



Safe School Environment and Discipline Key Statutes and Rules

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IDAPA 08.02.03.160

Safe environment & discipline

Each school district will have a comprehensive district wide policy and procedure encompassing the following:

- School Climate
(SDE working definition: School climate refers to the quality and character of school life. School climate is based on patterns of students', parents' and school personnel's experience of school life and reflects norms, goals, values, interpersonal relationships, teaching and learning practices, and organizational structures. A sustainable, positive school climate fosters youth development and the learning necessary for a productive, contributing and satisfying life in a democratic society. This climate includes:
 - *Norms, values and expectations that support people feeling socially, emotionally and physically safe.*
 - *People are engaged and respected.*
 - *Students, families and educators work together to develop, live and contribute to a shared school vision.*
 - *Educators model and nurture attitudes that emphasize the benefits and satisfaction gained from learning.*
 - *Each person contributes to the operations of the school and the care of the physical environment.)*
- Discipline
- Student Health
- Violence prevention
- Possessing weapons on campus
- Substance abuse- tobacco, alcohol and other drugs
- Suicide prevention
- Student harassment
- Drug-free school zones
- Building safety including evacuation drills
- Relationship abuse and sexual assault prevention and response

Districts will conduct an annual review of these policies and procedures (See Section 33-1612).

§18-917A

Student harassment- Intimidation- Bullying.

(1) No student shall intentionally commit, or conspire to commit, an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying against another student.

(2) As used in this section, “harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any intentional gesture, or any intentional written, verbal or physical act or threat by a student that:

(a) A reasonable person under the circumstances should know will have the effect of:

(i) Harming a student; or

(ii) Damaging a student’s property; or

(iii) Placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person; or

(iv) Placing a student in reasonable fear of damage to his or her property; or

(b) Is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

An act of harassment, intimidation or bullying may also be committed through the use of a land line, car phone or wireless telephone or through the use of data or computer software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, or computer network.

(3) A student who personally violates any provision of this section may be guilty of an infraction.

§33-1630 [33-1631]

Requirements for harassment, intimidation and bullying information and professional development

(1) School districts and charter schools shall undertake reasonable efforts to ensure that information on harassment, intimidation and bullying of students is disseminated annually to all school personnel, parents and students, including an affirmation that school personnel are authorized and expected to intervene or facilitate intervention on behalf of students facing harassment, intimidation or bullying.

(2) School districts and charter schools shall provide ongoing professional development to build skills of all school staff members to prevent, identify and respond to harassment, intimidation and bullying. The state board shall promulgate rules regarding the content of the professional development required by this subsection.

(3) District policies shall include a series of graduated consequences that may include, but are not limited to, referral to counseling, diversion, use of juvenile specialty courts, restorative practices, on-site suspension and expulsion for any student who commits an act of bullying, intimidation, harassment, violence or threats of violence. Guidelines for such policies will be set forth in the rules of the state board.

(4) Annually school districts shall report bullying incidents to the state department of education in a format set forth in rule by the state board. District policy shall designate persons to whom bullying reports are to be made and a procedure for a teacher or other school employee, student, parent, guardian or other person to report or otherwise provide information on bullying activity.

§18-917

Hazing

(1) No student or member of a fraternity, sorority or other living or social student group or organization organized or operating on or near a school or college or university campus, shall intentionally haze or conspire to haze any member, potential member or person pledged to be a member of the group or organization, as a condition or precondition of attaining membership in the group or organization or of attaining any office or status therein.

(2) As used in this section, "haze" means to subject a person to bodily danger or physical harm or a likelihood of bodily danger or physical harm, or to require, encourage, authorize or permit that the person be subjected to any of the following:

- (a) Total or substantial nudity on the part of the person;
- (b) Compelled ingestion of any substance by the person;
- (c) Wearing or carrying of any obscene or physically burdensome article by the person;
- (d) Physical assaults upon or offensive physical contact with the person;
- (e) Participation by the person in boxing matches, excessive number of calisthenics, or other physical contests;
- (f) Transportation and abandonment of the person;

- (g) Confinement of the person to unreasonably small, unventilated, unsanitary or unlighted areas;
- (h) Sleep deprivation; or
- (i) Assignment of pranks to be performed by the person.

