

2026-2027
Somerset ISD
Student Code of Conduct

VISION

To be the Standard of Excellence in Education

MISSION

Somerset ISD will invest in developing a highly skilled workforce that is committed to graduating students who are college, career, and/or military ready.

DISTRICT GOALS

1. *Retain, recruit, and develop talent.*
2. Improve academic performance.
3. Ensure operational efficiency.
4. Foster a safe, secure, and supportive learning environment.

Somerset Independent School District Board Members

Tim Segura - President
Andrea De La Cruz - Vice President
Don Green - Secretary
Francisco De Luna, Jr. - Trustee
Elizabeth Hansen – Trustee
Michael Lujan - Trustee
Robert Sanchez - Trustee

School Board Meeting Dates

August 10, 2026
September 14, 2026
October 19, 2026
November 9, 2026
December 14, 2026
January 11, 2027
February 8, 2027
March 15, 2027
April 12, 2027
May 10, 2027
June 14, 2027
July 12, 2027

Meetings are held at the Somerset ISD Performing Arts Center, 7791 6th Street, Somerset, TX 78069 and called to order at 6:30 p.m. The SISD Board of Trustees can call a "Special Board Meeting" when necessary.

If any other changes are made to meeting time and/or location or if special meetings are to be held, an official notice will be posted on the district's bulletin board next to the front door of the district's Central Office, 7791 6th Street, in Somerset and is also available on the district website: www.sisdk12.net

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Student Code of Conduct

Accessibility

If you have difficulty accessing the information in this document because of disability, please contact the district at (210) 750-8956.

Purpose

The Student Code of Conduct ("SCoC") is the district's response to the requirements of Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code and provides methods and options for managing students in the classroom, on and off school grounds, disciplining students, and preventing and intervening in student behavior incidents. The law requires the district to define misconduct that may—or must—result in a range of specific disciplinary consequences including removal from a regular classroom or campus, out-of-school suspension, placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP), placement in a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP), or expulsion from school.

This Student Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Somerset ISD Board of Trustees and developed with the advice of the district-level committee. This Code provides information to parents and students regarding standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct, and procedures for administering behavioral consequences. It remains in effect during summer school and at all school-related events and activities outside the school year until an updated version adopted by the board becomes effective for the next school year.

In accordance with state law, the Code shall be posted at each school campus or shall be available for review at the office of the campus principal. Additionally, the Code shall be available at the office of the campus behavior coordinator and posted on the district's website: www.sisdk12.net Parents shall be notified of any conduct violation that may result in a student being suspended, placed in a DAEP or JJAEP, expelled, or taken into custody by a law enforcement officer under Chapter 37 of the Education Code.

Because the Student Code of Conduct is adopted by the district's board of trustees, it has the force of policy; therefore, in case of conflict between the Code and the Student Handbook, the Code of Conduct shall prevail.

Please note: The behavior consequences of students with disabilities who are eligible for services under federal law (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973) is subject to the provisions of those laws.

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Campus Behavior Coordinator

As required by law, a person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator (CBC). The designated person may be the principal of the campus or any other campus administrator(s) selected by the principal. The campus behavior coordinator is primarily responsible for maintaining student behavior.

The district maintains a current list of the persons serving as a campus administrator in the Student Handbook or on the district's website at www.sisdk12.net

School rules and the authority of the district to administer discipline apply whenever the interest of the district is involved, on or off school grounds, in conjunction with or independent of classes and school sponsored activities.

- Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of terroristic threat under Penal Code 22.07
- Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of unlawfully carrying weapons under Penal Code 46.02
- Conduct that contains the elements of the offense of exhibiting, using, or threatening to exhibit or use a firearm under Education Code 37.125; and
- Any concerning student behaviors or behavioral trends that may pose a serious risk of violence to the student or others.

The district has disciplinary authority over a student:

1. During the regular school day and while the student is going to and from school or a school sponsored or school-related activity on district transportation;
2. During lunch periods (Somerset ISD is a closed district; therefore, students may not leave campus during lunch);
3. While the student is in attendance at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;
4. For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;
5. When retaliation against a school employee, board member, or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;
6. When a student engages in cyberbullying , as defined by Education Code 37.0832;
7. When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event;
8. For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line;
9. For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school- related activity of another district in Texas;
10. When the student commits a felony, as provided by Education Code 37.006 or 37.0081; and
11. When the student is required to register as a sex offender.
12. HB 6 for certain offenses committed off campus may be expelled to DAEP or JJAEP.

