

Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Atte	ndance
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-120	<b>June 1997</b>	January 2020

A student may be absent, due to illness, no more than ten (10) days per school year with written parent excuse(s). Beyond ten (10) days per school year, a medical statement will be required.

Students should be in school for the full day. Release during school hours are only permitted in exceptional cases outlined in this Procedure and in Policies J-120 and J-170. A school principal may excuse a student from school attendance to participate in a non-school-sponsored extracurricular activity if the following conditions are met:

- a. The student provides documentation to the school as proof of the student's participation in the non-school-sponsored extracurricular activity;
- b. The student's parent, custodian, or other person with legal custody or control of the student, prior to the extracurricular activity, submits to the principal or the principal's designee a written request for the excused absence. The written request shall be submitted no later than seven (7) business days prior to the student's absence; and
- c. The principal or the principal's designee approves, in writing, the student's participation in the non-school-sponsored extracurricular activity.
- d. If a third party (non-parent) checks out a student from a school, the individual or organization must be placed on the contact list by a parent or guardian. If the third party is an organization, that organization must identify its representative(s). School employees/officials may request a photo identification or other proper verification of identity at any time. Parents/guardians are to be informed that placement on the contact list grants full access to checking a student in or out.

To address misuse or disruption, the principal may limit the number and duration of non-school-sponsored extracurricular activities for which excused absences may be granted to a student during the school year. Non-school-sponsored extracurricular activities includes, but is not limited to, courses in religious moral instruction (released time courses).

In addition to the basic requirements for all non-school-sponsored extracurricular activities, released time courses shall meet the requirements of:

- 1) No school funding for the program(s), other than de minimis administrative costs;
- 2) Released time courses/programs cannot take place on school premises; and
- 3) Student participation in released time courses/program must be voluntary. School officials are to remain neutral with regard to participation.

Consistent with Knox County Board of Education Policy, non-school-sponsored extracurricular activities occurring on a regular basis as a class or course are limited to 45 minutes with travel time. If a student does not adhere to the 45-minute time allotment, the absence will be unexcused. A student may not be excused from a class in which subject matter is taught for which the State of Tennessee requires an examination for state and federal accountability purposes. The principal shall excuse no more than ten (10) days each school year for students participating in non-school-sponsored extracurricular activities. Partial days are cumulative. **Knox County Schools** Attendance/Social Services Department Handbook (July 1995, 27 pages) Tennessee Department of Education Student Membership and Attendance Procedures Manual (2018, 25 pages) Tennessee State Board of Education Policy 4.100 Zorach v. Clauson, 343 U.S. 306 (1952) 



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Compulsory Attendance	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-122	June 1997	February 1999

2 Knox County Schools3 Attendance/Social Services Department Handbook

4 (July 1995, 27 pages)

Tennessee Department of Education

Student Membership and Attendance Accountability Procedures Manual

(September 1996, 60 pages)

## **Procedure:**

1) The provisions of this law do not give a principal the authority to drop a child under the age of eighteen from the roll either temporarily or permanently. In any case where it seems desirable to do so, the principal shall complete the form, Compulsory School Attendance – Recommendation for Exemption (AD-103). In addition, the Exemption/GED agreement letter should be signed by the parent and the student and mailed to the Supervisor of Transfers.

2) The Superintendent will refer all such matters to the Board of Education, and the principal will be notified of the Board's action as soon as possible. Under no condition is the principal to drop a pupil under the age of eighteen from the roll until the Executive Committee of the Board has recommended such action and the Board of Education confirms the recommendation.

For consistency, it is suggested we follow past practices as defined in the old policy handbook:

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3) Any non-handicapped student who has attained the age of eighteen (18) and exhibits in any class or assigned location a pattern of absence, tardiness, or other conduct which is detrimental to his/her own learning or to the instruction of other students may be suspended by the Board of Education. Any identified handicapped student with an unacceptable attendance or conduct pattern may be referred by the principal to a multi-disciplinary team (M-Team) for recommendation. Before recommending suspension or referring to the M-Team, the principal shall first notify the parent in writing and allow the student a reasonable time to establish an acceptable record of attendance and conduct.

4) 08/96 - In an effort to meet the State Goal(s) for Dropout Rate of 10% at both the system and the individual school levels, the maximum number of dropouts for each school have been projected through the year 2000 (including exemptions from compulsory attendance). Upon reaching an individual school's target number of dropouts, NO further exemptions will be signed and granted from the Board of Education.

(memo issued 04/05/95 on procedure)



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Home	Schools
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-130-1	<b>June 1997</b>	

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2	Knox County Schools
3	Attendance/Social Services Department Handbook
4	(July 1995, 27 pages)
5	
6	Tennessee Department of Education
7	Student Membership and Attendance Accountability Procedures Manual
8	(September 1996, 60 pages)
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10	For consistency, it is suggested we follow past practices as defined in the old policy handbook: propose
11	required testing for all home schoolers upon entry to the Knox County School System / minimum
12	achievement standards for grade or ability placement.
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(	Category:	Procedure:	
	Students	Granting Course Credit for Home School Students Entering a Knox County High School	
Ι	Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
	AP-J-130-2	<b>June 2008</b>	

## I. Testing

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A. Home school students stating they have earned a credit in English, Math, science, social studies and wellness shall be administered a Knox County EOC in each specific course they are requesting credit be

B. Home school students stating they have earned credit in a foreign language shall be administered the Knox County EOC for the highest level of language for which they are requesting credit be given. (Ex: A student stating they have earned a credit in French I and II will be given the French II EOC)

#### II. Credits

- A. All courses that do not require testing for which a home school student states they have earned credit will be granted and the grade for these courses will be taken from the home school transcript. The student must provide a copy of the program of studies, information as to how the course was accessed in addition to a copy of an official transcript from the home school registrar.
- B. Credits/grades for courses in English, math, science, social studies, and wellness shall be determined as follows:
  - 1. A student scoring 70 or above on the EOC for a course will be granted credit and the grade for the course will be taken from the home school transcript.
  - 2. A student scoring below a 70 but not lower than 60 on the EOC, may appeal to the school principal for consideration of credit/grade for the course. The principal may delay the decision he/she renders until the student has taken the next appropriate course in the academic discipline in the high school and base his/her decision on how well the student performed.
- C. Credits/grades for foreign language will be determined as follows:
  - 1. A student scoring 70 or above on the EOC will be granted credit for the course level of the EOC and any levels below it. (Ex.: A student taking the French II EOC and scoring a 70 or higher will be given credit in French II and French I) and the grade for the course(s) will be taken from the home school transcript.
  - 2. A student scoring below 70 on an EOC above the first year of the language will be given the opportunity to take the EOC for the next level down. If the student scores 70 or higher on the EOC for the next level down, credit will be granted for that level and the grade will be taken from the home school transcript. The same appeal process may be used for students scoring between 60 and 69 on a foreign language EOC.
- D. Students who have taken the Tennessee Gateway or EOC exams can submit their official scores for consideration of credit to the high school director.

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**III. Credits for Graduation** 

A. The counselor will only record on the student's transcript courses for which the student has been awarded credit.

E. Students who score between 50 and 59 may retake an EOC one time during the next testing window.

B. The counselor will calculate the number of credits required for graduation by adding the number of courses attempted during the student's time in home school together with the four (4) courses for each semester they are enrolled in a Knox County High School and subtracting four (4) from that number. (Ex.: A student attempts seven (7) courses while in home school and enrolls in a Knox County High School at the beginning of his/her 10th grade year - 7+8+8+8=31-4= 27 credits required for graduation.) Home school students must meet the minimum state course requirements to receive a high school diploma.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Homeless Students	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-140	May 2003	April 2014

To ensure that homeless students have equal access to the same free appropriate public education as provided to other students, the following shall apply:<sup>1</sup>

Homeless students are individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence and include the following:

- 1. Students who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement.
- 2. Students who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designated for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.
- 3. Students living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings.
- 4. Migratory students who meet one of the above described circumstances.

### **ENROLLMENT/PLACEMENT**

The district will consider the best interests of the student with parental involvement in determining whether the student should be enrolled in the school of origin or the school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the homeless student is actually living are eligible to attend. To the extent feasible, and in accordance with the student's best interest, the student should continue his/her education in the school of origin, except when contrary to the wishes of the parent or guardian. If the student is unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, the homeless liaison will consider the views of the student in deciding where the student shall be educated. The choice regarding placement shall be made regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parents or has been temporarily placed elsewhere.

The school selected shall immediately enroll the homeless student, even if the student is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment, such as previous academic records, immunization records, proof of residency or other documentation. However, the district may require a parent or guardian of the student to submit contact information.

The district shall provide a written explanation, including a statement regarding the right to appeal, to the homeless student's parent/guardian, or to the homeless student if unaccompanied, if the district sends the student to a school other than the school of origin ("school of origin" is defined as the school that the student attended when permanently housed or the school in which the student was last enrolled) or other than a school requested by the parent or guardian.

If a dispute arises over school selection or enrollment in a school, the student shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought, pending resolution of the dispute. The student or parent/guardian shall be referred to the district homeless supervisor, who will carry out the dispute resolution process as expeditiously as possible.

