

Lauderdale County Alternative School



Policies and Procedures

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Lauderdale County School System Policies

7.10 ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL SETTING/ISS (IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION)

- a. An alternative school program is operated on the campus of the Lauderdale County Board of Education for those 63 students that have behavioral problems or have violated Board of Education policy.
- b. Students assigned to the alternative school setting will be allowed to do his/her regular school work and receive credit, but will not be allowed to participate in or attend any local school activities until completing the assigned time.
- c. Students assigned to alternative schools will also be provided a curriculum that stresses skills in recognizing and managing anger, alternatives to aggression (verbal and physical assault), strategies for developing self-control and personal responsibility, skills for getting along with others, success through academic achievement, and skills for success in the workplace.
- d. Students in an alternative school setting may be denied school bus privileges, driving on campus privileges, and cell phone privileges for the duration of an alternative school setting.
- e. The length of an alternative school placement will be determined on a case by case basis.
- f. Any grade level student may be assigned to an alternative school setting or in-school suspension (ISS) for disciplinary reasons.
- g. An assignment to ISS does not affect participation or attendance in after-school activities unless it is a cell phone, vaping/tobacco or principal's discretion violation.
- h. Discipline of students with disabilities shall be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

STUDENT PLACEMENT

Students will be placed in the Alternative School only after an official hearing takes place. The hearing will be held at the Central Office with the following persons attending:

- the student assigned
- parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student
- local school administrator
- alternative school director
- A Central Office Director/Supervisor or designee
- Students with an **IEP MUST HAVE** a manifestation determination meeting PRIOR to a hearing to determine Alternative School placement.

During the hearing, the student's violation and consequences will be discussed. The recommendation from the local school principal shall include the following:

1. The student's class schedule and grades
2. Documentation of the student's discipline history
3. Documentation of disciplinary measures used for the student in the past

If it is determined at the official due process hearing to assign the student to Alternative School, the **Alternative School Rules and Regulations** document will be explained and signed by both the student and the parent/guardian.

7.14 DUE PROCESS

- a. Students accused of violating a school rule have the right to know what rule has been violated and the evidence against them.
- b. Students will have the opportunity to challenge the charges and testimony given, and are permitted to present information on their own behalf.
- c. The concept of due process stipulates that all rules will be equally enforced and that all will be treated fairly.

7.7 VAPING, TABACCO USE OR POSSESSION

1st Offense

- Possession- 5 days of In-School Suspension
- Distribution- 5 Days of Out of School Suspension
- Students will receive a “0” for any grades taken during the five days Out-of-School suspension time period.

****The student will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities during the time of any type of suspension for violating this policy.****

2nd Offense

- Early Warning Vaping Program- The parent/guardian and the student will be required to attend the program with a representative of the Lauderdale County District Attorney's office present.
- Possession- 2 Days of Out of School Suspension and 5 days of In-School Suspension.
- Students will receive a “0” for any grades taken during the out-of-school suspension time period.
- Distribution- Alternative School Placement for a minimum of 15 Days

****The student will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities during the time of any type of suspension for violating this policy.****

3rd Offense

- 10 days of Out of School Suspension pending Board hearing.
- Students will receive a “0” for any grades taken during the out-of-school suspension time period.
- The student case file will be turned over to the Assistant District Attorney's office.

****The student will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities during the time of any type of suspension for violating this policy.****

All violations of this policy will be considered cumulative for individual students in grades 7-12. Grades 4th through 6th will also be considered cumulative and Pre-K through 3rd graded handled on a case by case basis.

Example: A student receives their first vaping offense in 7th grade. In 9th grade the student violates the policy again, this would result in the student having two violations.

Example B: A 6th grader receiving a vaping violation will be cleared upon entering the 7th grade.

7.20 CELL PHONES, WEARABLES, AND OTHER COMMUNICATION DEVICES

The Lauderdale County Board of Education considers the health and safety of our students a top priority of our system. Effective August 1, 2022, Pre-K through 12th-grade students will NOT be allowed to USE any type of cellular device on campus upon arrival for the academic school day through departure at 3:00 pm.

