

Student Handbook Updates

Following are updates to the 2011-2012 Student Handbook. Please insert in the handbook for distribution. These updates were developed after the printing of the Student Handbook.

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CIVIL CITATION

First sentence should read:

In lieu of an arrest, a student under the age of 18 who has no prior Civil Citations or arrests (of any kind) and is charged with certain misdemeanors may receive a Civil Citation.

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DRESS CODE

Addendum:

Florida Department of Education

Student Conduct and Dress Code Requirements Effective July 1, 2011

In the 2011 Legislative Session, Florida's legislature passed, and Governor Scott signed into law, changes to sections 1006.07 and 1006.15 Florida Statute requirements for District Codes of Student Conduct (commonly known as the Baggy Pants Bill). In these sections are new school board requirements to include in the code of conduct, "an explanation of the responsibilities of each student with regard to appropriate dress, respect for self and others, and the role that appropriate dress and respect for self and others has on an orderly learning environment." The new law provides penalties for students who wear clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner. Lastly, the law includes adherence to the dress code and code of student conduct as a condition for participation in extracurricular activities.

Principals have been instructed to share the new law and consequences with students, parents and staff. The information will be posted as an addendum to the Student Handbook which was printed before final information was sent from the Florida Department of Education.

The disciplinary actions for dress code violations still apply for "regular" dress code violations. The information is printed in the 2011-2012 Student Handbook. However, any student who violates the dress policy as described in the new law is subject to the following disciplinary actions:

- a. For a first offense, a student shall be given a verbal warning and the school principal shall call the student's parent or guardian.
- b. For a second offense, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period of time not to exceed 5 days and the school principal shall meet with the student's parent or guardian.

- For a third or subsequent offense, a student shall receive an in-school suspension for a period not to exceed 3 days, the student is ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity for a period not to exceed 30 days, and the school principal shall call the student's parent or guardian and send the parent or guardian a written letter regarding the student's in-school suspension and ineligibility to participate in extracurricular activities.
- As outlined in a memo dated July 15, 2011 from the Florida Department of Education, the consequences outlined above are for “wearing clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner or that disrupts the orderly learning environment.”
- Clothing that disrupts the orderly learning environment includes clothing that exposes underwear or body parts in an indecent or vulgar manner and clothing with sexually suggestive, drug- or alcohol-related or otherwise offensive wording or graphics.
- Districts will be required to impose these penalties as outlined in the bill. No other Statute prescribes penalties for code of conduct offenses.
- School Boards cannot override described penalties in the law.

NOTE: Eligibility standards for participation in interscholastic and intra-scholastic extracurricular student activities have not changed except for the dress code policy. The student must maintain satisfactory conduct, including adherence to appropriate dress and other codes of student conduct policies described in s. 1006.07(2).

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ADDITIONAL SECONDARY (6-12) ATTENDANCE INFORMATION UNEXCUSED ABSENCE SANCTIONS

- ❖ A student suspended out of school shall receive a grade of “zero” for tests and/or graded work missed.
- ❖ A student who receives an unexcused absence may be allowed to make up tests and/or graded work missed during the absence at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Middle school students may receive, and high school students must receive a 10% deduction from the grade of the make-up assignments. The student is responsible for making arrangements with the teacher within three days of his/her return to school. Make-up work must be submitted within the deadline(s) set by teacher(s).
- ❖ Students found to be truant will be referred to Student Affairs.