#### **SERVICES**

Each homeless student shall be provided services comparable to the services offered to other students in the district including, but not limited to, transportation services; educational services for which the student meets eligibility criteria, such as educational programs for disadvantaged students, students with disabilities and gifted and talented students; vocational programs and technical education; school meals programs; preschool programs; before- and after-school care programs and programs for students with limited English proficiency. Homeless students will not be segregated in a separate school or in a separate program within a school based on the student's status as homeless.

#### TRANSPORTATION

In the event that it is in the best interest of the homeless student to attend the school of origin, transportation to and from school shall be provided at the request of the parent/guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied student, the homeless coordinator. If the student's temporary housing is outside the district of the school of origin, Knox County will work with the school of origin to agree on a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for transporting the student. If an agreement cannot be reached, the costs will be shared equally.

## **RECORDS**

Any records ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records and evaluations for special services or programs of each homeless child or youth shall be maintained so that appropriate services may be given the student, so that necessary referrals can be made and so that records may be transferred in a timely fashion when a homeless student enters a new school district. Copies of records shall be made available upon request to students or parents in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

#### **COORDINATOR**

The Board will designate the individual to act as the district's homeless liaison.

The district shall inform school personnel, service providers and advocates working with homeless families of the duties of the district homeless liaison. The homeless liaison shall ensure that:

- 1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies.
- 2. Homeless students enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in schools and in the district.
- 3. Homeless families and students receive educational services for which such families and students are eligible, including Head Start, and preschool programs administered by the district and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services and other appropriate services.

- 4. The parents or guardians of homeless students are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.
- 5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless students will be disseminated where such students receive services, such as schools, family shelters and soup kitchens.
- 6. Enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with law.
- 7. The parent or guardian of a homeless student and any unaccompanied youth, is fully informed of all transportation services, including transportation to the school of origin and is assisted in accessing transportation to the school selected.
- 8. Unaccompanied youths will be assisted in placement or enrollment decisions, where views will be considered and they will be provided notice of the right to appeal.
- 9. Students who need to obtain immunizations, or immunization or medical records, will receive assistance.

#### Legal References:

 1. McKinney-Vento Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2001 Subtitle B §§ 721-725.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	School A	Admissions
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-150	<b>June 1997</b>	February 1999

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2	Recommended: Non-handicapped students – If they cannot graduate by age 20 upon reentry, refer to Center
3	School, Adult Evening School, or GED.
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5	Refer to Form: CI-228 Tennessee Child Health Record.
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7	Knox County Schools, Early Entrance into Kindergarten and First Grade (Memo). Elementary Department.
8	Wasse Country Colored - Established - f Donalds - Ciffed Condends for Endon Established - Windows - (Mona)
9	Knox County Schools, Evaluation of Possibly Gifted Students for Early Entry to Kindergarten (Memo).
10 11	Elementary Department.
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# Administrative Procedure

Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Student Assignment	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-151	<b>June 1997</b>	January 2002

Refer to State Law T.C.A. 49-6-3101(f), 49-6-3102, 49-6-3103 and State Department Memo of Interpretation, February 25, 1986. (Authorizes the local Principal to assign students to grade level and classes, based on their best educational judgment.) Central Office and School Administrators responsible for implementation.

Knox County Schools, Guidelines for Placement of Students Age-Eligible to Enter First Grade. Elementary Department.

## **High School Assignment**

The criteria for placement of students in the secondary school program include the following:

- 1. Scholastic achievement and aptitude test data
- 2. Teacher recommendation
- 3. Scholastic grades and credits
- 4. Course offerings and competency requirements
- 5. Career goals of the student
- 6. Parent and student preference (as appropriate and realistic)

Within a period of ten (10) days, any student whose progress is not satisfactory or has been inappropriately assigned, may revert to the preceding or appropriate course level based on teacher, guidance, and administrative review. Parents may appeal this decision to the principal if they disagree.

Knox County Schools, Program of Studies for High Schools. High School Department.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Student Transfers within the System	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-152	<b>June 1997</b>	August 2024

Refer to policy J-152.

#### APPLICATION FOR GENERAL TRANSFERS

Parents may apply for a student transfer during the application windows established under Board of Education Policy J-152. Parents may apply for a Transfer as defined in J-152 in any of the following ways:

- 1. Complete an online transfer request using the application procedure provided on the Knox County schools website at <a href="https://www.knoxschools.org">www.knoxschools.org</a>. Complete the Knox County Schools form AD-102 and/or AD-102 Magnet (available online) and turn it in at any Knox County school or the Enrollment Office located in the UT Tower (Plaza level), 400 W. Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, TN 37902.
- 2. Mail a completed form(s) to the Knox County Schools Supervisor of Enrollment at Post Office Box 2188, Knoxville, TN 37901.

Parents will be afforded the opportunity to identify three schools to which they would like to transfer their child. Every effort will be made, based on space available, to offer a transfer to one of the three identified schools.

Throughout the transfer window, schools will weekly forward received transfer applications via school mail to the Supervisor of Enrollment. The Supervisor of Enrollment will ensure that the requests are entered into the appropriate data bases.

#### TRANSFER APPROVAL PROCESS

The Supervisor of Enrollment will provide a list of all transfer requests for students receiving services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to the Executive Director of Student Support Services for review and approval prior to acting on the request.

The Supervisor of Enrollment will also provide a list of all students requesting transfer for academic course of study to the appropriate grade level Executive Director for verification that the base school is unable to offer a comparable course of study.

- A. Once the above verifications have been completed, all requests for general transfer will be electronically assigned a random number. School assignment will be made in order of the random number, within the ordered priorities listed in section B below.
- B. Priority for assignment will be those requests for transfer made
  - i. by teachers to transfer their child to the school in which they teach
  - ii. by contract employees for their children
  - iii. by students who have a sibling presently enrolled at the requested school who will continue to be

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- enrolled in the year the requested transfer is effective. For purposes of this procedure, a sibling is defined as a brother, sister, half-brother, half-sister, stepbrother, stepsister, or foster child living in the same household.
- iv. for continuation in the Project GRAD program
- v. for pursuit of an academic course of study as described in paragraph D of this section
- vi. for students enrolled in a school designated as a Priority School by the State of Tennessee
- vii. for students not meeting any of the above criteria
- Requests for transfer to the same school that are submitted for twins, triplets or other multiple birth siblings will be treated as a single request and all these siblings will receive the same placement based on the following assignment process.
- C. While TCA provides for children of teachers to receive a transfer to the school where the parent is employed, the Knox County Schools will attempt to extend this benefit as broadly as possible to all contract employees. The Knox County Schools will generally attempt to grant employee's children transfer requests to any school of their choice on a space available basis.
- D. Before any placement of a student is made based on an employee request for transfer, the employee status will be verified based on information maintained by the Knox County Schools payroll office.
- E. Requests for transfer based on academic course of study will be considered only for a complete course of study such as a two, three or four-year program of study that is not available at a base school or where the base school is unable to offer a comparable course of study. Transfers requested for a single class do not constitute a complete course of study.
- F. As the number of transfer requests may exceed available capacity, transfer requests will be honored in order of priority category based on the randomly generated number until capacity is reached. Students who request a transfer, but are not granted any of their school choices due to limited capacity will compose a waiting list. This list will be maintained until the first day of school. Individuals on the waiting list will be offered transfers as space may become available in any of the three requested schools. Once an individual on the waiting list is offered a transfer to any of their requested schools, their name will be removed from the list and no further offers will be made.
- G. Official notification of the status of a transfer request will be made in hard copy through the U.S. mail. Official notification will be made not later than four weeks after the transfer window closes with the exception of requests for transfer for students who will be in Kindergarten.
- H. Projecting Kindergarten enrollments with a high degree of accuracy is extremely problematic. Therefore, with the exception of those transfers identified as priority placement, Kindergarten transfers will be processed and parent notified in the week prior to the beginning of school.
- I. Where possible, e-mail and telephonic notification may be used to speed notification, but the official notification will be via U.S. mail.
- J. Transfers requested during the summer transfer window will be processed in the same manner as described for all other general transfers. Priority placement transfers will be made and a randomly generated list will be compiled of all other requests. If the randomly generated list is for transfers to a school with a previously existing waiting list, this additional list will be appended to the end of the existing list.

# TRANSFERS TO THE BEAUMONT MAGNET HONORS ACADEMY AND THE WEST HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

Transfers to the Beaumont Magnet Honors Academy and the International Baccalaureate Programme at West High School are based on a student's abilities as demonstrated in a test administered by the school. Once all students requesting transfer have been tested, transfers will be granted based on space available. The same random process and waiting list procedure used for all general transfers will apply to the transfer requests for students who meet the established academic criteria.

## APPEAL OF GENERAL TRANSFER ACTIONS

Policy J-152 establishes a protocol for appealing a transfer action. The appeal committee identified in this protocol will consist of three administrators not associated with the enrollment or transfer process, appointed in writing by the Director of Schools. One of the three will be appointed as committee chair. All requests for appeal will be forwarded from the enrollment office to the committee chair. The chair has the option to individually resolve the appeal if possible, or to convene the full committee for a review of the appeal.

