehavior and the use of intervention strategies and
44 consequences, **each school will create a student behavior management plan that is**

45 consistent with the law, board policies, and the Code of Student Conduct (see policy
46 4302, School Plan for Management of Student Behavior). The Code of Student Conduct
47 must incorporate by reference any additional student behavior standards, prohibited
48 conduct, or disciplinary measures identified in individual school student behavior
49 management plans developed by individual schools in accordance with policy 4302,
50 provided such measures are consistent with law and board policy. The Code of Student
51 Conduct must not impose mandatory long-term suspension or expulsion for specific
52 violations unless otherwise provided in state or federal law.
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54 At the beginning of each school year, principals shall make available to each student and
55 parent all of the following: (1) the Code of Student Conduct; (2) any board policies
56 related to behavior that are not part of the Code of Conduct; (3) any related
57 administrative procedures; (4) any additional discipline-related information from the
58 school's student behavior management plan, including behavior standards, prohibited
59 conduct, or disciplinary measures; and (5) any other school rules. This information must
60 be available at other times upon request and must be made available to students enrolling
61 during the school year and their parents.
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63 For the purpose of board policies related to student behavior, all references to "parent"
64 include a parent, a legal guardian, a legal custodian, or another caregiver adult authorized
65 to enroll a student under policy 4120, Domicile or Residence Requirements.
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67 C. APPLICABILITY

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69 Students must comply with the Code of Student Conduct in the following circumstances:
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- 71 1. while in any school building or on any school premises before, during, or after
72 school hours;
- 73 2. while on any bus or other vehicle as part of any school activity;
- 74 3. while waiting at any school bus stop;
- 75 4. during any school-sponsored activity or extracurricular activity;
- 76 5. when subject to the authority of school employees; and
77
- 78 6. at any other place or time when the student's behavior has or is reasonably
79 expected to have a direct and immediate impact on the orderly and efficient
80 operation of the schools or the safety of individuals in the school environment.
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82 Notwithstanding the foregoing, students will not be disciplined for constitutionally
83 protected behavior. School officials are encouraged to consult with senior administrators
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86
87

88 before regulating student expression that may be protected by the First Amendment to the
89 U.S. Constitution.

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91 **D. CONSEQUENCES FOR VIOLATIONS**

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93 Violations of the Code of Student Conduct must be dealt with in accordance with the
94 guidelines established in the school's behavior management plan (see policy 4302,
95 School Plan for Management of Student Behavior).

96
97 1. Minor Violations

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99 Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct are those less severe infractions
100 involving a lower degree of dangerousness and harm. Examples of minor
101 violations include the use of inappropriate or disrespectful language,
102 noncompliance with a staff directive, dress code violations, and minor physical
103 altercations that do not involve a weapon or an injury. Aggravating
104 circumstances, however, may justify treating an otherwise minor violation as a
105 serious violation.

106
107 Minor violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in disciplinary
108 measures or responses up to and including short-term suspension. Further
109 information regarding the procedures for short-term suspensions is provided in
110 policy 4351, Short-Term Suspension. Other disciplinary measures or responses
111 may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 112
113 a. parental involvement, such as conferences;
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115 b. isolation or time-out for short periods of time;
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117 c. behavior improvement agreements;
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119 d. instruction in conflict resolution and anger management;
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121 e. peer mediation;
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123 f. individual or small group sessions with the school counselor;
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125 g. academic intervention;
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127 h. in-school suspension;
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129 i. detention before and/or after school or on Saturday;
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131 j. community service;

- 132
133 k. exclusion from graduation ceremonies;
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135 l. exclusion from extracurricular activities;
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137 m. suspension from bus privileges; and
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139 n. placement in an alternative school.
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141 The **student's** parent ~~or guardian~~ is responsible for transportation that may be
142 required to carry out a consequence. With the exception of suspension from bus
143 privileges, if a parent ~~or guardian~~ is unable to provide transportation, another
144 consequence will be substituted.
145

146 2. Serious Violations
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148 Serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct may result in any of the
149 consequences that may be imposed for minor violations. In addition, serious
150 violations that threaten to substantially disrupt the educational environment may
151 result in long-term suspension, and serious violations that threaten the safety of
152 students, school employees, or school visitors may result in long-term suspension
153 or expulsion. Certain violations involving firearms or explosive devices may
154 result in a 365-day suspension. Further information regarding the standards and
155 procedures for long-term suspensions, 365-day suspensions and expulsions is
156 provided in policies 4351, Short-Term Suspension, and 4353, Long-Term
157 Suspension, 365-Day Suspension, Expulsion. (See also policy 4333, Weapons,
158 Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety, for information
159 regarding 365-day suspensions for certain violations involving firearms or
160 explosive devices.)
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162 **E. ENFORCEMENT**
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164 The superintendent is responsible for supervising the enforcement of the Code of Student
165 Conduct to ensure that school disciplinary policies are uniformly and fairly applied
166 throughout the school system **and consistent with students' constitutional rights**.
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168 Legal References: **U.S. Const. amend. I; *Mahanoy Area School Dist. v. B.L.*, 594 U.S. ___, 141**
169 **S. Ct. 2038 (2021); G.S. 115C-47, -276(r), -288, -307, -390.1, -390.2**
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171 Cross References: Goals and Objectives of the Educational Program (policy 3000), Counseling
172 Program (policy 3610), Domicile or Residence Requirements (policy 4120), Student Behavior
173 policies (4300 series)
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175 Adopted: December 18, 2017

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177 Revised: [DATE]

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