

Title:	Student Discipline	Related Policies:	
Number:		Related Procedures:	
Status:	Active	Adopted: Approved	
Owner:	L. Afani T. Blair	Accounting:	
Last Revised:	6-19-09	Legal:	O.C.G.A. 20-2-737-738 O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-1184 and 19-7-5, 160-4-8-.16, FCS JD
Policy Detail			

Amana Academy supports all students' rights to learn. To do so, each student must be in a school climate that is satisfying and productive without disruptive behavior by any student infringing upon the rights of others.

Therefore, it is the policy of Amana Academy to implement an age-appropriate student code of conduct designed to improve the student learning environment by improving student behavior and discipline. The code of conduct will comply with state law and state board of education rules and will include the following:

1. Standards for student behavior designed to create the expectation that all students will behave themselves in such a way so as to facilitate a learning environment for themselves and other students. The standards should be designed also to encourage students to respect each other, school system employees and any other persons attending school functions, and to motivate students to obey student behavior policies adopted by this Board and to obey student behavior rules established at Amana Academy;
2. Student support processes designed to consider, as appropriate in light of the severity of the behavioral problem may assist students to address behavioral problems;
3. Progressive discipline processes designed to create the expectation that the degree of discipline imposed will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior leading to the discipline and will take into account the previous discipline history of the student and other relevant factors, while ensuring that each student receives the due process mandated by federal and state law;
4. Parental involvement processes designed to enable parents, guardians, teachers and school administrators to work together to improve and enhance student behavior and academic performance. The process should enable parents, guardians and school employees to communicate freely their concerns about student behaviors which detract from the learning environment.

The code of conduct should require disciplinary action for infractions of the code. Also, parents should be involved in developing and updating a code of conduct.

The student code of conduct should be distributed to each student and the student's parents or guardians at the beginning of the school year and upon enrollment of each new student. The parents/guardians will be requested to sign an acknowledgment of the receipt of the code of conduct and promptly return the acknowledgment to the school within in 10 business days of the start of the school year. The student code of conduct should be available in the school office and each classroom.

TEACHER REPORTING INFORMATION

A teacher has the authority, consistent with Board policy and applicable law, to manage his or her classroom, discipline students, and refer a student to the Administrator or designee to maintain discipline in the classroom. Any teacher who has knowledge that a student has exhibited behavior which violates the student code of conduct and repeatedly or substantially interferes with the teacher's ability to communicate effectively with the students in the class or with the ability of such student's classmates to learn should file a report of such behavior with the Administrator or designee. The Administrator and teacher should thereafter follow the procedures set forth in Georgia law, specifically O.C.G.A. 20-2-737-738.

DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES

The decision to charge a student for violation of this Code of Conduct shall be made by the administration of Amana Academy. Once it has been determined that a rule(s) was violated, the administrator will follow a progressive discipline process. The degree of discipline to be imposed will be in proportion to the severity of the behavior of the particular student and will take into account the student's discipline history, the age of the student and other relevant factors. Disciplinary hearings "tribunal" or informal hearings may result in short-term suspension, long-term suspension, or expulsion. In addition to discipline, behaviors may also be reported to law enforcement at the Administration's discretion and as required by law, including O.C.G.A. §§ 20-2-1184 and 19-7-5. Major offenses including, but not limited to drug and weapons offenses, can lead to schools being named as an Unsafe School according to the provisions of State Board Rule 160-4-8-.16.

Student behavior which violates state or federal laws as specified in O.C.G.A. 20-2-1184 will result in a report being filed with the police and district attorney.

The Executive Director and/or designee shall develop procedures and guidelines as necessary for implementation of this policy and law