## REVOCATION OF TRANSFERS

In cases where a student granted a transfer fails to maintain an appropriate academic, attendance and disciplinary record, the principal may make a formal written request to the Supervisor of Enrollment that the transfer be revoked. This request must detail actions that have been taken in an effort to address the academic, attendance and disciplinary needs and issues of the student. It should also indicate how the student might benefit from a return to the student's base school or placement in another educational setting.

The Supervisor of Enrollment (in consultation with the Director of Schools) and the Director of Schools are the only persons who may revoke an approved transfer.

#### **CONTINUATION TRANSFERS**

A continuation transfer may be granted to students who change residence to another school zone during a school year, and who request to remain at their current school.

Parents may request a Continuation Transfer by contacting the Knox County Schools Enrollment Office. If the enrollment office and the principal of the student's current school determine the student to be in good academic and disciplinary standing, the student may be granted a continuation transfer through the school's terminal grade with no transportation provided by the Knox County Schools.

 The student must remain in good standing in order to retain the Continuation Transfer. The procedure for revocation of Continuation Transfers is the same as for General Transfers.

 Continuation Transfers are not applicable to students whose zoned school may have changed due to a changed in enrollment zones approved by the Board of Education

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Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Release Durii	ng School Hours
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-170	<b>June 1997</b>	October 2001

Release during school hours – Under no circumstances is a student allowed to leave school during regular school hours unless the student has presented a proper written request from his/her parent or guardian to the principal and the principal approves the parent and/or guardian's request.

The student or parent/guardian must present the written request for early student dismissal to the principal or assistant principal before the beginning of the regular school day.

Written requests, presented to the principal, must include a telephone number where a parent/guardian can be reached for verification of the request for student's early dismissal.

The principal or assistant principal shall verify all written requests for student's early dismissal before approving the request.

No student shall be allowed to leave school solely on the basis of a telephone call. If a parent/guardian calls to make a request for a student to leave school, the parent/guardian must come into the school to verify that he/she has given permission for the student to leave school early, before the principal will allow the student to leave.

Early Student Dismissal for Hardship and Private Lessons. Please see School Board Policy "J-170".

Students involved in work-based learning programs may be allowed to have early release from school according to the procedures established for those programs under work-based learning guidelines.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Procedura	l Due Process
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-181	<b>June 1997</b>	February 1999

Knox County Schools, Discipline Procedures Manual.

Read policy carefully and then:

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1) The principal of the school is responsible for determining if a violation of the Board policy or school rules and regulations has occurred and determining appropriate discipline in accordance with the due process procedures. The principal may delegate to the assistant principal(s) his responsibility for discipline matters and the duty to hear discipline matters under this process procedure with the consent of the Superintendent. When a suspension of more than four (4) days is to be considered, and if the principal or his designee holding the hearing is the sole person who has observed the violation, then another principal, assistant principal or administrative personnel will be designated to determine if the student has committed a violation and the appropriate discipline. (separate hearing officer from investigator)

2) If the student involved in a hearing is (a) a "handicapped" student as defined in TCA § 49-10-102 and (b) a suspension of more than ten (10) days is recommended by the principal or the suspension would result in more than ten (10) cumulative days of suspension for the student during the school year, then a multi-disciplinary team will be scheduled to determine placement and to determine final disciplinary action after the decision of the principal and before it is effective. (Reference GUIDE TO DISCIPLINE UNDER 504 AND IDEA for procedure and flow chart.)

3) Procedure for Short-Term Suspension (four days or less)

If the initial hearing results in suspension of four (4) days or less, the principal shall notify the parent or guardian of the suspension, of the cause of the suspension, and of any conditions necessary for the student's readmission at the expiration of the term of suspension. The decision of the principal for a shortterm suspension shall be final and is not appealable above the school level. However, the parent may request a review of the suspension record for procedural correctness. The request for review must be made to the principal within five days after the parent learns of the suspension, and the parent must sign the Request for Short-Term Suspension Review Form. The principal shall immediately forward the request form to the Superintendent's designee, who shall conduct a review of the suspension record for procedural correctness. The parent's request for review shall not delay the effective date of the suspension. The Superintendent's designee, upon completion of the review, shall notify the principal and the parents of its findings, which shall be to find the principal's procedures as either correct or incorrect. If the procedures are found to be incorrect, the Superintendent's designee may declare the suspension void and direct the principal to allow the student to make up any school work missed during the time of suspension. If a shortterm suspension is extended to five (5) or more days for the same violation, the procedure for long-term suspension, including the parent's right of appeal, shall apply. Reference Student Discipline Flowchart (CI-211).

- 4) Hearing procedures for Short-Term Suspension (four days or less)
  - a. The principal will inform the student of the violation and the substance of the information which supports the finding of a violation by the student.

- b. The principal will allow the student to present the student's explanation of the events the principal has presented and to present the student's version of the incident.
- c. The principal will attempt to resolve any contradictions between the facts presented supporting the violation and the student's version of the incident. The principal will impose his disciplinary decision based on his findings of the more probable version of the facts.
- d. Following the hearing, if the principal determines that the student did not commit the violation alleged, or such violation does not warrant suspension, the student will return to class with any remedial action found warranted by the principal.
- e. Following the hearing, if the principal determines that the student did commit the violation(s) alleged and suspension of some type is appropriate, the student will be suspended for no more than four (4) days or shall be otherwise less severely disciplined, which may include in-school suspension for any period of time. The principal shall notify the parent or guardian of the out-of-school suspension, and of any conditions necessary for the student's readmission at the expiration of the term of the suspension.
- 5) Hearing procedure for Long-Term Suspension (more than four (4) days)
- When the information received by the principal indicates a violation has been committed and the student involved and which, if proven, in the judgment of the principal, could justify a suspension for more than four (4) days, the principal shall notify, in writing, the student and reasonably attempt to notify orally or in writing the student's parents or guardians of the specific violations and facts which, if proven, would justify the suspension. The notice shall also contain the date, time, and place of a hearing to determine if a violation has occurred and the proper disciplinary action. The hearing shall be set at the discretion of the principal, but not less than twenty-four (24) hours from the notification of the student. The hearing may be held at an earlier time than that set in the notice upon the joint agreement of administrator and parent.
  - a) At the hearing the principal shall consider the information which supports the finding of the violation by the student together with any information presented to the student to establish no involvement or violation or to deny, explain, or to justify the student's conduct. This hearing shall not be governed by formalized rules, evidence, or procedure, but will be conducted in a manner that insures a fair and complete opportunity to be heard.
  - b) At the hearing the student, parents, or any legal counsel for the parents or student shall be allowed to attend and the principal may allow any staff member or other person to attend all or part of the hearing if they can provide facts or assistance to determine if a violation has occurred or the proper disciplinary action.
  - c) At the hearing, in addition to providing the student the information indicating a violation has occurred, if the student denies the facts or events constituting a violation, then any staff member observing such facts shall, at the student's request, personally relate the facts observed with the student present at the hearing and the student or counsel shall be allowed to ask the staff member about the facts observed.
  - d) The principal will attempt to resolve any contradictions between the information presented supporting the violation and the student's version of the incident. The principal shall impose his disciplinary decision based on his view of the more probable version of the incident.
  - e) Following the hearing, if the principal determines that the student did not commit the violation alleged, or that out-of-school suspension is not appropriate, the student will return to class with any appropriate remedial action, including in-school suspension, if the principal deems appropriate.
  - f) Following the hearing, if the principal finds that the student did commit the violation(s) alleged, the student will be suspended for a definite period of time or otherwise disciplined as determined appropriate by the principal.
  - g) If the principal determines in his discretion that it is necessary for school discipline or because of

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the nature of the alleged violation, a student may be placed in in-school suspension pending a hearing under this section or an M-Team meeting (refer to Discipline under 504/IDEA manual for process).

## 6) Suspension of more than Ten (10) days

If the principal suspends the student for a period in excess of ten (10) days or recommends expulsion, the principal shall immediately refer the case to the Disciplinary Hearing Authority for action on his findings. The Disciplinary Hearing Authority will confirm the recommendation and report of the principal without further hearing unless a request for appeal is filed by the student or parent. Within five (5) days of the date the principal renders his decision the parents or the student must notify the principal in writing of their intention to appeal to a hearing before the Authority. A hearing, if requested, shall be held no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of the suspension.

## 7) Hearing before the Disciplinary Hearing Authority

- a) The Disciplinary Hearing Authority's decision will be the final appeal. The notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given in writing to the student/parent and principal by the Disciplinary Hearing Authority.
- b) At the Disciplinary Hearing, the Hearing Authority shall consider the information which supports the findings of a violation by the student together with any information presented by the student to establish lack of the student's involvement or no violation of the policy or rules or to deny, explain, or justify the student's conduct. This hearing shall not be governed by formalized rules of evidence or procedure, but will be conducted in a manner that insures a fair and complete opportunity to be heard.
- c) At the hearing, in addition to providing the student the information indicating that a violation has occurred, if the student denies the facts or events constituting a violation, then any staff member observing any such facts shall, at the student's request, personally relate the facts observed with the student present at the hearing and the student or counsel shall be allowed to ask the staff member about the facts observed.
- d) At the hearing the student, parents, or any legal counsel for the parents or student shall be allowed to attend and the Authority may request any staff member or other person to attend all or part of the hearing if they can provide facts or assistance to determine if a violation has occurred or the proper disciplinary action.
- e) A written record of the proceedings including a complete transcription of the facts and the reasons supporting the decision shall be made by the Disciplinary Hearing Authority. The student or principal within five (5) days of the Authority's decision may request review by the Board of Education.