Threat Assessment and Safe and Supportive School Team

The CBC or other appropriate administrator will work closely with the campus threat assessment and safe and supportive school team to implement the district's threat assessment policy and procedures, as required by law, and shall take appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Searches
District officials may conduct searches of students, their belongings (to include backpacks, purses, etc.) and their vehicles in accordance with state and federal law and district policy.

Searches of students shall be conducted in a reasonable and nondiscriminatory manner. Refer to the district's policies at FNG (LEGAL) and FNF (LOCAL) for more information regarding investigations and searches.

The district has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property, whenever there is reasonable cause to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.

Desks, lockers, district-provided technology, and similar items are the property of the district and are provided for student use as a matter of convenience. District property is subject to search or inspection at any time without cause.

Reporting Crimes
The principal or CBC, or other appropriate administrators shall report crimes as required by law and shall call district or local law enforcement when an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed on campus.

Security Personnel

The board utilizes police officers to ensure the security and protection of students, staff, and property. In accordance with law, the board has coordinated with the CBC and other district employees to ensure appropriate law enforcement duties are assigned to these persons. Provisions addressing the various types of security personnel can be found in the CKE policy series.
Somerset ISD's police officers shall perform law enforcement duties for the school district that must include protecting the safety and welfare of any person within the jurisdiction of the peace officer and the property of the school district.

"Parent" Defined
Throughout The Code of Conduct and related discipline policies, the term "parent" includes a parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control of the child.

Participating in Graduation Activities
The district has the right to limit a student's participation in graduation activities for violating the district's Code of Conduct. Participation might include a speaking role, as established by district policy and procedures.

Students eligible to give the opening and closing remarks at graduation shall be notified by the campus principal. Notwithstanding any other eligibility requirements, in order to be considered as an eligible student to give the opening or closing remarks, a student shall not have engaged in any misconduct in violation of the district's Code resulting in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

The valedictorian and salutatorian may also have speaking roles at graduation. No student shall be eligible to have such a speaking role if he or she engaged in any misconduct in violation of the district's Code resulting in an out- of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

See **DAEP Code of Conduct Part 2 regarding Restrictions During Placement** and information regarding a student assigned to DAEP at the time of graduation.

Standards for Student Conduct
Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not.
- Behave in a responsible manner, always exercising self-discipline.
- Attend all classes regularly and on time.
- Prepare for each class; take appropriate materials and assignments to class.
- Meet district and campus standards of grooming and dress, as outlined in the **2026-2027 Dress Code.**
- Obey all campus and classroom rules.
- Respect the rights and privileges of students, teachers, and other district staff and volunteers.
- Respect the property of others, including district property and facilities.
- Cooperate with and assist the school staff in maintaining safety, order, and discipline.
- Adhere to the requirements of the Student Code of Conduct.

Extracurricular Participation
All students/parents must sign the Extracurricular Activity Contract included at the end of this document and abide by this Code and the expectations outlined in the contract.

General Conduct Violations

The categories of conduct below are prohibited at school, in vehicles owned or operated by the district, and at all school-related activities, but the list does not include the most severe offenses. In the subsequent sections on **Out-of-School Suspension, DAEP Placement, Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses, and Expulsion**, certain offenses that require or permit specific consequences are listed. Any offense, however, may be severe enough to result in **Removal from the Regular Educational Setting** (HB 6) as detailed in that section.

Unauthorized Persons
In accordance with Education Code 37.105, a school administrator or district/campus police officer shall have the authority to refuse entry to or eject a person from district property if the person refuses to leave peaceably on request and:

1. The person poses a substantial risk of harm to any person; or

2. The person behaves in a manner that is inappropriate for a school setting and persists in the behavior after being given a verbal warning that the behavior is inappropriate and may result in refusal of entry or ejection.

Appeals regarding refusal of entry or ejection from district property may be filed in accordance with policies FNG (LOCAL) or GF(LOCAL), as appropriate.
However, the timelines for the district's grievance procedures shall be adjusted as necessary to permit the person to address the board in person within 90 calendar days, unless the complaint is resolved before a board hearing.

General Conduct Violations

The categories of conduct below are prohibited at school, in vehicles owned or operated by the district, and at all school-related activities, but the list does not include the most severe offenses. In the subsequent sections: In-School Suspension, Out-of-School Suspension, Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement, Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses, and Expulsion, those offenses that require or permit specific consequences are listed. Any offense, however, may be severe enough to result in Removal from the Regular Educational Setting.