(3) The term "hazing," as defined in this section, does not include customary athletic events or similar contests or competitions, and is limited to those actions taken and situations created in connection with initiation into or affiliation with any group or organization. The term "hazing" does not include corporal punishment administered by officials or employees of public schools when in accordance with policies adopted by local boards of education.

(4) A student or member of a fraternity, sorority or other student organization, who personally violates any provision of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

08.02.02 - RULES GOVERNING UNIFORMITY (ENACTED AS TEMPORARY ON 2/18/2016)

111. BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND INTIMIDATION PREVENTION AND RESPONSE. ()

- 01. School districts and charter schools shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that information on harassment, intimidation and bullying of students is disseminated annually to all school personnel, parents and students. ()
- 02. The content of ongoing professional development for school staff related to bullying, harassment and intimidation shall include: ()
 - a. School philosophy regarding school climate and student behavior expectations. ()
 - b. Definitions of bullying, harassment, and intimidation. ()
 - c. School prevention strategies or programs including the identification of materials to be distributed annually to students and parents. ()
 - d. Expectations of staff intervention for bullying, harassment, and intimidation. ()
 - e. School process for responding to bullying, harassment, and intimidation including the reporting process for students and staff, investigation protocol, the involvement of law enforcement, related student support services and parental involvement. ()
 - f. Other topics as determined appropriate by the school district or charter school. ()
- 03. Graduated consequences for a student who commits acts of bullying, harassment, and intimidation shall include a series of measures proportional to the act(s) committed and appropriate to the severity of the violation as determined by the school board of trustees, school administrators, or designated personnel depending upon the level of discipline. Graduated consequences should be in accordance with the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, and the student's history of problem behaviors and performance. ()
 - a. Graduated consequences may include, but are not limited to: ()
 - i. Meeting with the school counselor; ()
 - ii. Meeting with the school principal and student's parents or guardian; ()

- iii. Detention, suspension or special programs; and, _____ ()
 - iv. Expulsion. _____ ()
 - b. The graduated consequences are not intended to prevent or prohibit the referral of a student who commits acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying to available outside counseling services, and/or to law enforcement pursuant to section 18-917A, Idaho Code. _____ ()
 - c. Students with disabilities may be afforded additional protections under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act; school districts and charter schools shall comply with applicable state and federal law when disciplining students with individualized education programs (IEPs) or 504 plans for committing acts of bullying, harassment, and intimidation. _____ ()
04. School district and charter school employees are authorized and expected to intervene or facilitate intervention on behalf of students facing harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Intervention shall be reasonably calculated to: _____ ()
- a. Correct the problem behavior; _____ ()
 - b. Prevent another occurrence of the problem; _____ ()
 - c. Protect and provide support for the victim of the act; and _____ ()
 - d. Take corrective action for documented systemic problems related to harassment, intimidation, or bullying. _____ ()
05. Annual reporting will occur at the end of the school year through an aggregate report identifying the total number of bullying incidents by school districts and charter schools, grade level, gender, and repeat offenders. The State Department of Education shall provide school districts and charter schools with the guidelines and forms for reporting. _____ ()

§18-3302D

Possessing weapons or firearms on school property

(1) (a) It shall be unlawful and is a misdemeanor for any person to possess a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon while on the property of a school or in those portions of any building, stadium or other structure on school grounds which, at the time of the violation, were being used for an activity sponsored by or through a school in this state or while riding school provided transportation.

(b) The provisions of this section regarding the possession of a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon on school property shall also apply to students of schools while attending or participating in any school sponsored activity, program or event regardless of location.

