Discipline Committee Update
Bringing it to the Classrooms
November 30, 2016
OBJECTIVES

- Reduce student referrals to law enforcement
- Reduce suspensions and expulsions
- Address the disparate impact these practices have on African-Americans and students with disabilities
- Address the emphasis on subjective offenses like disorderly conduct
MOST IMPACTFUL INFORMATION

• VA Statistics

• Policy Elements

• Role of the SRO

• Key Predictors
VIRGINIA TOPS NATION IN SENDING STUDENTS TO COPS AND COURTS

Source: Center for Public Integrity
Students Involved in the Criminal Justice System

**KEY ELEMENTS OF POLICIES TO ADDRESS DISCIPLINE DISPROPORTIONALITY**

- Specific Commitment to Equity
- Family Partnerships in Policy Development
- Focus on Implementing Positive, Proactive Behavior support Practices
- Clear, Objective Discipline procedures
- Removal or Reduction of Exclusionary practices
- Graduated Discipline Systems with Instructional Alternative to Exclusion
- Procedures with Accountability for Equitable Student Outcomes
5-POINT INTERVENTION APPROACH TO ENHANCING EQUITY IN SCHOOL DISCIPLINE

- Use engaging academic instruction to reduce the opportunity (achievement) gap
- Implement a behavior framework that is preventive, multi-tiered, and culturally responsive
- Collect, use, and report disaggregated discipline data
- Develop policies with accountability for disciplinary equity
- Teach steps to neutralize implicit bias

CHANGING ROLE OF THE SRO

- punitive, reactive
- reacts to criminal activity
- community servant
- proactive, relational
CHANGING ROLE OF THE SRO

• Included in PBIS
• Understand the issues that students who need intensive supports face.
• Know about autism, trauma, conduct disorders, etc.
• Be able to respond to students with disabilities appropriately.
Key Predictors of Decreased Disproportionality:

- Regular use of data for decision making
- Implementation of classroom PBIS systems
- The school principal’s commitment to moving away from exclusionary discipline and zero tolerance policies.
PBIS in the Classroom

- Understand Vulnerable Decision Points
- Understand and Develop Neutralizing Routines
  - Brief
  - If-then statements
  - Clear steps
  - Doable
  - Add space/delay between behavior and response
- Cultural Responsiveness
  - Personal matrix
  - Code switch cues
  - Equitable access to praise
RESOURCES

Link to workshop materials:

https://vtss-ric.org/Classrooms_not_Courtrooms_2016/Breakout_Information.html
https://www.pbis.org
STUDENTS

STUDENT CONDUCT

REGULATION

§8-35 Alcohol

The first violation of Policy §8-35 by students in grades 6-12 or categorized as "ungraded" in middle or high school shall result in a seven (7) day out-of-school suspension, and an additional three days of which must be fulfilled by attending assigned to the three-day Insight Drug/Alcohol Education class sponsored by Loudoun County Public Schools. Other students committing the first violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action as may be deemed appropriate.

A second violation of this policy by students in grades 6-12 or categorized as "ungraded" in middle or high school shall result in a ten-day out-of-school suspension and assignment to the Substance Abuse Education Program for ten (10) days, three (3) days of which must be fulfilled by attending the three (3) day Insight Drug/Alcohol Education class. Other students committing the second violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action as may be deemed appropriate.

Any further violation of this policy may result in a recommendation by the Principal for long-term suspension from school by the Division Superintendent or expulsion.

All students who are required to attend the Substance Abuse Education Program shall be required to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse, or both, by an appropriately licensed professional with expertise in substance abuse treatment. If recommended by the evaluator, and with the consent of the student’s parent, the student may be required to participate in a treatment program.

Legal Reference: Code of Virginia §22.1-277.2:1 (A)

Issued: 8/13/91
Revised: 6/22/93, 9/9/94, 4/6/95, 1/8/02
Current Revision: 9/9/14
§8-36

(a)

STUDENTS

STUDENT CONDUCT

REGULATION

§8-36 Drugs

A. All first-time violations of Policy §8-36 (Drugs), except for distribution or selling, shall result in a ten (7) day, out-of-school suspension and an additional suspension of three (3) days with assignment to the Insight Drug/Alcohol Education Class sponsored by LCPS.

B. A second offense for the above violations or a first offense for distribution or sale of the substances identified in Paragraph B of Policy §8-36 (Drugs) shall result in students being suspended for ten (10) days and assigned to the Substance Abuse Education Program for a minimum of thirty (30) school days following the required minimum ten (10) day out-of-school suspension. At the end of that time, the student’s case will be evaluated to determine whether the student should:

1. Return to the home school at that time.
2. Return to the home school at the end of the current marking period.
3. Continue in the self-contained Substance Abuse Education Program.
4. Be considered for enrollment in the Alternative Education Program at Douglass School.

C. Assignment to the self-contained Substance Abuse Education Program (SAEP) at Douglass School. The self-contained program will be comprised of:

1. Class instruction equivalent to homebound instruction in a self-contained setting separate from the Alternative Education Program. A disciplinary assignment to SAEP under this policy is not a placement in an Alternative Education Program under Policy §8-40.
2. Education about drug abuse, civil laws, and school consequences, including expulsion from school for a second violation of the policy.
3. Assistance in drug abuse prevention. This assistance will include counseling from a school counselor and intervention by one of the drug abuse prevention specialists.
§8-36
(b)

STUDENT CONDUCT

REGULATION

§8-36 Drugs (continued)

D. Students who otherwise violate the provisions of Policy §8-36 may be subject to other disciplinary measures, including long-term suspension or expulsion, and a referral to the Division Superintendent for other action, which shall include attendance at the Substance Abuse Education Program.

E. All students who violate this policy are to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol abuse by an appropriately licensed professional with expertise in substance abuse treatment. If recommended by the evaluator and with the consent of the student’s parent, the student may be required to participate in a treatment program.

F. Actions taken in accordance with Paragraph A or B above involving suspensions of ten days or less are reviewable under Policy §8-27 (Short Term Suspension from School). The appeal procedures set forth in Policies §2-27 (Student Discipline – Appeals and Hearings – Long Term Suspensions and Expulsions) and §8-28 (Disciplinary Action by the Division Superintendent) shall apply to disciplinary assignments to the Substance Abuse Education Program or the Insight Drug/Alcohol Education class. A disciplinary action in the form of long term suspension or expulsion taken under this policy is also subject to the appeal procedures set forth in Policy §2-27 and §8-28.

Legal Reference: Va. Code §§22.1-277.05; 22.1-277.08;

Constitution of Virginia, Article VIII, §7

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