LEGAL: HB 538 AMENDS KRS 158.150 TO INCLUDE BEHAVIORS THAT OCCUR OFF SCHOOL PROPERTY IF THE INCIDENT IS LIKELY TO SUBSTANTIALLY DISRUPT THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS AND OPTIONS FOR REMOVAL OF STUDENTS.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: COST OF EDUCATING EXPELLED STUDENTS AND CONDUCTING HEARINGS

# STUDENTS A09.425

Assault and Threats of Violence

For purposes of this Policy, a “threat” shall refer to a communication made by any means, including, but not limited to, electronic and/or online methods.

Students

Any student who threatens, physically assaults, batters or abuses another student shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion.1

Students may also be subject to prosecution or juvenile justice interventions for assault, threats, or other abusive conduct.

The Principal shall provide written notice to all students, parents, and guardians of students within ten (10) days of the first instructional day of each school year of the provision of KRS 508.078 and potential penalties under KRS 532.060 and KRS 534.030.2

Educational Personnel

Any student who threatens, physically assaults, batters or physically or verbally abuses educational personnel on or off school property (and the incident is likely to substantially disrupt the educational process) shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action1up to and including expulsion from school and/or legal action.

Removal of Students

School administrators, teachers, or other school personnel may immediately remove or cause to be removed threatening or violent students from a classroom setting or from the District's transportation system pending any further disciplinary action that may occur. Threatening or violent behavior shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Disrupts the classroom environment and education process or the student challenges the authority of a supervising adult.
2. Verbal or written statements or gestures by students indicating intent to harm themselves, others or property.
3. Physical attack by students so as to intentionally inflict harm to themselves, others or property.

The Principal may establish (school) procedures for a student's removal from and reentry to the classroom when the student's behavior disrupts the classroom environment and education process or the student challenges the authority of a supervising adult.In addition to removal, the student shall be subject to further discipline for the behavior consistent with the school's code of conduct.

Removal of students from a bus shall be made in compliance with 702 KAR 5:080.

Each school shall designate the site(s) to which employees may remove students from a classroom setting and the employee(s) who will supervise the student at the site.

# STUDENTS A09.425

#  (Continued)

Assault and Threats of Violence

Removal of Students (continued)

When teachers or other personnel remove a student, they shall complete and submit a form to document the removal and the causes as soon as practicable. The Principal/designee shall review the removal as soon as possible to determine if further disciplinary action is warranted or if the student is to be returned to the classroom.

Per KRS 158.150, a student who is removed from the same classroom three (3) times within a thirty (30) day period shall be considered “chronically disruptive” and may be suspended from school and no other basis for suspension shall be deemed necessary.

At any time during the school year, for a student who has been removed from the classroom the Principal may require a review of the classroom issues with the teacher and the parent, guardian, or other person having legal custody or control of the student and determine a course of action for the teacher and student regarding the student's continued placement in the classroom.

At any time during the school year, the Principal may permanently remove a student from a classroom for the remainder of the school year if the Principal determines the student's continued placement in the classroom will chronically disrupt the education process for other students.

When a student is removed from a classroom temporarily or permanently, the Principal shall determine the placement of the student in lieu of that classroom, which may include but is not limited to:

* Another classroom in that school; or
* An alternative program or setting, which may be provided virtually, as approved by the Superintendent/Designee.

Any permanent action by the Principal shall be subject to an appeal process in accordance with Policy 09.4281/Grievances.

Report to Law Enforcement Agency

When they have reasonable belief that a violation has taken place, principals shall immediately report to law enforcement officials when an act has occurred on school property or at a school-sponsored function that involves assault resulting in serious physical injury, a sexual offense, kidnapping or each instance of assault involving the use of a weapon.

Domestic/Dating Violence Reporting and Education

Upon the request of a victim, school personnel shall report an act of domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse to a law enforcement officer. School personnel shall discuss the report with the victim prior to contacting a law enforcement officer.

School personnel shall report to a law enforcement officer when s/he has a belief that the death of a victim with whom s/he has had a professional interaction is related to domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse.

# STUDENTS A09.425

#  (Continued)

Assault and Threats of Violence

Domestic/Dating Violence Reporting and Education (continued)

These reporting requirements covering domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse do not relieve school personnel of the duty to report any known or suspected abuse, neglect, or dependency of a child pursuant to KRS 620.030. This separate reporting requirement covers abuse, neglect or dependency of a child committed or caused by a parent, guardian, other person exercising control or supervision, or a person in a position of authority or special trust.

If individual school personnel has reasonable cause to believe that a victim with whom s/he has had a professional interaction has experienced domestic violence and abuse or dating violence and abuse, s/he shall provide educational materials to the victim relating to such form(s) of abuse and including information on access to regional domestic violence programs or rape crisis centers and how to access protective orders. These materials shall be made available to school personnel in print form or on the web by the primary domestic violence, shelter, and advocacy service provider designated by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services to serve the school District’s area.

Notifications

As soon as the Superintendent/designee confirms that a serious threat has been confirmed, designated personnel shall attempt to notify staff members and/or students who have been threatened and parents of students who are the subject of a threat. Such notification shall observe and comply with confidentiality requirements of applicable law including, but not limited to, state and federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) laws.

Any District employee assigned to work directly with, or who comes in contact with, a student with a documented history of physical abuse of a school employee or of carrying a concealed weapon on school property or at a school function, shall be notified in writing of the student's history by the Principal or designee, guidance counselor or other official who has knowledge of the student's behaviorprior to the assignment or contact.

References:

1KRS 158.150

2KRS158.1559

 KRS 158.154; KRS 160.290

 KRS 161.155; KRS 161.190; KRS 161.195

 KRS 209A:020; KRS 209.160

 KRS 209A.100; KRS 209A.110; KRS 209A.130

 KRS 211.160; KRS 403.720; KRS 456.010

 KRS 508.025; KRS 508.075; KRS 508.078; KRS 525.080

 KRS 532.060; KRS 534.030; KRS 620.030

702 KAR 5:080

Related Policies:

03.123; 03.13253; 03.223; 03.23253; 05.4; 05.48

06.34; 09.14; 09.2211; 09.422; 09.426; 09.4281; 09.429; 09.4341