Usage of a cellular device (cell phones, wearables, and other communication devices) can include but not be limited to the following:

- Social Media
- Video
- Pictures
- Phone Calls
- Texts
- Academic Dishonesty

Usage of a cellular device will include an investigation by an administrator to determine if the intention was threatening or inappropriate communication. Video and social media usage will not be permitted. Administrators' discretion will be used when examining the intent of usage.

Medical Usage

Any student needing a device for medical purposes will need to present the device and information to the local school principal and school nurse for approval. The device will be used strictly for intended medical purposes.

****The Lauderdale County Board of Education or any employee involved will not be held responsible for any lost or stolen devices.****

1st Offense

- 3 Days of In-School Suspension
- The device is held in the office.
- The parent/guardian must come get the device as soon as possible.

2nd Offense

- 2 Days Out of School Suspension- Students will receive a "0" for any grades taken during the time of Out-of school suspension.
- The device is held in the office.
- The parent/guardian must come get the device as soon as possible and meet with an administrator to discuss future offenses in detail.
- The student will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities during the time of suspension.

3rd Offense

- 4 Days Out of School Suspension- Students will receive a “0” for any grades taken during the time of Out-of school suspension.
- The device is held in the office.
- The parent/guardian must come get the device as soon as possible.
- The student will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities during the time of suspension.

4th Offense

- 10 Days Out of School Suspension pending a Board Hearing- Students will receive a “0” for any grades taken during the out of school suspension time period.
- Information and cellular device will be turned over to the Lauderdale County Assistant District Attorney's (DA) office.
- The parent/guardian will retrieve the device from the Lauderdale County Assistant DA's office.
- All violations of the LCSS Cellular Device Usage Policy will be considered cumulative for individual students in grades 7-12. Grades 4th through 6th will also be considered cumulative and Pre-K through 3rd graded handled on a case-by-case basis.
- Students caught producing, videoing, and disseminating questionable/illegal materials with their cell phones will have their devices given to law enforcement officials to determine if charges are warranted.

CLASSIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS AND SANCTIONS

It is fundamental that an orderly school has clearly defined behaviors to which students must conform. Non conformity to these behaviors becomes violations of the code of student conduct. Violations are grouped into three classes (Class I, Class II, Class III) which range from the least to the most serious. Appropriate school personnel shall investigate, verify, and take the necessary action to resolve student misconduct. After determining a violation and the classification of the violation, the principal or designee should implement the appropriate sanction. Violations apply to student conduct on a school campus, at school-related events, or while being transported to or from school or school-related events.

Below is a listing of each class of violations and possible sanctions. As the violations increase in seriousness, the severity of the possible sanctions increases. Principals and/or his/her designee will define the conduct necessary to establish a violation. Definitions of violations should be based on the *Code of Alabama* 13A (*Criminal Code*), 28-3-1 (*Alcoholic Beverages*), and 20-2-2 (*Controlled Substances*) (1975).

Class I Violations

- 1.1 Distraction of other students
- 1.2 Intimidation of a student
- 1.3 Unauthorized organizations
- 1.4 Tardiness
- 1.5 Non-direct use of profane language or obscene manifestation (See 2.08)
- 1.6 Non-conformity to dress code
- 1.7 Disruption on a school bus

- 1.8 Inappropriate public display of affection
- 1.9 Unauthorized absence from class or school for part of a day
- 1.10 Refusal to complete class assignments
- 1.11 Failure to follow appropriate directives from a local Board of Education employee
- 1.12 Unauthorized use of school or personal property
- 1.13 Littering of school property
- 1.14 Any other violation which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of extenuating circumstances.