Disregard for Authority

Students shall not:

- Fail to comply with directives given by school personnel (flagrant insubordination).
- Leave school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission.
- Disobey rules for conduct in district vehicles.
- Refuse to identify self to staff, school faculty, or police officers.
- Refuse to accept discipline management techniques assigned by a teacher or principal.

Mistreatment of Others

Students shall not:

- Use profanity or vulgar language or make obscene gestures.
- Fight or scuffle. (For assault, see DAEP Placement and Expulsion.)
- Threaten a district student, employee, or volunteer, including off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Engage in bullying, harassment, or making hit lists. (See Glossary for all three terms.)
- Engage in conduct that constitutes sexual or gender-based harassment or sexual abuse, whether by word, gesture, or any other conduct, directed toward another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer.
- Engage in conduct that constitutes dating violence. (See Glossary)
- Engage in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts.
- Participate in hazing. (See Glossary)
- Cause an individual to act through the use of or threat of force (coercion).
- Commit extortion or blackmail (obtaining money or an object of value from an unwilling person).

- Engage in inappropriate verbal, physical, or sexual conduct directed toward another person, including a district student, employee, or volunteer.
- Record the voice or image of another without the prior consent of the individual being recorded or in any way that disrupts the educational environment or invades the privacy of others.
- Engage in any behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct and is motivated by antisemitism. (see Glossary)

Property Offenses

Students shall not:

- Damage or vandalize property owned by others. (For felony criminal mischief, see DAEP Placement or Expulsion.)
- Deface or damage school property—including textbooks, technology and electronic resources, lockers, furniture, and other equipment—with graffiti or by other means.
- Steal from students, staff, or the school.
- Commit or assist in a robbery or theft, even if it does not constitute a felony according to the Texas Penal Code. (For felony robbery, aggravated robbery, and theft, see DAEP Placement and Expulsion.)
- Enter, without authorization, district facilities that are not open for operations.

Possession of Prohibited Items

Students shall not possess or use:

- Fireworks of any kind, smoke or stink bombs, or any other pyrotechnic device;
- A razor, box cutter, chain, or any other object used in a way that threatens or inflicts bodily injury to another person;
- A “look-alike” weapon that is intended to be used as a weapon or could reasonably be perceived as a weapon;
- An air gun or BB gun;
- A short barrel firearm;
- Ammunition;
- A hand instrument designed to cut or stab another by being thrown;
- A firearm silencer or suppressor; a stun gun;
- A location-restricted knife, a pocket knife or any other small knife;
- Mace or pepper spray;
- A club, a stun gun, knuckles
- Pornographic material;
- Tobacco products (including nicotine pouches), cigarettes/juuls; e-cigarettes; and any component, part, or accessory for an e cigarette device;
- Matches or a lighter;
- A laser pointer for other than an approved use; or
- Any articles not generally considered to be weapons, including school supplies, when the principal or designee determines that a danger exists.

*See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for weapons and firearms. In many circumstances, possession of these items is punishable by mandatory expulsion under federal or state law.

Possession of Personal Communication Devices
House Bill 1481 prohibits the use of personal communication devices by students during the school day. Device types include cell phones, smartphones, and tablets. Smartwatches, wireless earbuds, and other electronic devices with telecommunication or digital communication capabilities. While on school property, the student shall store any personal communications device in accordance with administrative regulations.

A student who violates this policy or any regulations shall be subject to discipline in accordance with the Board-adopted Code.

An authorized District employee shall confiscate a student's personal communications device that is used in violation of this policy or any applicable regulations.

The District shall not dispose of the personal communication device. The District shall provide appropriate notice, and devices that are not retrieved shall be stored according to administrative regulations.

Exceptions
A student shall be authorized to use a personal communication device on school property during the school day only under the following circumstances:

- The student's use is necessary for implementation of the student's individualized education program, a 504 plan, or a similar program or plan;
- The student's use is required due to a documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or
- The student's use is necessary to comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the District or safety protocols.

Inappropriate use of a personal communication device during the school day will result in disciplinary action in accordance with this Code of Conduct.