(2) Definitions. As used in this section:

- (a) "Deadly or dangerous weapon" means any weapon as defined in 18 U.S.C. section 930;
- (b) "Firearm" means any firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. section 921;
- (c) "Minor" means a person under the age of eighteen (18) years;
- (d) "Possess" means to bring an object, or to cause it to be brought, onto the property of a public or private elementary or secondary school, or onto a vehicle being used for school provided

transportation, or to exercise dominion and control over an object located anywhere on such property or vehicle. For purposes of subsection (1)(b) of this section, "possess" shall also mean to bring an object onto the site of a school sponsored activity, program or event, regardless of location, or to exercise dominion and control over an object located anywhere on such a site;

(e) "School" means a private or public elementary or secondary school.

(3) Right to search students or minors. For purposes of enforcing the provisions of this section, employees of a school district shall have the right to search all students or minors, including their belongings and lockers, that are reasonably believed to be in violation of the provisions of this section, or applicable school rule or district policy, regarding the possessing of a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon.

(4) The provisions of this section shall not apply to the following persons:

(a) A peace officer;

(b) A person who lawfully possesses a firearm or deadly or dangerous weapon as an appropriate part of a program, an event, activity or other circumstance approved by the board of trustees or governing board;

(c) A person or persons complying with the provisions of section 19-202A, Idaho Code;

(d) Any adult over eighteen (18) years of age and not enrolled in a public or private elementary or secondary school who has lawful possession of a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon, secured and locked in his vehicle in an unobtrusive, nonthreatening manner;

(e) A person who lawfully possesses a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon in a private vehicle while delivering minor children, students or school employees to and from school or a school activity;

(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 18-3302C, Idaho Code, a person or an employee of the school or school district who is authorized to carry a firearm with the permission of the board of trustees of the school district or the governing board.

(5) Penalties. Persons who are found guilty of violating the provisions of this section may be sentenced to a jail term of not more than one (1) year or fined an amount not in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or both. If a violator is a student and under the age of eighteen (18) years, the court may place the violator on probation and suspend the juvenile detention or fine or both as long as the violator is enrolled in a program of study recognized by the court that, upon successful completion, will grant the violator a general equivalency diploma (GED) or a high school diploma or other educational program authorized by the court. Upon successful completion of the terms imposed by the court, the court shall discharge the offender from serving the remainder of the sentence. If the violator does not complete, is suspended from, or otherwise withdraws from the program of study imposed by the court, the court, upon receiving such information, shall order the violator to commence serving the sentence provided for in this section.

§18-3302I

Threatening violence on schools grounds

(1) (a) Any person, including a student, who willfully threatens on school grounds by word or act to use a firearm or other deadly or dangerous weapon to do violence to any other person on school grounds is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) The threats prohibited by this section encompass only those statements or acts where the speaker or actor intends to communicate a serious expression of intent to commit an act of unlawful violence to a particular individual or group of individuals. The prosecution is not required to prove that the defendant actually intended to carry out the threat.

(2) Definitions. As used in this section:

(a) "Deadly or dangerous weapon" means a weapon, device, instrument, material or substance that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury;

(b) "Firearm" means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot, projectile or other object may be discharged by force of combustion, explosive, gas and/or mechanical means, regardless of whether such weapon is operable;

(c) "On school grounds" means in, or on the property of, a public or private elementary or secondary school.

§33-205

Denial of school attendance

The board of trustees may deny enrollment, or may deny attendance at any of its schools by expulsion, to any pupil who is an habitual truant, or who is incorrigible, or whose conduct, in the judgment of the board, is such as to be continuously disruptive of school discipline, or of the instructional effectiveness of the school, or whose presence in a public school is detrimental to the health and safety of other pupils, or who has been expelled from another school district in this state or any other state. Any pupil having been denied enrollment or expelled may be enrolled or readmitted to the school by the board of trustees upon such reasonable conditions as may be prescribed by the board; but such enrollment or readmission shall not prevent the board from again expelling such pupil for cause.