## 8) Hearing before the Board of Education

- a) The Board of Education, based on a review of the written record, may grant or deny a request for a Board hearing and may affirm or overturn the decision of the Hearing Authority with or without a hearing before the Board. Whether based on the optional hearing or on the written transcript the decision of the appeal by the Board of Education shall be made at an open meeting of the Board of Education. The Board may not impose a more severe penalty than that imposed by the Disciplinary Hearing Authority without first providing an opportunity for a hearing before the Board.
- b) If the Board of Education grants a hearing, notice of the place and time of the hearing shall be given to the parent and principal by the Board of Education.
- c) At the Board of Education Hearing the Board shall consider the information which supports the findings of a violation by the student together with any information presented by the student to establish lack of the student's involvement or no violation of the policy or rules or to deny,

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- explain, or justify the student's conduct. This hearing shall not be governed by the formalized rules of evidence or procedure, but will be conducted in a manner that insures a fair and complete opportunity to be heard.
- d) At the hearing, in addition to providing the student the information indicating a violation has occurred, if the student denies the facts or events constituting a violation, then any staff member observing any such facts shall, at the student's request, personally relate the facts observed with student present at the hearing and the student or counsel shall be allowed to ask the staff member about the facts observed.
- e) At the hearing the student, parents or any legal counsel for the parents or student shall be allowed to attend and the Board may require any staff member or other person to attend all or part of the hearing if they can provide facts or assistance to determine if a violation has occurred or the proper disciplinary action. The Board of Education may issue subpoenas for attendance of any witness at the Board hearings provided by State Law.
- 9) Suspensions Occurring in the last ten days of a term

In the event the suspension occurs during the last ten (10) days of any term, the student may be permitted to take such final examinations or submit such required work as are necessary to complete the course of instruction for that term, subject to the action of the principal, or the final action of the Board of Education upon any appeal from an order of a principal continuing a suspension.

## 10) Rights of Appeal

- a) The right of review will be explained to the parents and/or student at the time the principal and/or Disciplinary Hearing Authority renders his/its disciplinary decision and a copy in writing on the approved form will be given to the student and/or parent. An appeal of the principal's or Disciplinary Hearing Authority's decision shall be made by notifying the principal or Disciplinary Hearing Authority in writing within five (5) days of the date after disciplinary decision. If the fifth day falls on a non-staff day, then the last day to appeal shall be the next school staff day or the fifth day after the last regular school day of the year, whichever occurs first.
- b) No request for appeal taken under the provisions of Knox County policy shall have the effect of staying, postponing or otherwise delaying the effective date of the suspension imposed by the principal and/or Hearing Authority, except for handicapped students (refer to 504/IDEA manual for instruction).

# 11) Dangerous or Disruptive Students

Students whose presence in school poses a continuing danger to persons or property or represents an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process may be immediately removed from school prior to a hearing. The principal shall, as soon as practical, notify the student and parent/guardian of a disciplinary hearing to be held in accordance with Knox County Board policy.

## 12) SUGGESTED FACTORS OF CONSIDERATION IN DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS:

In determining the appropriate discipline for a student at a hearing, the following factors with the information about the incident and the student's previous history may be, but are not required to be, considered:

- a) The nature of the offense.
- b) Interpretation of policy is left to the discretion of the principal. Common sense and what is considered as "being reasonable" is strongly recommended.
- c) The age of the student.
- d) The level of awareness of the student and any developmental aspects of the student that could be significant.
- e) Any physical or medical conditions which could have a significant influence on the student's

actions. f) The prospects for rehabilitation of the student. g) The nature and kinds of intervention strategies which would benefit the student and/or family and school and community resources which could provide the needed services. h) Are you consistent in your practices? 



## Administrative Procedure

Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Discipline Procedure	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date: Revised Date:	
AP-J-190	<b>June 1997</b>	October 2003

**Reference Policy Handbook:** 1) MISBEHAVIORS: LEVELS I, II, III, IV (Policy Handbook – J-190) a) examples are NOT an exclusive listing b) under Disciplinary Procedures: (add to the same line as follows: Disciplinary Procedures are, but not limited to:) c) under Disciplinary Procedures it is to be understood that listing is not in sequential order d) omit (simple) from Fighting e) add the word Assault under Fighting 2) Additional Guidelines a) A student MAY (shall not) be suspended (solely) because charges are pending against him/her in juvenile or other court (reference #12 TCA 49-6-3401, 07/01/95) b) student to be admitted (felony charge discovered); principal may follow with suspension/expulsion in reference to TCA 49-6-3401 3) Refer to J-193 Student Suspensions for process 4) Zero Tolerance – refer to J-194 Principal responsible for implementation. Knox County Schools, An Administrator's Guide to Discipline Under 504 and IDEA. Supplementary Student Services Department. Knox County Schools, Discipline Procedures Manual. 



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Student Suspensions	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date: Revised Date:	
AP-J-193	June 1997	October 2003

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A student may be suspended by the principal, principal-teacher or an assistant principal from school attendance, from attendance at any school related event (on or off-campus), from attendance at a specific class or classes (in-school suspension) or from riding a school bus for good and sufficient reasons.

1. Unless the student's continued presence in the school, class or school-related activity presents an immediate danger to the student or other persons or property, no principal shall suspend any student until that student has been advised of the nature of his misconduct, questioned about it, and allowed to give an explanation.

2. Upon suspension of any student (in-school suspension in excess of one (1) day), the principal shall make an immediate attempt to contact the parent or guardian to inform them of the suspension. The student shall not be sent home before the end of the school day unless the parent or guardian has been contacted.

3. If the initial hearing results in suspension of four (4) days or fewer, the decision of the principal for a short-term suspension shall be final and is not appealable above the school level. However, the parent may request a review of the suspension record for procedural correctness.

- 4. The principal shall notify the parent or guardian and Superintendent or designee in writing:
  - a. Of the suspension and the cause for it; and
  - b. A request for a meeting with the parent or guardian, student and principal, to be held as soon as possible, but no later than five (5) days following the out of school suspension.

 5. Immediately following the scheduled meeting, whether or not attended by the parent or guardian or student, the principal shall determine the length of the suspension and set conditions for readmission. If the principal determines the suspension is long term, the principal shall develop and implement a plan for correcting the behavior when the student returns to school.

6. If at the time of the suspension the principal determines that an offense has been committed which, in the judgment of the principal, would justify a suspension for more than five (5) days, he may suspend the student unconditionally for a specified period of time or upon such terms and conditions as are deemed reasonable.

7. The principal shall immediately give written or oral notice to the parent or guardian and the student of the right to appeal the decision to suspend for more than five (5) days. All appeals must be filed, orally or in writing, within five (5) days after receipt of the notice and may be filed by the parent or guardian, the student or any person holding a teaching license who is employed by the school system if requested by the student.

8. The appeal from this decision shall be to the Board of Education or to a disciplinary hearing authority appointed by the Board. The hearing shall be held no later than ten (10) days after the beginning of the

suspension. The notice of the time and place of this hearing shall be given in writing to the parent or 1 guardian and student by the disciplinary hearing authority. 2 3 4 9. After the hearing, the disciplinary hearing authority may: a. Order removal of the suspension unconditionally; 5 6 b. Order removal of the suspension upon such terms and conditions as it deems reasonable; c. Assign the student to an alternative program; 7 8 d. Assign the student to a night school; or e. Suspend the student for a specified period of time. 9 10 10. A written record of the proceedings, including a summary of the facts and the reasons supporting 11 the decision, shall be made by the disciplinary hearing authority. The student or principal may within five 12 (5) days of the decision request review by the Board. 13 14 15 11. After a review of the record, the Board may affirm the decision of the hearing authority, modify the decision to a lesser penalty, or grant a hearing before the Board. 16 17 18 12. After the hearing, the Board may affirm the decision of the hearing authority or modify the decision in any manner, including imposing a more severe penalty than that of the hearing authority. 19 20 21 13. Students who are absent because of out-of-school suspension will be allowed to make up missed assignments. (Policy JB) If the suspension occurs during the last ten (10) days of any term or semester, the 22 23 student shall be permitted to take such final examinations or submit such required work as necessary to complete the course of instruction for that semester, subject to conditions prescribed by the principal. 24 25 14. Students under suspension from one school in the school system cannot enter another school in 26 27 the system. 28 29 Fighting – punishment is subject to, but not limited to: 30 31 1) First offense: minimum suspension of four (4) days 32 33 2) Second offense: suspension up to ten (10) days Policy carry over to graduation 34 35 36 3) Third offense: Level VI Behavior / ten (10) or more days 37 38 Policy carry over to graduation. 39 40 Action may be applied at any Level (I, II, III, IV) 41 Tobacco: Refer to J-220 42 43 Reference Location of School Laws List for TCA citations (see Reference Section) 44 45 46 Procedures for In-School and Out-of-School Suspensions: 47

