

Student Responsibilities & Rights

Changes for SY2011-12



Clarifies homework during suspension period and treatment of absences

- If a student has been suspended from school, makeup work will be provided by the school during the period of suspension. If the student complies with designated follow-up activities (e.g., completes assignments, attends Alcohol and Other Drugs [AOD] seminar) then the days of absence should be excused absences. (pg. 16, [11A]; pg. 21, [c])

Clarifies the penalty for the use of nonprescription drugs

- Using or possessing any nonprescription* drug not authorized under the current version of Regulation 2102 **may result in a suspension of a length to be determined by the principal.** (pg. 19, [3b])
- * Prescription medications are controlled substances and are discussed on pages 21 and 22.

Clarifies definition of controlled substance and disciplinary actions when a student has his or her own prescription medication

- Use or possession of a controlled substance, marijuana, an imitation controlled substance, imitation marijuana, or **synthetic marijuana** while on school property...
- The Division Superintendent shall conduct a hearing to determine whether a disciplinary action other than expulsion is appropriate; **provided, however, that where the student is found to be in possession of his or her own prescription medication, a preliminary review shall be conducted instead by the school principal who may determine that special circumstances exist and that a disciplinary action other than an expulsion recommendation is appropriate. (pg. 22, [3])**

Adds razor blade to “other” weapons

- Examples of other weapons include but shall not be limited to: mace, pepper spray, any ammunition, **razor blade**, or knife....
(pg. 25, [c])

Clarifies principal's effort to notify parent or guardian

- Disciplinary Procedures
 - The principal shall monitor each case to ensure that an appropriate intervention and a follow-up response have been made. **The principal will make a reasonable effort to notify parents or guardians at the earliest opportunity regarding student disciplinary actions.**

(pg. 26, [C])

Clarifies the term “probationary conditions”

- Probationary conditions shall be of a duration of no more than one calendar year, unless the student violates one or more of these conditions. (pg. 27, [d]; pg. 35, [12])

Clarifies the requirements to submit an appeal to a short-term suspension

- The decision to suspend a student for ten days or less may be appealed to the principal by the student's parent or guardian or by the student if he or she is 18 years of age or older. **Such an appeal must be made within two school days from the initial decision to suspend by submitting written notice of the appeal to the principal. This written notice must include the reasons the suspension should be reversed or otherwise modified.**

(pg. 28, [d])

Clarifies that disciplinary meetings will be recorded

- The hearing will be recorded by FCPS through stenographic, tape, or other means, and no other recordings are permitted. Upon request, students, parents or guardians, and their representatives will be offered the opportunity to review recordings of the hearing proceedings. (pg. 29, [3]; pg. 30, [4a])

Clarifies permission for students to be on school property to attend AOD seminar

- ...permitted by the Division Superintendent or the School Board, or (ii) by the principal who, in his or her discretion, may authorize a student who is a first-time prohibited-substance offender to be on school property solely for the purpose of attending the FCPS Alcohol and Other Drug Seminar
(pg. 30, [4])

Clarifies other disciplinary consequences

- ...Such consequences include, but are not limited to, **reassignment to a different regular school or to an alternative education program, probationary...**
(pg. 35, [12])

Clarifies other disciplinary consequences *-continued*

- Students who have been found to be involved with illegal drugs, alcohol, and/or the illegal use of controlled substances, and who thereafter have been assigned to a Fairfax County school or educational program where other students are in attendance, may be permitted to begin attending classes only after first submitting to school officials: (i) a then-current negative drug screen report from a qualified independent laboratory, and (ii) satisfactory evidence of participation in a substance abuse treatment or educational intervention program as recommended by Alcohol and Drug Services or another qualified professional. (pg. 35, [12])

Clarifies other disciplinary consequences *-continued*

- In lieu of a negative drug screen, school officials will accept satisfactory evidence that the student has enrolled and is participating in the recommended substance abuse treatment or educational intervention program; thereafter, and until the student submits a negative drug screen report to school officials, the student must provide to school officials, on a weekly basis, satisfactory evidence that the student remains enrolled and participates in the treatment or intervention program.

(pg. 35, [12])

Clarifies requirement to meet kindergarten students at bus in afternoon

- All kindergarten students riding regular afternoon school buses are to be met at their bus stop by a parent, guardian, or sibling in the 7th grade or higher or the student will be returned to the school to await parental transportation. (pg. 48)