

June 23, 2021

**ADOPT ANNUAL REVISIONS TO THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT
EFFECTIVE AUGUST 30, 2021**


THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RECOMMENDS:

That the Chicago Board of Education ("Board") adopt the annual revisions to the Student Code of Conduct ("SCC") including the CPS Anti-Bullying Policy, effective August 30, 2021, which is attached hereto. The policy was posted for public comment from April 21, 2021 to May 21, 2021.

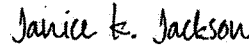
DESCRIPTION: Modifications from the previous year's Student Code of Conduct are summarized below:

1. Revise Police Notification Guidelines: The Police Notification Guidelines section of the SCC has been revised for increased clarity for when and how to notify police as a result of student behaviors covered in the policy. Revisions include language indicating what constitutes "emergency" situations and a transparent protocol that school administrators must follow to notify police in "non-emergency" situations. Additional requirements are included for parent/guardian notification in all cases where police are notified and procedures for ensuring students are supported in the event that police interactions occur in accordance with 105 ILCS 5/22-85. Language in the policy that may be seen as contributing to the "criminalization" of student behavior has also been removed, including terms like "criminal", "battery", "assault", and "aggravated assault/battery".
2. Removal of "Criminalizing" Terminology from SCC codes: Terminology directly associated with criminal law has been removed from the descriptions of the student behaviors listed in the SCC in Groups 1-5. Examples include the terms "criminal", "battery", "assault", "burglary", and "aggravated assault/battery". These revisions are to support district-wide efforts to eliminate the association between children's behaviors and language from the criminal justice system, which has been cited as one component of the "School-to-Prison-Pipeline".
3. Revise SCC Codes for Bias-Based Behavior: SCC Sections 3-4 and 5-4 have been revised to include language and updated terminology to more clearly indicate and describe the use of bias-based/discriminatory student behavior across a spectrum of harm and disruption. A statement regarding bias-based/discriminatory behavior has been added to the Special Notes of the Student Behaviors Covered by the SCC and the codes are aligned to revisions to the Anti-Bullying Policy which has been updated to more explicitly cover bias-based and discriminatory student behaviors.
4. Revise Anti-Bullying Policy to Explicitly Cover Bias-Based Behavior: The Anti-Bullying Policy has been retitled as "Addressing Bullying and Bias-Based Behavior" to more explicitly cover bias-based, discriminatory student behaviors. The content of the policy has been revised to include updated terminology and definitions that align with the district's Final New Comprehensive Non-discrimination, Harassment, Sexual Harassment, Sexual Misconduct and Retaliation Policy, including "bias-based behavior", "discrimination", "microaggression", "racial discrimination", "harassment", and "protected categories. A transparent protocol for addressing allegations of bias-based/discriminatory behavior by students has been added to the policy in addition to the existing protocol for addressing allegations of bullying. The CPS Office of Student Protections will provide investigation oversight and resources to assist school leaders in addressing these behaviors and providing support for students.
5. Title-IX-Covered Behavior Code Updates: Several updates have been made to the behaviors listed in the SCC that are covered by or directly related to Title IX policies and regulations to ensure clarity and alignment with new regulations issued by the Department of Education Office of Civil Rights in 2020. A definition of Domestic Violence has been added to the Special Notes of the Student Behaviors Covered by the SCC and the term has been added to Section 5-4.

Approved for Consideration:

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LaTanya D. McDade
Chief Education Officer

Approved:

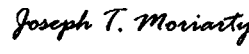
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Chief Executive Officer

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Joseph T. Moriarty
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