1) Refer to Flow Chart

1	2) Step back and examine every case (let common sense and what is considered reasonable judgment
2	prevail)
4	3) Be CONSISTENT in HOW you apply the rules
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5	4) Due Process ALWAYS takes place / Make a distinction between the Investigator and the Hearing
7	Officer in every case.
8	5) D'   11   6 D'   11   16   1     D   6
9	5) Discipline of Disabled Students: Refer to Guide to Discipline under 504 and IDEA for process
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Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Zero Tolerance Expulsions	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-194	October 2003	

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 A student who commits a zero tolerance violation is subject to expulsion from school for a period of not less than one calendar year except that the Superintendent may modify the expulsion on a case by case basis. TCA 49-6-3401(g)

- 1. Unless the student's continued presence in the school, class or school-related activity presents an immediate danger to the student or other persons or property, no principal shall suspend any student until that student has been advised of the nature of his misconduct, questioned about it, and allowed to give an explanation.
- 2. Upon suspension of any student, including suspension until a hearing to which parent(s) is invited to attend may be scheduled, the principal shall make an immediate attempt to contact the parent or guardian to inform them of the suspension. The student shall not be sent home before the end of the school day unless the parent or guardian has been contacted.
- 3. If the initial hearing results in suspension of four (4) days or fewer pending the discipline hearing and subsequent recommendation for expulsion, the decision of the principal for a short-term suspension shall be final and is not appealable above the school level. However, the parent may request a review of the suspension record for procedural correctness.
- 4. The principal shall notify the parent or guardian and Superintendent in writing:
  - a. Of the suspension, the cause for it, and the possibility of a recommendation for expulsion under zero tolerance; and
  - b. A request for a meeting with the parent or guardian, student and principal, to be held as soon as possible, but no later than five (5) days following the out of school suspension.
- 5. At the scheduled meeting, whether or not attended by the parent/guardian or the student, the principal shall state that the suspension will continue until the principal's recommendation for expulsion under zero tolerance may be acted upon.
- 6. The principal shall immediately give oral and written notice to the parent or guardian and the student of the right to request an appeal as to the guilt or innocence of the student and shall inform them that:
  - a. The Superintendent may, on a case-by-case basis, modify the length of the expulsion; and
  - b. All cases will be reviewed for possible modification.
  - c. All cases will be reviewed to determine whether the student shall be removed from school attendance at the location where the violation occurred or removed from school attendance altogether. In addition, the principal shall provide forms for the parent/guardian, the student, or any person designated by the student to give written information related to the event. Such documents must be submitted to the Office of the Superintendent within five days of the hearing with the principal.

7. The Superintendent may modify the length of the expulsion or he may uphold the recommendation of the principal for expulsion for a calendar year. The decision of the Superintendent shall be final except that the Board may grant a review if requested by the parent or the student but such review shall be limited to consideration of guilt or innocence only. The review shall be based on the summary of records from the principal's hearing, the modification review, and such additional evidence as the Board may deem admissible.

8. For those appealing the guilt/innocence of the student, the appeal must be filed within five (5) days after receipt of the notice and may be filed by the parent/guardian, the student or any person designated by the student. This appeal shall be to the disciplinary hearing authority appointed by the Board. The hearing shall be held no later than ten (10) days after the beginning of the suspension. The notice of the time and place of this hearing shall be given in writing to the parent or guardian and student by the disciplinary hearing authority. Students who have engaged in behavior prohibited by zero tolerance shall be considered for the alternative school program. The Superintendent shall make a determination regarding alternative educational services. The Superintendent's decision shall be based on the summary of records from the principal's hearing, the alternate educational services review, and such additional evidence as the Superintendent may deem admissible. (Refer to Board Policy J-281)

9. After the hearing, if the disciplinary hearing authority finds the evidence adequate to support the guilt of the child, a request for modification by the Superintendent may be made as outlined in numbers seven and eight above or a request for review may be made within five (5) days to the Board for a judgment of guilt or innocence.

10. If the Board finds the student guilty of the offense, the one calendar year expulsion shall stand, although a request for modification by the Superintendent may be made as outlined in numbers seven and eight above.

 11. The Superintendent shall report to the Board monthly on modifications requested and dispositions of such requests.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Interrogations and Searches	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-200	<b>June 1997</b>	February 1999

Knox County Schools, Discipline Procedures Manual.

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For consistency, it is suggested we follow past practices as defined in the old policy handbook: Prior to taking action, the principal should post notices that school lockers and vehicles parked on school grounds are subject to search.

This policy recommendation applies to situations in which contraband drugs may be contained in an unspecified school locker or a vehicle located within a specified area of the school building or grounds. The principal may request a controlled sweep search of the identified area by trained drug detecting dogs. The request shall be made to a Knox County Schools security officer within an expedient time frame that will allow a timely response. The sweep search shall be conducted according to the following prescribed guidelines:

1. The principal shall be in charge, and the personnel handling the dogs shall operate under the principal's jurisdiction while on schools grounds.

2. The principal and dog handlers shall follow procedures intended to maintain a true chain of evidence while at the same time protecting the physical safety and due process rights of students and school personnel.

3. The principal shall recommend a time for the sweep search, giving consideration to the optimum time for detecting the contraband drug with minimum disruption to the school operation. When the time is set, Knox County School Security shall alert school personnel specifically assigned in the search.

4. School personnel and/or security officers may be used to block access to the search area by students and other unauthorized persons during the time devoted to the sweep.

 5. Dog handlers shall work the dogs as rapidly as practical up and down the area of lockers or vehicles in the secured areas. Any locker or vehicle that is identified as containing illegal drugs shall be marked. Upon completion of the sweep the dog handling team will exit the school property, and school personnel shall stand by the marked locker or vehicle until the principal completes the next step.

 6. The principal shall summon the student responsible for the identified locker or vehicle, if said student is known and on the premises, and request the student to open the door. If refused by the student, or if the responsible student is unknown or not on school premises, the principal may forcibly enter the locker or vehicle.

7. If contraband is found, the principal shall document it as to locker number or vehicle license number, the name of the student assigned to the locker or operating the vehicle, the time and date, the location of the contraband in the locker or the vehicle, what the contraband is believed to be, and how is it packaged. The contraband will then be placed in a clear bag and marked with the time, date, student's name, school and

finder's initials. The school security officer shall then take the evidence to the State Toxicology Laboratory for testing and identification. 8. Upon confirmation of the illegal nature of a substance located under these procedures, the principal will proceed according to the Board's due process policy (J-181) if disciplinary action is to be taken. Also reference Board policy regarding Zero Tolerance and possession (J-194 & J-190). (Refer to guideline on notifying Knox County Security.) 



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Random Searches for Dangerous Weapons, Drugs and Drug Paraphernalia	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-201	December 2020	

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It is the goal of Knox County Schools to provide a safe learning environment free from dangerous weapons, drugs and drug paraphernalia<sup>1</sup> The use of these items in our greater community is at a life or health threatening level and, therefore, random searches are necessary to protect the student body.<sup>2</sup>

 All vehicles, lockers other storage areas, containers, packages and their contents brought onto the school property by students or visitors are subject to search for weapons, drugs and drug paraphernalia.<sup>3</sup> Random searches will be conducted in a manner no more intrusive than necessary to achieve the goal of preventing drugs, drug paraphernalia, firearms, and other dangerous weapons in schools.

 As stated in Board of Education policy J-201, random personal searches of students may be conducted on school campuses by the use of walk-through metal detectors or handheld magnetometers. Officers of the Knox County Schools Security Division shall conduct any and all random searches adhering to the following guidelines:

1. The search shall be scheduled in advance with the school principal and approved by the Director of Schools.

2. The search will be supervised by a sergeant or more senior supervisor assigned to the School Security Division. A school administrator, designated by the principal, will also be on hand to assist as may be required.

3. The search will be conducted by an appropriate number of security officers to ensure all activities are complete prior to the scheduled start of the school day.

4. The search shall be videotaped for an archived record that is maintained for one calendar year.

5. The school's assigned School Security Officer will not directly participate in the search but may advise the search team with respect to school specific expectations and protocols.

 6. Based on the volume of students entering the school building, a random number of students will be searched.

 7. The sergeant or senior supervisor in charge of the search will determine the random number of students to be searched (i.e. every 4<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> student etc.) This random number can change throughout the search based on the ebb and flow of students entering the building – the more students the fewer that are searched.

8. The randomly selected students shall be searched using either a walk through or a handheld magnetometer, asked to empty pockets and their backpacks or other book bags shall be searched.

At the completion of the search, the sergeant or other supervisor in charge shall report any findings to the school principal or the principal's representative. The Chief of the Security Division shall report any findings and the number of students search to the Chief Operating Officer and the Director of Schools. Legal References: 1. T.C.A. § 49-6-4203(a). 2. T.C.A. § 49 -6-4203(e)(2). 3. T.C.A. § 49-6-4204(a). 4. T.C.A. § 49-6-4207. 