Illegal, Prescription, and Over-the-Counter Drugs
Students shall not:

- Possess or sell seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount. (For illegal drugs, alcohol, and inhalants, see DAEP Placement and Expulsion.)
- Possess, use, give, or sell paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance. (See Glossary for "paraphernalia.")
- Possess, use, abuse, or sell look-alike drugs or attempt to pass items off as drugs or contraband.
- Abuse the student's own prescription drug, give a prescription drug to another student, or possess or be under the influence of another person's prescription drug on school property or at a school related event. (See Glossary for "abuse.")
- Abuse over-the-counter drugs. (See Glossary for "abuse.") Be under the influence of prescription or over- the-counter drugs that cause impairment of the physical or mental faculties. (See Glossary for "under the influence.")
- Have or take prescription drugs or over-the-counter drugs at school other than as provided by district policy.

Misuse of Technology Resources and the Internet

Students shall not:

- Violate policies, rules, or agreements signed by the student or the student's parent regarding the use of technology resources.
- Attempt to access or circumvent passwords or other security-related information of the district, students, or employees or upload or create computer viruses, including off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Attempt to alter, destroy, or disable district technology resources including, but not limited to, computers and related equipment, district data, the data of others, or other networks connected to the district's system, including off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Use the internet or other electronic communications to threaten district students, employees, board members, or volunteers, including off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Send, post, or possess electronic messages that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, harassing, damaging to another's reputation, or illegal, including cyberbullying and "sexting," either on or off school property, if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.
- Use email or websites to engage in or encourage illegal behavior or threaten school safety, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Utilizes artificial intelligence in a way that would constitute academic dishonesty or as a means of engaging in any other prohibited conduct.

Safety Transgressions

Students shall not:

- Possess published or electronic material that is designed to promote or encourage illegal behavior or that could threaten school safety.
- Engage in verbal (oral or written) exchanges that threaten the safety of another student, a school employee, or school property.
- Make false accusations or perpetrate hoaxes regarding school safety.
- Engage in any conduct that school officials might reasonably believe will substantially disrupt the school program or incite violence.
- Throw objects that can cause bodily injury or property damage.
- Discharge a fire extinguisher without valid cause.
- Assisting/inviting a person who is not a student or staff member onto school property.

Miscellaneous Offenses

Students shall not:

- Violate dress and grooming standards as communicated in the Student Handbook.

- Engage in academic dishonesty, which includes cheating or copying the work of another student, unauthorized use of artificial intelligences, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination.
- Gamble.
- Falsify records, passes, or other school-related documents.
- Engage in actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or interfere with school activities.
- Repeatedly violate other communicated campus or classroom standards of conduct.

The district and/or campus may impose campus or classroom rules in addition to those found in the Code. These rules may be posted in classrooms or given to the student and may not constitute violations of the Code.

Discipline Management Techniques

1. Discipline shall be designed to improve conduct and to encourage students to adhere to their responsibilities as members of the school community.
2. Disciplinary action shall draw on the professional judgment of teachers and administrators and on a range of discipline management techniques, including restorative discipline practices.
3. Discipline shall be correlated to the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, the student's attitude, the effect of the misconduct on the school environment, and statutory requirements.
4. Because of these factors, discipline for a particular offense, including misconduct in a district vehicle owned or operated by the district, unless otherwise specified by law, may bring into consideration varying techniques and responses.

Students with Disabilities

The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the Student Code of Conduct. To the extent any conflict exists, state and/or federal law shall prevail.

In accordance with the Education Code, a student who receives special education services may be disciplined for conduct meeting the definition of bullying, harassment, or making hit lists (see Glossary) pending an ARD committee meeting to review the conduct.

In deciding whether to order suspension, DAEP placement, or expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the district shall take into consideration a disability by conducting a Manifestation and Determination Review meeting to review if student's qualifying disability or disabilities impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.

First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette

An appropriate administrator may place a student in a disciplinary alternative education program for the first-time offense of possession or use of a nicotine delivery product or e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code.

If a student who possesses or uses an e-cigarette is not placed in a disciplinary alternative education program for the first-time offense under Education Code 37.008, the student shall be placed in in-school suspension for a period of at least 10 school days.

