4.17—STUDENT DISCIPLINE

(Wording in Italics is Local Policy)

The Atkins Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District’s students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

- At any time on the school grounds;
- Off school grounds at a school sponsored function, activity, or event; and
- Going to and from school or a school activity.

The District’s administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to: a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult; an assault or battery; drug law violations; or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student’s appropriate due process rights.1

The District’s personnel policy committees shall annually review the District’s student discipline policies, including State and District student discipline data, and may recommend changes in the policies to the Atkins School Board. The Board has the responsibility of determining whether to approve any recommended changes to student discipline policies.

The District’s student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. Each student’s parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

The District shall develop and provide programs, measures, or alternative means and methods for continued student engagement and educational access during periods of suspension or expulsion.

The superintendent is authorized to modify the penalties set forth in the District’s student discipline policies on a case-by-case basis.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident.

Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

The superintendent shall make a report annually to the Board of Directors on student discipline data, which shall include, without limitation: the number of incidents of bullying reported and the actions taken regarding the reported incidents of bullying.
Middle School:
Detention will take place during the entire lunch period. Any student receiving three (3) detention notices before lunch will be placed in ISS (In School Suspension) the rest of the day.

Students who are placed in detention for the seventh time in nine weeks, will be required to attend one day of ISS or corporal punishment. On the eighth detention the student will serve one day of Out of School Suspension. The detention count will restart each nine weeks.

ISS will be required after the 5th, 9th, 12th, and 14th detention. After the 15th time in detention there will be a mandatory meeting with the parents and principal. The detention count will start over at semester.

High School:
Students may be assigned detention for various types of misbehavior.
1. Noon detention is held from 11:05 – 12:15 each day during advisory and lunch.
2. Students will report immediately to the detention room when the lunch dismissal bell rings.
3. Students will eat their lunch in the detention room. Fast food brought to students serving detention must be left in the office and picked up by students PRIOR to serving detention.
4. Students are to remain quiet and fully engage in course work throughout the detention.
5. All electronic devices will be collected upon entry into detention.
6. Students that are late to detention will not be allowed to enter and be recorded a NO SHOW.
7. Students that fail to show up for assigned detentions will be given additional days for the first NO SHOW.
8. Sleeping and/or laying down of head is prohibited.
9. All school rules are in effect during the detention period.

Legal References: A.C.A. § 6-18-502
A.C.A. § 6-17-113

Date Adopted: 06-08-04
Last Revised: 07-18-19 (ASBA & Handbooks)