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Use of Tobacco	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-220	<b>June 1997</b>	

 Refer to policy.

Always provide for due process.

For consistency, administrators agree that the following discipline be imposed:

- First offense: Minimum suspension of two (2) days
- Second offense: Minimum suspension of four (4) days
- 3) Third offense: Long term suspension recommended of five (5) or more days.

Offenses do not carry over to the next school year.

If school administrators have reasonable, educationally sound alternative programs for tobacco cessation, they may utilize them.

Knox County Schools, Discipline Procedures Manual.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Use of Personal Communication Devices in School	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-240	June 1997	

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2	Refer to pol	icy.	
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4	Always prov	vide for due process.	
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6	For consiste	ency, administrators agree that the following di	scipline be imposed:
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8		nse: return collected items to parent/guardians	
9		ffense: minimum suspension of two (2) days (	
10		ense: minimum suspension of two (2) days (fo	
11	4) Continua	tion of suspension process with parental meeti	ngs upon readmission to school.
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Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Bus Conduct	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-250	<b>June 1997</b>	February 1999

1. Principal or designee may use students for information in an investigation. However, the use of student monitors on a bus related to student conduct will not be allowed. (Reference TCA)

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2. Procedure needed for misconduct reported by parents or other students.

A. Request that parent or student make a report in writing (i.e. Parent Communication Form and/or Student Witness Statement).

B. Principal or designee conduct investigation (including the bus driver). Thoroughly document process.

3. Principal or designee should follow disciplinary code sheet on the school bus incident report form (AD-T-203) for all infractions and provide the bus driver with the goldenrod copy with results of referral. Principals and contractors should establish a procedure for communicating bus misconduct information. Reporting of misbehavior and results should be done in a timely manner (within 3-5 days). If a special education student is involved in misbehavior in which an M-Team is required to determine manifestation, principals should note on Form AD-T-203 disciplinary action taken will depend upon conference outcome. Principal should refer to bus incident form with "conference decision" and provide a copy to the bus driver.

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(Note to principals: this "conference" is only if an M-Team meeting is necessary. However, it is a violation of the law to identify the students as handicapped on the bus incident form.) Principal should communicate expected behaviors to all students and parents through school student handbook.

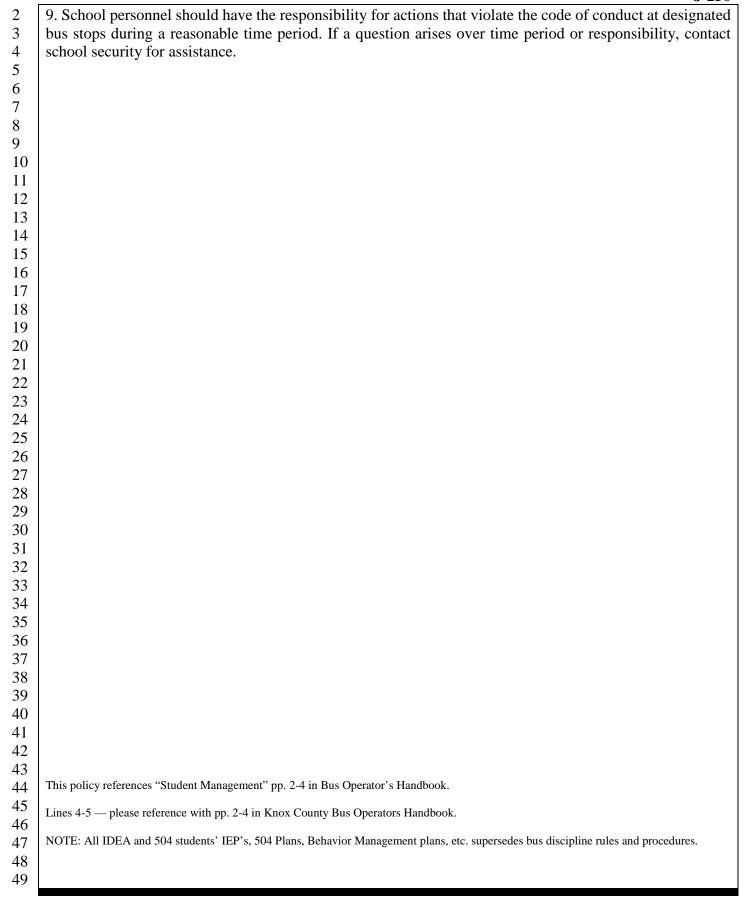
4. Principal or designee is the only one to suspend a student from a bus enroute or at any time. (Reference *Knox County Schools Bus Operator's Handbook*)

5. Students who transfer from bus to bus while in route to and from school shall be expected to abide by approved discipline policies and procedures. The principal or designee at the base school (school the student attends) shall administer appropriate discipline. Communication between schools may be necessary.

6. Permission for a student to ride a different bus than the one he/she is assigned to will be given based on available space, acceptable student conduct, principal discretion and if the bus doesn't have to make an extra stop. Upon giving permission for student change of bus, principal or designee will photocopy parental request for alternate bus, provide a copy to the bus driver, and keep a copy on file for the duration of the change. Verification with parent by phone may be needed. (Reference *Knox County Schools Bus Operator's Handbook* "Directives")

7. Any student riding a contracted bus providing transportation for a school sponsored activity is subject to disciplinary action for any infraction under the code of conduct.

8. A driver submitting a School Bus Incident Report to the principal or his/her designee, should list the interventions attempted to correct the behavior outlined in the discipline under "specific details" on Form AD-T-203. (e.g. *Lee Canter's Assertive Discipline for Bus Drivers*)





Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Technology Device Returns	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-270	January 2021	

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## **PURPOSE**

Knox County school district. This procedure applies to all student and staff assigned devices (to include computers, hotspots, tablets, cell phones, and any other piece of technology equipment regardless of the initial cost, location, or funding source). The following procedure will be implemented to recover or properly account for any devices that are either lost or not returned when requested.

# PROCEDURE

1. The onsite device manager will send the following information to the Computer Repair Team Leader or his/her designee at computerrepair@knoxschools.org:

This procedure is to ensure the collection of information technology (IT) devices is consistent across the

- Student/staff member's name
- Student/employee ID number
- Asset tag number
- Device(s)' serial number(s)

He or she will then lock the device and change the status to "locked per school admin" in the Incident IQ software.

- 2. The onsite device manager will contact the individual who accepted the Technology Device Agreement(s) and request that he or she return the device(s) to the school within one (1) week.
  - Calls and emails will be documented via action items in Incident IQ.
  - After three (3) unsuccessful attempts at contact, the device(s) will be deemed stolen. The onsite device manager will file a police report and change the status of the device to "stolen" in Incident IQ.
- 3. If a student or staff member is unable to return the device(s) to school, the onsite device manager will email the Computer Repair Team Leader or his/her designee at <a href="mailto:computerrepair@knoxschools.org">computerrepair@knoxschools.org</a>. He or she will send a prepaid shipping box so that the device(s) can be mailed back to the computer repair shop. The device(s) must be postmarked within one (1) week.

## **PENALTY**

1. If the device(s) are not returned within the allotted timeframe, the device(s) will be deemed stolen. The onsite device manager will file a police report and change the status of the device to "stolen" in Incident IQ.

2. If student device(s) are not returned, KCS Board Policy J-560 Student Fees and Fines allow for the following:

- The grades, grade cards, diploma or transcript of a student who is responsible for vandalism or theft or who has otherwise incurred a debt to a school may be held until the student or the student's parent/guardian has paid for the damages.
- 3. The Technology Device Agreement allows KCS to collect the replacement costs from a staff member or student that failed to return the device(s).
  - Students, parents/guardians, and staff members that are responsible for stolen device(s) will be invoiced accordingly.

## FINAL DISPOSITION

Based on the actions taken and properly logged in the Incident IQ system, unrecovered devices will be dropped from Knox County Schools property books once the police report for stolen property is filed. Failure to complete any of the steps described may result in the initiation of a full investigation to determine pecuniary liability and final property disposition.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Alternative School Programs	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-280	June 1997	October 2003

The Knox County School Board has established the following alternative schools and alternative programs in accordance with TCA 49-6-3402:

- 1. Richard Yoakley Alternative School for high school and middle school students
- 2. Karns Annex Alternative School for middle school students
- 3) Night Alternative Programs for high school students located at each Knox County high school
- 4) Knox County Schools and Boys and Girls Clubs of the Tennessee Valley, joint alternative programs for middle school students This program is located in four (4) Boys and Girls Clubs sites:
  - a. Moses Center
  - b. Caswell site
  - c. Halls-Powell site
  - d. Vestal site

For admission to the alternative school or alternative programs – refer to procedure J-281.