Disciplinary Management Techniques

The following discipline management techniques may be used alone, in combination, or as part of progressive interventions for behavior prohibited by the Student Code of Conduct or by campus or classroom rules:

- Verbal correction, oral or written.
- Cooling-off time or "time-out."
- Seating changes within the classroom or vehicles owned or operated by the District.
- Temporary confiscation of items that disrupt the educational process.
- Rewards or demerits.
- Behavioral contracts.
- Counseling by teachers, school counselors, or administrative personnel.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- Grade reductions for cheating, plagiarism, and as otherwise permitted by policy EIA (LOCAL).
- Detention, including outside regular school hours.
- Sending the student to the office or other assigned area, or to in-school suspension.
- Assignment of school duties, such as cleaning or picking up litter.
- Withdrawal of privileges, such as participation in extracurricular activities, eligibility for seeking and holding honorary offices, or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations.
- Penalties identified in individual student organizations' extracurricular standards of behavior.
- Restriction or revocation of district transportation privileges.
- School-assessed and school-administered probation.
- Corporal punishment: The Board prohibits the use of corporal punishment in the District. Students shall not be spanked, paddled, or subjected to other physical force as a means of discipline for violations of the Student Code of Conduct. FO (LOCAL)
- Out-of-school suspension, as specified in the Out-of-School Suspension section of this Code.
- Placement in a DAEP, as specified in the DAEP section of this Code – Part 2, Expulsion for Certain Offenses section of this Code.
- Referral to an outside agency or legal authority for criminal prosecution in addition to disciplinary measures imposed by the district.
- Other strategies and consequences as determined by school officials.

Prohibited Aversive Techniques

Aversive techniques are prohibited for use with students and are defined as techniques or interventions intended to reduce the reoccurrence of a behavior by intentionally inflicting significant physical or emotional discomfort or pain. Aversive techniques include:

- Using techniques designed or likely to cause physical pain, other than corporal punishment as permitted by district policy. [See policy FO(LOCAL)]
- Using techniques designed or likely to cause physical pain by electric shock or any procedure involving pressure points or joint locks.
- Directed release of noxious, toxic, or unpleasant spray, mist, or substance near a student's face.
- Denying adequate sleep, air, food, water, shelter, bedding, physical comfort, supervision, or access to a restroom facility.
- Ridiculing or demeaning a student in a manner that adversely affects or endangers the learning or mental health of the student or constitutes verbal abuse.
- Employing a device, material, or object that immobilizes all four of a student's extremities, including prone or supine floor restraint.
- Impairing the student's breathing, including applying pressure to the student's torso or neck or placing something in, on, or over the student's mouth or nose or covering the student's face.
- Restricting the student's circulation.
- Securing the student to a stationary object while the student is standing or sitting.
- Inhibiting, reducing, or hindering the student's ability to communicate.
- Using chemical restraints.
- Using time-out in a manner that prevents the student from being able to be involved in and progress appropriately in the required curriculum or any applicable individualized education program (IEP) goals, including isolating the student using physical barriers.
- Depriving the student of one or more of the student's senses, unless the technique does not cause the student discomfort or complies with the student's IEP or behavior intervention plan (BIP).

Notification

The CBC shall promptly notify a student's parent by phone or in person of any violation that may result in in-school or out-of-school suspension, placement in a DAEP, placement in a JJAEP, or expulsion. The CBC shall also notify a student's parent if the student is taken into custody by a law enforcement officer under the disciplinary provisions of the Education Code.

A good faith effort shall be made on the day the disciplinary action was taken, providing written notification of the disciplinary action to the student for delivery to the student's parent. If the parent has not been reached by telephone or in person by 4:30 p.m. of the first business day after the day the disciplinary action was taken, the campus administrator shall send written notification by U.S. Mail. If the campus administrator is not able to provide notice to the parent, the principal or designee shall provide the notice.

Before the principal or appropriate administrator assigns a student under age 18 to detention outside regular school hours, notice shall be given to the student's parent to inform him or her of the reason for the detention and permit arrangements for necessary transportation.

Parental Involvement

The district has not adopted a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placements under Education Code 37.0014.

Appeals

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the teacher, campus administration, or campus administrator as appropriate. Appeals or complaints regarding the use of specific discipline management techniques should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of the policy may be obtained from the principal's office, the campus administrator's office, or the central administration office or through *Policy On Line* at the following address: www.sisdk12.net

Consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of a grievance.

Removal from the School Bus

A bus driver may refer a student to the principal's office to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The principal must employ additional discipline management techniques, as appropriate, which can include restricting or revoking a student's bus riding privileges. Since the district's primary responsibility in transporting students in district vehicles is to do so as safely as possible, the operator of the vehicle must focus on driving and not have his or her attention distracted by student misbehavior. Therefore, when appropriate disciplinary management techniques fail to improve student behavior or when specific misconduct warrants immediate removal, the principal may restrict or revoke a student's transportation privileges, in accordance with law.

