

The Policy Committee approved changes in blue at its public work session on 8/9/22.

File: JGA

DISCIPLINE FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL CONDUCT

I. Purpose

Policy JGA is intended to assist with maintaining a safe and orderly school environment and positive school climate for all students and staff.

II. Background

~~Washington County Public Schools~~ The Board of Education believes that a safe and orderly school environment and positive school climate must be maintained for all students and staff and is essential for teaching and learning. ~~when a~~ A student's conduct occurring off school premises ~~has a reasonable likelihood of that results in a reportable offense or arrest related to a student's membership in a criminal gang can affecting the health and/or safety and/or emotional wellbeing of others in school and/or has have a direct effect on the order and general welfare of the school.~~ ~~that the involved students is subject to discipline, up to and including suspension and expulsion.~~ The Board believes that steps should be taken to minimize the effect such off-campus conduct has on the school environment.

~~Examples of the type of off-campus misconduct that may result in such discipline include but are not limited to:~~

- ~~1. The manufacture and/or distribution of controlled dangerous substances.~~
- ~~2. Assault and battery.~~
- ~~3. Illegal use or possession of a weapon, including a firearm.~~
- ~~4. A crime of violence, as defined in Article 27, §643B, Annotated Code of Maryland.~~
- ~~5. Extortion.~~

III. Definitions

Within the context of this policy, the following definitions apply:

- A. Reportable Offense: An offense that occurred off school premises, did not occur at an event sponsored by the school, and involved any of the crimes, offenses, or violations set forth in §7-303, Education Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland* ("§7-303").
- B. Related Services: Any supportive intervention that is available through Washington County Public Schools.
- C. School Security Officer: An individual designated to maintain the security and safety of a school, which includes a school principal ~~ef~~ or other school administrator, a law enforcement officer, or other individual employed by a local school system or a local government who is designated by the county superintendent or a school principal to help maintain the security and safety of a school.

IV. Policy Statement/Procedures

- A. Pursuant to §7-303, if a student is arrested for a reportable offense or for an offense that is related to the student's membership in a criminal gang, the law enforcement agency making the arrest is to notify the Superintendent, the school principal, and the school security officer of the arrest and the charges.

- B. ~~This policy is not intended to limit the right of the Washington County Public Schools from~~
The designated school system staff are to review the notification of a reportable offense or arrest related to a student's membership in a criminal gang and developing a plan that addresses appropriate educational programming and related services for a the student and that maintains a safe and ~~secure~~ orderly school environment for all students and staff. ~~school personnel pursuant to §7-303 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland (Arrest for Reportable Offense) or the regulations of the Maryland State Board of Education concerning School Use of Reportable Offenses (COMAR 13A.08.01.17).~~
- C. The Superintendent is authorized to promulgate an administrative regulation to implement this policy. The regulation is to include, but is not limited to, information on developing the plan referenced in paragraph IV.B and the confidentiality of the information received.

Legal Reference: §7-303, Education Article, *Annotated Code of Maryland*
13A.08.01.17 Code of Maryland Administrative Regulations

Policy adopted: March 6, 2001. Revised:
Board of Education of Washington County