Provided however, the board shall expel from school for a period of not less than one (1) year, twelve (12) calendar months, or may deny enrollment to, a student who has been found to have carried a weapon or firearm on school property in this state or any other state, except that the board may modify the expulsion or denial of enrollment order on a case-by-case basis. Discipline of students with disabilities shall be in accordance with the requirements of federal law part B of the individuals with disabilities education act and section 504 of the rehabilitation act. An authorized representative of the board shall report such student and incident to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

No pupil shall be expelled nor denied enrollment without the board of trustees having first given written notice to the parent or guardian of the pupil, which notice shall state the grounds for the proposed expulsion or denial of enrollment and the time and place where such parent or guardian may appear to contest the action of the board to deny school attendance, and which notice shall also state the rights of the pupil to be represented by counsel, to produce witnesses and submit evidence on his own behalf, and to cross-examine any adult witnesses who may appear against him. Within a reasonable period of time following such notification, the board of trustees shall grant the pupil and his parents or guardian a full and fair hearing on the proposed expulsion or denial of enrollment. However, the board shall allow a reasonable period of time between such notification and the holding of such hearing to allow the pupil and his parents or guardian to prepare their response to the charge. Any pupil who is within the age of compulsory attendance, who is expelled or denied enrollment as herein provided, shall come under the purview of the juvenile corrections act, and an authorized representative of the board shall, within five (5) days, give written notice of the pupil's expulsion to the prosecuting attorney of the county of the pupil's residence.

The superintendent of any district or the principal of any school may temporarily suspend any pupil for disciplinary reasons, including student harassment, intimidation or bullying, or for other conduct disruptive of good order or of the instructional effectiveness of the school. A temporary suspension by the principal shall not exceed five (5) school days in length; and the school superintendent may extend the temporary suspension an additional ten (10) school days. Provided, that on a finding by the board of trustees that immediate return to school attendance by the temporarily suspended student would be detrimental to other pupils' health, welfare or safety, the board of trustees may extend the temporary suspension for an additional five (5) school days. Prior to suspending any student, the superintendent or principal shall grant an informal hearing on the reasons for the suspension and the opportunity to challenge those reasons. Any pupil who has been suspended may be readmitted to the school by the superintendent or principal who suspended him upon such reasonable conditions as said superintendent or principal may prescribe. The board of trustees shall be notified of any temporary suspensions, the reasons therefor, and the response, if any, thereto.

The board of trustees of each school district shall establish the procedure to be followed by the superintendent and principals under its jurisdiction for the purpose of effecting a temporary suspension, which procedure must conform to the minimal requirements of due process.

§33-206

Habitual truant defined

(1) An habitual truant is:

- (a) Any public school pupil who, in the judgment of the board of trustees, or the board's designee, repeatedly has violated the attendance regulations established by the board; or
- (b) Any child whose parents or guardians, or any of them, have failed or refused to cause such child to be instructed as provided in section 33-202, Idaho Code.

(2) A child who is an habitual truant shall come under the purview of the juvenile corrections act if he or she was within the age of compulsory attendance at the time of the violations.

§33-210

Students using or under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances

(1) It is legislative intent that parental involvement in all aspects of a child's education in the public school system remain a priority. Substance abuse prevention programs and counseling for students attending public schools are no exception. Consequently, it is the duty of the board of trustees of each school district, including specially chartered school districts, and governing boards of charter schools, to adopt and implement policies specifying how personnel shall respond when a student discloses or is reasonably suspected of using or being under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance defined by section 37-2732C, Idaho Code. Such policies shall include provisions that anonymity will be provided to the student on a faculty "need to know" basis, when a student voluntarily discloses using or being under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance while on school property or at a school function, except as deemed reasonably necessary to protect the health and safety of others. Notification of the disclosure and availability of counseling for students shall be provided to parents, the legal guardian or child's custodian. However, once a student is reasonably suspected of using or being under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance in violation of section 37-2732C, Idaho Code, regardless of any previous voluntary disclosure, the school administrator or designee shall contact the student's parent, legal guardian or custodian, and report the incident to law enforcement. The fact that a student has previously disclosed use of alcohol or a controlled substance shall not be deemed a factor in determining reasonable suspicion at a later date.

