## Section J:

## **Knox County Board of Education**

## **Students**

Descriptor Term:

## Code of Behavior and Discipline

Descriptor Code:	Issued:
J-190	7/95
Reviewed:	Revised:
10/23	12/23

The Director of Schools shall be responsible for the overall implementation and supervision of the Board's policies of behavior and discipline and shall ensure that students at all schools are subject to a uniform and fair application of the policies.

The principal of each school shall be responsible for implementation and administration in his/her school and shall apply the policies uniformly and fairly to each student at the school without partiality and discrimination. Any school administrator or employee who, after a proper investigation, is found to have knowingly engaged in discrimination toward a student(s) on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, religion or sex, will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, termination of employment. A finding against an employee of knowing failure to report discrimination and/or otherwise act against discrimination, including, but not limited to the failure to discipline another employee with a finding of discrimination, will be subject to the same type of disciplinary action.<sup>1</sup>

The Board delegates to the Director of Schools the responsibility of developing more specific codes of behavior and discipline (school expectations) which are appropriate for each level of school, namely, elementary, middle, and high. The development of school expectations shall involve principals and faculty members of the school and shall be consistent with the content of the Board's policies.

School expectations shall contain the type of behavior expected from each student, the consequences of failure to obey such standards and the importance of the standards to the maintenance of a safe learning environment where orderly learning is possible and encouraged. Each code shall address the topics of language used by students, respect for all school employees, fighting, threats, bullying/harassment, weapons on school property or at school functions, damage to the property, automated external defibrillator, or person of others, misuse or destruction of school property, drug or alcohol abuse, the sale or distribution of drugs or alcohol, student conduct on school property, conduct in classes and such other subjects as the local school shall choose to include. All such expectations shall be uniform to the extent of maximum consideration for the safety and well-being of students and employees.<sup>2</sup>

A copy of the school expectations shall be posted at each school and school counselors and teachers shall be supplied copies for discussion with students. All schools shall reference Board Policy in their school expectations. All teachers, administrative staff and parents shall be provided access to copies of school expectations and code of conduct.

Cross Reference: Knox County Board of Education Policies G-220 "Harassment of Employees" and G-221 "Employee Whistleblower Protection." Legal Reference: • T.C.A. § 49-6-801 et. seq. Approved as to Legal Form By Knox County Law Director 10/31/2023 /Gary T. Dupler/Deputy Law Director