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Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Alternative School Services	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-281	October 2003	

- 1. Students that receive a short term suspension of four (4) days or less will be allowed to make up any work or assignments missed during the suspension. The student will be given three (3) school days after returning to school in which to complete all make-up assignments. Students not completing assignments within the three (3) day period will receive zero (0) for each assignment not turned in.
- 2. Students suspended for five (5) to ten (10) days will not receive alternative school placement. However, these students will be given assignments to complete for each class during the suspension. If the student does not understand or needs help/assistance with the assignments, the student may attend the Night Alternative Program (high school students only), with principal permission, to receive help with the assignments. All work must be completed and turned in when the student returns to school at the end of the suspension or the student will receive zero (0) for each assignment not turned in.
- 3. Students suspended for eleven (11) to twenty (20) days shall be offered placement in the Night Alternative School Program at the base school.
- 4. Students suspended over twenty (20) days may be offered placement in the Richard Yoakley Alternative School or the Karns Annex Alternative School, if space is available. If space is not available, the student may be assigned to the Night Alternative Program at the base school until space becomes available at the Richard Yoakley Alternative School or the Karns Annex Alternative School or until the suspension has been completed.
- 5. A student who commits a zero tolerance violation (such as possession of marijuana or prescription drugs that does not involve other students) may be offered alternative school placement. The student may be assigned to the Night Alternative program at the base school until an assignment can be made to the Zero Tolerance Classroom at the Richard Yoakley School or at the Karns Annex. Placement at the Richard Yoakley School or Karns Annex will be for the duration of the expulsion from the base school.
- 6. When a student is assigned to the Night Alternative School Program, the student's regular classroom teachers will submit a weekly assignment sheet for that student to the Alternative School Program. The alternative school teacher will facilitate the student's assignment and return the completed assignment to the regular classroom teacher.
- 7. A student who commits a zero tolerance violation (such as possession of a gun, battery on a school employee) may be recommended (at the discretion of the Superintendent) for alternative school placement. A student who commits a second (2nd) zero tolerance violation may, at the discretion of the Superintendent, be recommended for placement in the Alternative Program.
- 8. The preceding procedures, with the exception of section five (5), will be followed for admission to the Alternative Educational Program in collaboration with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Knoxville. When a student is assigned to this Alternative Program, the assignment will be for the duration of the suspension or expulsion.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Guidelines for Managing Life-Threatening Allergies	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-355	July 1995	July 2014

School personnel who have been trained by a Registered Nurse are permitted to administer epinephrine when the school nurse is not available. If a student does not have an epinephrine auto injector and/or a prescription, the school nurse or trained personnel may administer the school's independent supply of epinephrine when responding to an anaphylactic reaction. If a student is injured due to the administration of epinephrine by a school nurse or other trained personnel, they shall not be held responsible for the injury unless administered with an intentional disregard for safety. Each school shall maintain at least two (2) unlocked secure epinephrine auto injector locations, including but not limited to, the school office and school cafeteria.

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#### **GUIDELINES**

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Education/training for school personnel on the management of students with life-threatening allergies to include notification of Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

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• The school nurse or principal shall maintain a record for each student at risk for anaphylaxis.

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• If a student utilizes the epinephrine auto-injector other than as prescribed, he/she may be subject to disciplinary action.

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• Development of strategies to reduce the risk of exposure to anaphylactic causative agents in classrooms and common areas such as the cafeteria.

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• Dissemination of information on life-threatening allergies to school staff, parents, and students.

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• Development of an Individual Health Plan (IHP) and/or 504 tailored to the need of each individual child at risk for anaphylaxis to include all school sponsored events.

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• Students with a known diagnosis of anaphylaxis must have a written and signed statement from the student's licensed health care provider that supports:

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a. Diagnosis of anaphylaxis

c. Indication of prior history of anaphylaxis

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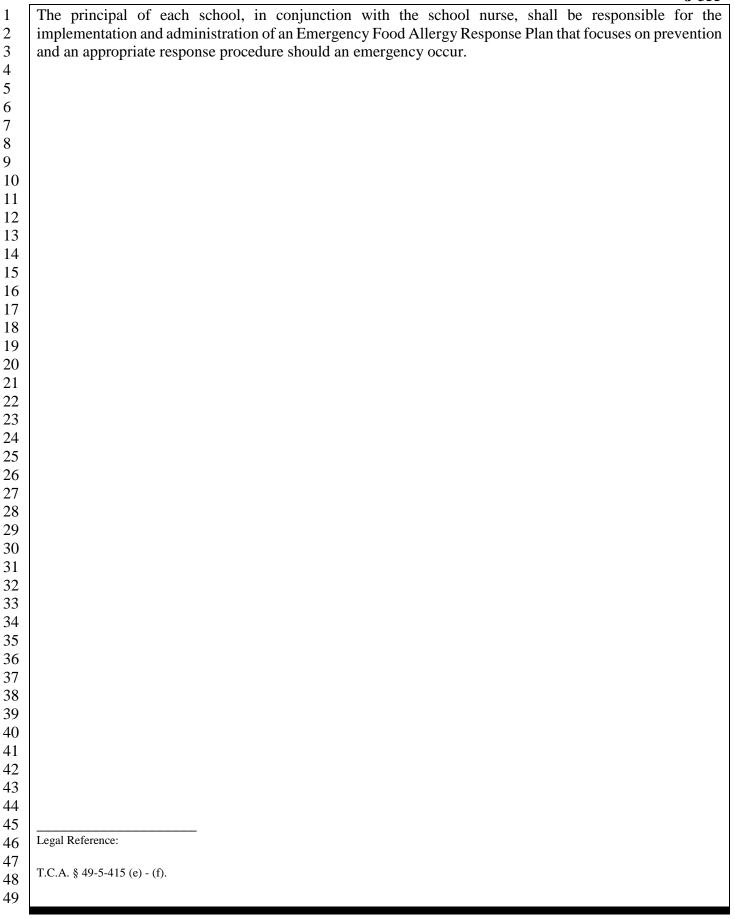
b. Identification of food or other substances to which the student is allergic

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d. Recommendation of emergency treatment procedures in the event of a reaction

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e. Completion of Knox County Schools Allergy/Anaphylaxis Allergy Action Plan to include substitute meals and self- administration readiness





Category:	Procedure:	
Students	Private Practitioners	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-359	10/23	6/24

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Pursuant to Board Policy J-359 "Private Practitioners," parents or legal guardians may choose to independently contract with private practitioners to access additional medical services which are outside of the student's educational program. Knox County Schools welcomes private practitioners entering the school to help improve the health and wellbeing of students.

This procedure outlines the request process to authorize a private practitioner to administer medical services

to a student on campus during the school day, and how authorized private practitioners are to conduct

themselves while on school premises for this purpose. All such requests for authorization must be initiated by a parent or legal guardian via the Private Practitioner Portal on the KCS Health Services webpage. The

The following documentation must be submitted by parents/guardians on the Private Practitioner Portal. All

After all necessary documentation has been submitted by the parent or guardian (on or after July 1), private

practitioners who will access the school virtually or in person should contact KCS Human Resources to

schedule a TBI fingerprinting and drug screening to complete the necessary background check requirements.

Private practitioners will be notified of the results of their background check by KCS Human Resources.

Practitioners must also create an account on the Private Practitioner Portal on the KCS Health Services

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Private Practitioner Portal will open each year on July 1st for submissions for the upcoming school year.
Private practitioners who provide services under a separate Memorandum of Understanding with Knox

Private practitioners who provide services under a separate Memorandum of Understanding with Knox County Schools are not necessarily governed by this Administrative Procedure and should consult their own

Memorandum of Understanding, other KCS policies and procedures which may apply, and the executive

principal of the school they are accessing to determine what expectations may apply.

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Signed Private Practitioner AgreementPhoto to be used on school identification badge

webpage to submit the following documentation:

• Private Practitioner Request Form

• Medical Release Form

• A signed Letter of Necessity

• Parent Consent Form

requested documents must be scanned and uploaded as PDFs.

• Proof of liability insurance\*

- Medical treatment plan\*\*
- Proof of up-to-date certification/licensure
- Certificate of insurance
- Completed Request to Provide Live Remote Services (if remote access is desired)

\*Insurance coverage must provide for the requested practitioner's medically-required services during the school day.

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\*\*Treatment plans are reviewed and maintained by KCS Health Services and are not intended for distribution or use beyond this department.

KCS Health Services will review all submitted documentation and coordinate with the principal at the relevant school to confirm that the requested services will not interfere with the educational process for the student involved or their peers. Knox County Schools reserves the right to deny any private practitioner access to KCS campuses either temporarily or permanently where, in the school system's discretion, such access interferes with the safety or privacy of KCS students, violates this or other KCS policies or procedures, or interferes in any way with the educational environment and processes of the school. Examples of services which could create an interference with the educational environment and processes of the school include but are not limited to certain invasive medical procedures, services which would remove a child from their least restrictive environment as determined by a student's IEP team, therapeutic services which are overly loud or distracting for the planned setting, and any service which includes isolation or restraint of a student.

Nothing in this procedure pertains to the behavior of students receiving services. Student discipline policies are located in Section J of the Knox County School Board Policies.