(2) In addition to policies adopted pursuant to this section, students may, at the discretion of the district board of trustees or governing board of a charter school, be subject to other disciplinary or safety policies, regardless whether the student voluntarily discloses or is reasonably suspected of using or being under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance in violation of district or charter school policy or section 37-2732C, Idaho Code.

(3) The district board of trustees or the governing board of the charter school shall ensure that procedures are developed for contacting law enforcement and the student's parents, legal guardian or custodian regarding a student reasonably suspected of using or being under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance. District and charter school policies formulated to meet the provisions of section 37-2732C, Idaho Code, and this section shall be made available to each student, parent, guardian or custodian by August 31, 2002, and thereafter as provided by section 33-512(6), Idaho Code.

(4) Any school district employee or independent contractor of an educational institution who has a reasonable suspicion that a student is using or is under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance and, acting upon that suspicion, reports that suspicion to a school administrator or initiates procedures adopted by the board of trustees or governing board of the charter school pursuant to this section, shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed. Any such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to participation in any judicial proceeding resulting from such report. Any person who reports in bad faith or with malice shall not be protected by this section. Employees and independent contractors of educational institutions who intentionally harass a student through the misuse of the authority provided in this section shall not be immune from civil liability arising

from the wrongful exercise of that authority and shall be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).

(5) For the purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(a) "Reasonable suspicion" means an act of judgment by a school employee or independent contractor of an educational institution which leads to a reasonable and prudent belief that a student is in violation of school board or charter school governing board policy regarding alcohol or controlled substance use, or the "use" or "under the influence" provisions of section 37-2732C, Idaho Code. Said judgment shall be based on training in recognizing the signs and symptoms of alcohol and controlled substance use.

(b) "Intentionally harass" means a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific student which seriously alarms, annoys, threatens or intimidates the student and which serves no legitimate purpose. The course of conduct must be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress.

(c) "Course of conduct" means a pattern or series of acts over a period of time, however short, evidencing a continuity of purpose. Constitutionally and statutorily protected activity is not included within the meaning of "course of conduct."

§33-512B

Suicidal tendencies -- Duty to warn

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 33-512(4), Idaho Code, neither a teacher nor a school district shall have a duty to warn of the suicidal tendencies of a student absent the teacher's knowledge of direct evidence of such suicidal tendencies.

(2) "Direct evidence" means evidence which directly proves a fact without inference and which in itself, if true, conclusively establishes that fact. Direct evidence would include unequivocal and unambiguous oral or written statements by a student which would not cause a reasonable teacher to speculate regarding the existence of the fact in question; it would not include equivocal or ambiguous oral or written statements by a student which would cause a reasonable teacher to speculate regarding the existence of the fact in question.

(3) The existence of the teacher's knowledge of the direct evidence referred to in subsections (1) and (2) of this section shall be determined by the court as a matter of law.

§33-1225

Threats of violence -- Limitation on liability

(1) A communication by any person to a school principal, or designee, or a communication by a student attending the school to the student's teacher, school counselor or school nurse, and any report of that communication to the school principal stating that a specific person has made a threat to commit violence on school grounds by use of a firearm, explosive, or deadly weapon defined in chapter 33, title 18, Idaho Code, is a communication on a matter of public concern. Such communication or report shall only be subject to liability in defamation by clear and convincing evidence that the communication or report was made with knowledge of its falsity or with reckless disregard for the truth or falsity of the communication or report. This section shall not be interpreted to change or eliminate other elements of defamation required by law.

(2) As used in this section, "school" means any public or private school providing instruction in kindergarten or any grades from grade one (1) through grade twelve (12) which is the subject of a threat.