Class I Sanctions

- 1. Conference with the student
- 2. Verbal reprimand
- 3. Withdrawal of privilege(s)
- 4. Parent/Guardian conference(s)
- 5. Short-term removal from class
- 6. Detention
- 7. Corporal punishment
- 8. Other sanction(s) as approved by the local Board of Education

Class II Violations

- 2.1 Refusal to follow appropriate directive from a local Board of Education employee
- 2.2 Vandalism/property damage, including mobile devices
- 2.3 Theft of property
- 2.4 Gambling
- 2.5 Possession of stolen property with the knowledge that it is stolen
- 2.6 Threats/extortion
- 2.7 Trespassing
- 2.8 Direct use of profane language or obscene manifestation (verbal, written, gesture directed toward another person) (See 1.05)
- 2.9 Repeated direct or non-direct use of profane language or obscene manifestations
- 2.10 Unauthorized absence from school for a day or more
- 2.11 Written or verbal proposition to engage in sexual acts
- 2.12 Touching of another person
- 2.13 Possession of and/or use of matches or lighters
- 2.14 Possession of and/or use of electronic pager or unauthorized communications device
- 2.15 Dishonesty and cheating
- 2.16 Providing false information to a local Board of Education employee
- 2.17 Any other violation which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and Consideration of extenuating circumstances

Class II Sanctions

- 1. Short-term removal from class/ISS
- 2. Pay restitution for damaged property

3. Detention
4. Alternative education setting
5. Out-of-school suspension
6. Referral to outside agency
7. Expulsion
8. Corporal Punishment
9. Other sanction(s) as approved by the local Board of Education

Class III Violations

- 3.1 Arson
- 3.2 Robbery
- 3.3 Theft of Property
- 3.4 Burglary of school property
- 3.5 Criminal mischief 3.6 Bomb threat
- 3.7 Sexual offense 3.8 Fighting
- 3.9 Inciting or participating in major student disorder
- 3.10 Unjustified activation of fire alarm system or fire extinguisher
- 3.11 Assault on another person (student, teacher, staff member, visitor, etc.)
- 3.12 Possession of a weapon
- 3.13 Preparing, possession, and/or igniting explosive device
- 3.14 Possession, sale, and/or use of a tobacco product
- 3.15 Unlawful sale, purchase, furnishing or giving, or possession of illegal drug or drug paraphernalia or alcoholic beverage
- 3.16 Accessing or changing information in school computers to endanger or cause harm to another individual
- 3.17 Any other offense which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of extenuating circumstances
- 3.18 Crimes as defined under the laws of the city, state of Alabama, or United States

Class III Sanctions

1. Out-of-school suspension
2. Alternative education setting
3. Referral to an outside agency, including the criminal justice system
4. Expulsion
5. Restitution of property and damages where appropriate

Lauderdale County Schools Alternative School Rules and Regulations

The following is a list of rules and expectations for the Lauderdale County Alternative School. This document serves as a general guide, and the student will be given other requirements and procedures as needed.

Procedure

1. Students will arrive each day at 7:40 a.m. and depart at 2:10 p.m.
2. Each student will sign in and receive scanning by the metal detector upon arrival. Pockets should be empty. No wired undergarments or anything that would set off the alarm.
3. Each student will have assignments from their home school and expectations to complete those within the allotted time (Schoology, Edgenuity, teacher-made, etc.).
4. Students will be responsible for cleaning and maintaining their personal space and common areas such as the restroom daily.
5. When school assignments are complete, students will work on something constructive such as the following: researching careers, colleges, jobs, and anything positive that would be of future interest. Absolutely no music or videos. Sleeping will not be allowed.
6. Students will make up all absences. No exceptions.
7. All assignments not completed on time will count as a zero.
8. Students must have all learning materials including Chromebook

Behavior

1. According to the district's code of conduct, all regular school rules are strictly enforced while attending Alternative School.
2. Students may **not** participate in any Lauderdale County School System activities while assigned to the Alternative School.
3. Students assigned to the Alternative School are subject to the policies, procedures, and consequences of the Lauderdale County Parent/Student Handbook.
4. Students assigned to the Alternative School may be issued corporal punishment when necessary at the director's discretion.
5. The director will not tolerate DISRESPECT from the student. Behavior issues may be presented to the Lauderdale County Schools Board of Education for further disciplinary action, including expulsion.