Bus offenses and subsequent consequences will be handled as follows:

- 1st offense: Written Warning with Parent Notification.
- 2nd offense: Written Warning with Parent Notification.
- 3rd offense: Lunch detention and/or removal from bus riding privileges for 3 days with Parent Notification.
- 4th offense: In School Suspension or Lunch Detention and/or removal from bus riding privileges 3 days with Parent Notification.
- 5th offense: Suspension of riding privileges for two weeks.
- Excessive bus disruptions and their severity may result in student removal from bus riding privileges for 30 days or more.

In the event a severe violation occurs which the bus driver feels may endanger the safety and/or well-being of other riders, the three documented warnings may be forfeited and the student may be immediately suspended or removal of privileges.

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

In addition to other discipline management techniques, misconduct may result in removal from the regular educational setting in the form of a routine referral or a formal removal.

Routine Referral

A routine referral occurs when a teacher sends a student to the administrator's office as a discipline management technique. The campus administrator shall employ alternative discipline management techniques, including progressive interventions.

A teacher or campus may remove a student from class for a behavior that violates this Code to maintain effective discipline in the classroom.

Formal Teacher Removal

A teacher may also initiate a formal removal from class if:

1. The student's behavior repeatedly interferes with the teacher's ability to teach his or her class or with the student's classmates' ability to learn; or
2. A student demonstrates behavior that is unruly, disruptive, or abusive toward the teacher, another adult, or another student in the classroom.
3. A student engages in conduct that constitutes bullying, as defined by Education Code 37.0832. A teacher, CBC, or other appropriate administrator must notify a parent or person standing in parental relation to the student of the formal removal. A teacher may remove a student from class based on a single incident of behavior.

Within three school days of the formal removal, the CBC or appropriate campus administrator shall schedule a conference with the student's parent; the student; the teacher, in the case of removal by a teacher; and any other campus designee.

At the conference, the CBC or appropriate campus administrator shall inform the student of the misconduct for which he or she is charged and the consequences. The student shall have an opportunity to give his or her version of the incident.

When a student is removed from the regular classroom by a teacher and a conference is pending, the campus administrator or other campus designee may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom.
- In-school suspension.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- DAEP (Alternative School)

A teacher or campus administrator must remove a student from class if the student engages in behavior that under the Education Code requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP or expelled. When removing for those reasons, the procedures in the subsequent sections on DAEP or expulsion shall be followed.

Returning a Student to the Classroom

A student who has been formally removed from class by a teacher for conduct against the teacher containing the elements of assault, aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's written consent.

A student who has been formally removed by a teacher for any other conduct may not be returned to the teacher's class without the teacher's written consent unless the placement review committee determines that the teacher's class is the best or only alternative, and not later than the third class day after the day the student was removed from class, a conference in which the teacher was provided an opportunity to participate has been held. The student may not be returned to the teacher's class unless the teacher provides written consent for the student's return or a return to class plan has been prepared for that student.

Appeals of Formal Teacher Removals

A student may appeal the teacher's removal of the student from class to the school's placement review committee or the campus's threat assessment and safe and supportive school team, in accordance with a district policy providing for such an appeal to be made to this team.

In-School Suspension

An in-school suspension is not subject to any time limit.

A school's principal or other appropriate administrator shall review the in-school suspension of a student at least once every 10 school days after the date of the suspension begins to evaluate the educational progress of the student and to determine if continued in-school suspension is appropriate.

During in-school suspension, a student shall receive appropriate behavioral support services and comparable educational services as the student would receive in the classroom. If the student receives special education services, the student must continue to receive special education and related services specified in the student's individualized education program (IEP) and continue to have an opportunity to progress in the general curriculum.

[See First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette for limitations to the general rule.]

Process

Before being suspended, a student shall have an informal conference with the CBC or appropriate administrator, who shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and give the student an opportunity to respond to the allegation before the administrator makes a decision.

The CBC shall determine the number of days of a student's suspension.

In deciding whether to order in-school suspension, the CBC shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see Glossary)
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the
3. student engaged in the conduct;
4. The student's disciplinary history;
5. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;
6. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or
7. A student's status as homeless.

The appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

Out-of-School Suspension

Misconduct

Students may be suspended for behavior listed in the Code of Conduct as a general conduct violation, DAEP offense, or expellable offense. The district shall not use out-of-school suspension for students in grade 2 or below grade 3 unless the conduct meets the requirements established in law.

