

Saint John Brebeuf Regional Secondary School

Enforcement of Policies and Regulations

Rationale

The objective of the discipline policy is to maintain an atmosphere conducive to the effective operation of the school community as well as to encourage the growth of self-discipline in each student. The administration of discipline is the responsibility of the teacher, the school Administration or, in extreme circumstances, the Education Committee as appropriate.

Reasons for Disciplinary Sanctions

The primary reason for the assigning of any disciplinary sanction such as detention, reflective writing, community service, or expulsion is that students must understand that certain behaviour is inappropriate and unacceptable in relation to the community we are attempting to build and foster at SJB. All actions have a consequence either positive or negative, and responsibility must be accepted when behaviour violates what the community has established as the code of conduct for its members. Sanctions assigned prior to expulsion are intended to make it clear to students and their parents that such behaviour or other serious violations of school policy must not happen again. It is the desire of the school that the student being disciplined will learn from the consequence and grow to become a positive contributor to the school community. If the behaviour does occur again, then the student is making a choice about continuing as a member of the community.

Examples of the type of conduct requiring disciplinary sanctions are:

- bullying and harassment
- possession of weapons
- gang or criminal activity
- theft or vandalism
- interference
- smoking
- influence of, possession of, or trafficking of alcohol, drugs or other substances of abuse

Disciplinary Options and Actions

a. Detentions

Detentions are issued for minor infractions of school rules. Detentions are served in the classroom of the teacher issuing the detention. Community service activities may be assigned in lieu of or in addition to detention as reparation for minor infractions.

b. Disciplinary Referral

A referral will be issued by teachers and given to the office for significant or repeat violations of school rules. With serious or repeat offences, parents will be asked to meet with the Administration.

The following is a joint policy statement from Principals and Pastors of CISVA High Schools:

There will be no tolerance for serious infractions of school or CISCA policy. Any misconduct deemed serious will always result in disciplinary action and may result in suspension or expulsion from the school. When practicable, parents will be notified that a suspension or expulsion is under consideration.

Suspension

A student may be suspended if:

- the misconduct is serious, in and of itself and/or
- the accumulation of minor misconducts warrants further disciplinary action

For a student to be reinstated following a suspension;

- The student must accept responsibility for his/her misconduct(s)
- The students must accept, and follow through with, consequences established by the school
- The students must demonstrate firm purpose of amendment
- The parent(s) of the student must accept and support the school's disciplinary decision(s)

Expulsion

A student may be expelled if:

- The misconduct is deemed serious enough, in and of itself, to warrant direct expulsion and/or
- The misconduct is deemed to be gross misconduct and/or
- Previous serious misconduct(s) warrant further disciplinary action and/or
- He/she does not accept responsibility for his/her misconduct(s) and/or
- The student's parent(s) do not accept and support the school's disciplinary decision(s)

A student will always be expelled if:

- He/she does not accept, and follow through with, consequences established by the school and/or
- His/her actions place others in moral or physical danger

The Principal has the authority to suspend or expel and does so in accordance with section 426 of the CISVA policy manual

c. In-School Suspension

Students serving an in-school suspension will arrive at school at regular time but go directly to the office once they enter the school. They will be assigned a room in which

to complete a written assignment relating to the behaviour that resulted in the sanction being assigned. The students will then proceed to complete assignments from that day's classes given by their teachers. They will have their break and lunch at different times than the rest of the school population and will be restricted to campus for the day. They will not participate in any school event including extra-curricular events that day except for Mass or penitential services being offered.

d. Out-of-School Suspension

Serious offences of any school policy may result in out-of-school suspension or expulsion from SJB. The Principal will give an out-of-school suspension to the student as a consequence for well-evidenced, grave misconduct. During this time, the student may not attend any classes, school functions, or extra-curricular activities, even if the activity is off the school premises. Classes missed during the period of out-of-school suspension may not be made up.

e. Expulsion

Expulsion shall only be given by the Administration after serious consideration and consultation with the Education Committee Chairperson and the Archbishop's Representative. Expulsion means that the student will be prohibited from attending school for the balance of the school year and for subsequent years unless reinstated. It will be the parent's responsibility to make alternative arrangements for the schooling of the student following expulsion. The reason(s) for the expulsion shall be provided to the parent(s) or guardian in writing and forwarded to the alternate school of the parent's choice.

f. Appeals

Decisions regarding out-of-school suspension and expulsion may be appealed. The procedures for dealing with major complaints, including appeals are described in detail in the Policy Manual for Catholic Schools in the Vancouver Archdiocese (CISVA). In essence, the statements related to appealing a decision to expel are as follows:

"The appeal must be submitted to the Chair of the Education Committee, in writing, no more than seven days after the Principal's decision has been received."

Upon receiving the complaint the Education Committee will form a subcommittee with authority to make a decision regarding the appeal. This committee must always include the school's Pastor/Archbishop's Representative.

g. Readmission to SJB After Expulsion

Expulsion is the most serious sanction a school can impose on a student for grave misconduct. Readmission to SJB will only be granted in those instances where there is

clear and compelling evidence of a change in the perspective of the student who was expelled that includes complete and unreserved acceptance of our school's philosophy, policies and regulations. Each case will be dealt with individually and on its own merits. Reasons that led to expulsion will bear heavily on whether re-admittance will be considered or approved. Students who wish to reapply to SJB after they have been expelled must meet the following requirements:

- * demonstrate an ability to achieve academically and behave appropriately in another school, normally for a full year following expulsion.
- * provide reasons in writing as to why they should be considered for re-admittance and how they have changed in their time since the expulsion.

re-enter the school under contract and on probation.