## NOTIFICATION OF INITIAL CONFIRMATION OR DENIAL

KCS Health Services will notify the parent or guardian when their request has been confirmed. If it is determined that the requested services would create an irreconcilable interference with student safety, student privacy, the educational environment and processes of the school, or the school's ability to supervise its students, KCS Health Services will notify the parent or guardian with a letter of denial.

#### STATEMENT OF GRIEVANCES AND APPEALS

Parents/legal guardians who receive a letter of denial may choose to appeal the decision. Appeals should begin with the submission of a written statement of grievances submitted to the Director of Student Supports. The Director of Student Supports will review the submitted grievances and provide a written response within fifteen (15) business days. All subsequent requests for appeal shall be submitted in the following order:

- 1. Assistant Superintendent of Student Success
- 2. Director of Schools
- 3. Board of Education

Requests to appeal should be submitted to the appropriate office within fifteen (15) days from the issuance of the decision being appealed. Requests for appeal filed with the Board of Education will be heard within sixty (60) days from the date the request is received.

#### CONFLICT RESOLUTION PROCEDURE\*\*\*

Due to changing environmental conditions and educational requirements in schools, executive principals have the authority and discretion at all times to direct any private practitioners accessing their building pursuant to KCS Policy J-359 as to which school settings practitioners may access and at what times. Executive principals also have the authority and discretion at all times to direct a private practitioner to stop engaging in any practice or behavior that the executive principal believes is dangerous, violates student privacy or dignity, or is disruptive to the educational process, even if the practitioner is otherwise approved under Policy J-359. Where feasible, executive principals shall make reasonable efforts to communicate new

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49 50 rules or restrictions to private practitioners working in their buildings in a timely fashion so as to minimize last-minute disruptions or schedule changes.

In the event that a parent/legal guardian feels that a principal's direction or restriction of a private practitioner they have hired has materially disrupted their student's services on at least three separate school days during a particular nine-week period, they may appeal the principal's decision. Such appeals shall be submitted in writing to the Office of the Ombudsman, whose decision shall be final.

The decision of the executive principal shall be binding upon the private practitioner during the pendency of the appeal.

\*\*\* Principals who believe that a private practitioner has violated law, policy, or written regulations should contact the Director of Student Supports with any proof of the alleged violation, including witness statements, and should take no action themselves beyond that which is required to ensure the immediate safety of students and staff.

## NOTIFICATION OF DISCONTINUATION OF SERVICES

The employer of any approved private practitioner is responsible for notifying the Supervisor of Health Services in the event that the approved practitioner no longer works for their agency. Notification should be delivered in writing prior to the start of the next business day following the change in employment.

#### TRANSFERRING SERVICES BETWEEN KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS

Approved requests for privately contracted medical services will follow any student who transfers or changes schools over the course of a single school year. Both the private practitioner and the principal of the student's previous school are jointly responsible for notifying the principal of the student's new school of the student's need for private medical services while at school, within ten (10) school days of the transfer.

## SERVICES EXTENDING BEYOND A SINGLE YEAR

All approvals for private practitioners expire at the conclusion of each school year. Parents/legal guardians interested in requesting services for a subsequent year should submit all necessary documentation for any new requests prior to or during the following school year. Practitioners shall also be required to sign a new Private Practitioner Agreement and re-upload all required documentation (except the background check) to the Private Practitioner Portal.

Background checks, including TBI fingerprinting, are valid for five (5) calendar years for all individual practitioners who continuously provide services in Knox County Schools. Practitioners extending their services beyond five (5) years, or those who experience a break in in-school services lasting more than eight (8) months, will be required to complete a new background check.

Private practitioners need only complete drug testing once per continuous service period. Practitioners who experience a break in in-school services lasting more than eight (8) months will need to complete new drug testing.

### PROCEDURES FOR PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS WHILE ACCESSING SCHOOL CAMPUSES

Private practitioners are expected to follow all policies, rules, and procedures set forth by Knox County Schools, and the oral or written direction of building-level administration while present on Knox County

Schools campuses. Private practitioners should be particularly cognizant of the following procedures:

- 1. Private health services being provided to the student on school premises during the school day must not interfere with the education of the student receiving services or of any other student. Private practitioners are not permitted to interfere with the proper implementation of a student's Individualized Education Program ("IEP"), Section 504 Plan, Behavior Intervention Plan, or any other educational program or plan deemed necessary or appropriate by the executive principal or KCS. In order to protect their right to be educated in the least restrictive environment appropriate, students may not be removed more than momentarily from the educational environment with their peers in order to access private services.
- 2. Private practitioners accessing Knox County Schools under this policy are not permitted to exact discipline of any kind on any student while on school premises. Student discipline while at school remains the sole responsibility of Knox County Schools staff and administration.
- 3. In no circumstance shall any private practitioner isolate or restrain a child under their care while on school premises, nor shall they direct any other person to do so. Violation of this procedure may result in immediate termination of access privileges to KCS schools. KCS staff are likewise not permitted to request such an action by any private practitioner. In the event that a student in crisis must be placed in isolation or restrained, private practitioners should not follow the child into any space designated for isolation of students in crisis.
- 4. In no circumstance shall any private practitioner perform any type of corporal punishment on a student while on school premises, nor shall they direct any other person to do so. Violation of this procedure may result in immediate termination of access privileges to KCS schools. KCS staff are likewise not permitted to request such an action by any private practitioner.
- 5. Prior to commencing services for a student in a new school, private practitioners should schedule a meeting, which may be virtual, with the school's executive principal or their designee. Private practitioners and building-level administration shall collaborate to determine a service schedule. This service schedule shall be written out and included in the student's educational record. The service schedule need not contain any private health information beyond the days and times that services will be provided, and whether they will be provided remotely.
- 6. KCS staff are ultimately responsible for the care of all students while at school, and shall make all decisions about the student's education, including but not limited to student safety, behavioral interventions, and discipline.
- 7. All private practitioners must check in with the front office and classroom teacher at the Beginning and end of each session. In the event that services are being provided remotely, the provider accessing the school remotely must check in with front office staff and the classroom teacher via videoconference at the beginning of each session by providing their name and destination and displaying their KCS-provided identification remotely using their device's camera.
- 8. Private practitioners who wish to provide remote services to a particular student must receive additional, separate authorization from KCS Health Services to do so. Such authorization may be requested via submission of a completed Request to Provide Live Remote Services, signed by all necessary parties.

- 9. In no circumstance shall any private practitioner photograph or record any student or staff member while on campus. Violation of this procedure may result in immediate termination of access privileges to KCS schools.
- 10. In the event that a private practitioner, having received prior approval for remote access under the process outlined above, chooses to access a KCS school remotely as part of a health service, the practitioner shall not permit themselves to be visible on camera while students other than the student receiving services are present, nor shall they permit themselves to be heard by students other than the student receiving services.
- 11. In order to protect our students' privacy and promote opportunities for student socialization, remote private health services will generally not be allowed to take place in school common areas which receive significant traffic, such as hallways, cafeterias, playgrounds, and gymnasiums.
- 12. Knox County Schools will not be responsible for facilitating remote access for services during the school day. Any practitioner accessing schools under KCS Policy J-359 shall be fully responsible for any and all logistical concerns relating to remote access services. In no event shall a child be removed from the educational environment or supervision of KCS staff to receive remote services, nor will KCS commit to providing designated spaces or technology to facilitate such services. Private practitioners may utilize KCS guest wifi connections where available, and should reach out to building-level administration to obtain any necessary passcodes to do so.
- 13. Knox County Schools administration and staff are coordinating with our students' private practitioners to promote student wellbeing while at school. Any private practitioner who has questions about any of these procedures or would like clarification or planning assistance in providing services in a way that does not interfere with the educational environment or processes of a school is encouraged to reach out to the building-level principal.

A copy of this administrative procedure shall be provided to each private practitioner who applies to access Knox County Schools under Knox County School Board Policy J-359.



Category:	Procedure:	
Students	School Athletic Clubs	
Descriptor Code:	Issued Date:	Revised Date:
AP-J-460	May 2010	August 2013

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Refer to policy J-460.

Each Athletic Club shall have a Club sponsor who is a Knox County Employee (certified or classified), responsible to the school principal.

A sponsor and/or Coach/Consultant must attend **all practices and competitions** (see note below).

Each sponsor shall keep on file at a central location current proof of physicals and insurance for each Athletic Club member (notes from parents **are not allowed**). Students who do not have proof of health insurance will be **required to purchase school insurance**.

No student shall be allowed to participate in any form of practice or competition until the sponsor has on file evidence of a physical examination by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner and a signed statement by the parent/guardian giving the student permission to participate.

All Athletic Club money shall be deposited to the school account by the Athletic Club sponsor.

Off Campus practices and competitions shall require an "Off Campus Trip Form" completed by the sponsor and approved by the principal.

Sponsor – One or more Knox County Schools employee(s) that serves as an advocate for a School Athletic Club is responsible for all paperwork and ensures that the club adheres to the Knox County Schools policies. Sponsor is responsible for supervising Coach/Consultant, if applicable.

Consultant/Coach – The expert in the sport that attends all practices and competitions. If the coach is not a Knox County employee, he/she must pass the same required background checks as KCS employees, including a drug test.