A student below grade 3 or a student who is homeless shall not be placed in out-of-school suspension unless, while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property, the student engages in:

- Conduct that contains the elements of a weapons offense, as provided in Penal Code sections 46.02 or 46.05;
- Conduct that threatens the immediate health and safety of other students in the classroom;
- Documented conduct that results in repeated or significant disruption to the classroom; or
- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of marijuana, an alcoholic beverage, or a controlled substance or dangerous drug as defined by federal or state law.

The district shall use a positive behavior program as a disciplinary alternative for students below grade 3 who commit general conduct violations instead of suspension or placement in a DAEP. The program shall meet the requirements of law.

Process

State law allows a student to be assigned to out-of-school suspension for no more than three school days per behavior violation, with no limit on the number of times a student may be suspended in a semester or school year.

Before being suspended a student shall have an informal conference with the campus administrator or appropriate campus designee, who shall advise the student of the conduct of which he or she is accused.

The student shall be given the opportunity to explain his or her version of the incident before the campus's decision is made.

The number of days of a student's suspension shall be determined by the campus administrator but shall not exceed three school days.

In deciding whether to order out-of-school suspension, the campus administrator shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see Glossary),
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
3. The student's disciplinary history, or
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.

The appropriate campus principal or designee shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school- related extracurricular and co-curricular activities.

Alternative Assignment

A parent or person standing in parental relation to the student may submit a written request to the principal or other appropriate administrator to reassign a student placed in out-of-school suspension. The parent or person standing in parental relation to the student must provide information and documentation that they are unable to provide suitable supervision for the student during school hours during the period of the suspension. It is the sole discretion of the principal or other appropriate administrator to reassign the student placed in out-of-school suspension.

Coursework During Suspension

The district shall ensure a student receives access to coursework for foundation curriculum courses while the student is placed in in-school or out-of-school suspension, including at least one method of receiving this coursework that doesn't require the use of the internet.

A student removed from the regular classroom to ISS or another setting, other than a DAEP, will have an opportunity before the beginning of the next school year to complete each course the student was enrolled in at the time of removal. The district may provide the opportunity by any method available, including a correspondence course, another distance learning option, or summer school. The district will not charge the student for any method of completion provided by the district.

Sexual Assault and Campus Assignments

If a student has been convicted of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children or convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against another student on the same campus, and if the victim's parent or another person with the authority to act on behalf of the victim requests that the board transfer the offending student to another campus, the offending student shall be transferred to another campus in the district.

If there is no other campus in the district serving the grade level of the offending student, the offending student shall be transferred to a DAEP.

Registered Sex Offenders

Upon receiving notification in accordance with state law that a student is currently required to register as a sex offender, the administration must remove the student from the regular classroom and determine appropriate placement unless the court orders JJAEP placement.

If the student is under any form of court supervision, including probation, community supervision, or parole, the placement shall be in either DAEP or JJAEP for at least one semester.

If the student is not under any form of court supervision, the placement may be in DAEP or JJAEP for one semester or the placement may be in a regular classroom. The placement may not be in the regular classroom if the board or its designee determines that the student's presence:

1. Threatens the safety of other students or teachers,
2. Will be detrimental to the educational process, or
3. Is not in the best interests of the district's students.

At School, Within 300 Feet, or at a School Event

A student may be expelled for committing any of the following offenses on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code does not violate this provision. (See Glossary for "under the influence.")
- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to the abuse of volatile chemicals.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of assault under Section 22.01(a)(1) against an employee or a volunteer.
- Engaging in deadly conduct. (See Glossary)
- Student may be removed (HB 6).

Within 300 Feet of School

A student may be expelled for engaging in the following conduct while within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line:

- Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault.
- Arson. (See Glossary.)
- Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder.
- Indecency with a child, aggravated kidnapping, manslaughter, criminally negligent homicide, or aggravated robbery.
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or children.
- Felony drug- or alcohol-related offense.
- Carrying on or about the student's person a handgun, an illegal knife, or a club, as these terms are defined by state law. (See Glossary)
- Possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a prohibited weapon, as defined by state law. (See Glossary.)
- Possession of a firearm, as defined by federal law. (See Glossary.)

Property of Another District

A student may be expelled for committing any offense that is a state-mandated expellable offense if the offense is committed on the property of another district in Texas or while the student is attending a school sponsored or school-related activity of a school in another district in Texas.

HB 6 Updates

House Bill 6 states that any offense committed off campus may also be subject to DAEP or JJAEP.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement The DAEP shall be provided in a setting other than the student's regular classroom. An elementary school student may not be placed in a DAEP with a student who is not an elementary school student.

For purposes of DAEP, elementary classification shall be kindergarten–grade 5 and secondary classification shall be grades 6–12.

- Summer programs provided by the district shall serve students assigned to a DAEP separately from those students who are not assigned to the program.
- A student who is expelled for an offense that otherwise would have resulted in a DAEP placement does not have to be placed in a DAEP in addition to the expulsion.
- In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the campus administrator shall take into consideration:
    - Self-defense (see Glossary),
    - Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
    - The student's disciplinary history,
    - A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct,
    - A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care), or
    - A student's status as homeless.

Discretionary Placement: Misconduct That May Result in DAEP Placement

A student may be placed in a DAEP for behaviors prohibited in the General Conduct Violations section of this Code.

- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of disruptive activities under Education Code 37.123.
- • Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of disruption of classes under Education Code 37.124.
- Possesses or uses an e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code, except that if a student who possesses or uses an e-cigarette is not placed in a disciplinary alternative education program for the first-time offense under Education Code 37.008, the student shall be placed in in-school suspension for a period of at least 10 school days. See First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette for additional information.

In accordance with state law, a student may be placed in a DAEP if the superintendent or the superintendent's designee has reasonable belief [see Glossary] that the student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony, that occurs off school property and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event, if the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process. Aggravated robbery or felonies listed as offenses in Title 5 [see Glossary] of the Penal Code are punishable as mandatory expulsions.

Misconduct Identified in State Law

In accordance with state law, a student may be placed in a DAEP for any of the following offenses:

- Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to die by suicide.
- Inciting violence against a student through group bullying.
- Releasing or threatening to release intimate visual material of a minor or of a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Involvement in a public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, or gang including participating as a member or pledge, or soliciting another person to become a pledge or member of a public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang. (See Glossary.)
- Involvement in criminal street gang activity. (See Glossary.)
- Criminal mischief, not punishable as a felony.
- Assault (no bodily injury) with threat of imminent bodily injury.
- Assault by offensive or provocative physical contact.

In accordance with state law, a student may be placed in a DAEP if the superintendent or the superintendent's designee has reasonable belief (see Glossary) that the student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony, other than aggravated robbery or those listed as offenses in Title 5 (see Glossary) of the Penal Code, that occurs off school property and not at a school sponsored or school-related event, if the student's presence in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers or will be detrimental to the educational process.

The campus administrator may place a student in a DAEP for off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law if the campus does not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred.

Mandatory Placement: Misconduct That Requires DAEP Placement

A student **must** be placed in a DAEP if the student:

- Engages in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school. (See Glossary.)
- Commits the following offenses on school property, within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school related activity on or off school property:
- Engages in conduct punishable as a felony.
- Commits an assault (see Glossary) under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1).
- Except as provided by Education Code 37.007(a)(3), sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of a controlled substance or dangerous drug in an amount not constituting a felony offense. [School-related felony drug offenses are addressed in Expulsion.] [See Glossary for "under the influence," "controlled substance," and "dangerous drug."]
- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of marijuana or THC. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code does not violate this provision.
- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person an alcoholic beverage; commits a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol; or possesses, uses, or is under the influence of alcohol.

- Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals.
- Sells, gives, or delivers to another person or possesses or uses an e-cigarette, as defined by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code.
- Behaves in a manner that contains the elements of the offense of public lewdness or indecent exposure. (See Glossary.)
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of an offense of harassment against an employee under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1), (2), (3), or (7).
- Engages in expellable conduct and is between six and nine years of age.
- Commits a federal firearms violation and is younger than six years of age.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of retaliation Penal Code 36.06 against any school employee or volunteer on or off school property.
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of harassment under Penal Code 42.07 against any school employee or volunteer on or off of school property.

The student receives deferred prosecution [see Glossary], or a court or jury finds that the student has engaged in delinquent conduct [see Glossary], or the superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief [see Glossary] under Section 53.03, Family Code, for conduct defined as any of the following offenses under the Penal Code:

1. A felony offense under Title 5;
2. The offense of deadly conduct under Section 22.05;
3. The felony offense of aggravated robbery under Section 29.03;
4. The offense of disorderly conduct involving a firearm under Section 42.01(a)(7) or (8); or
5. The offense of unlawfully carrying weapons under Section 46.02, except for an offense punishable as a Class C misdemeanor under that section.

Sexual Assault and Campus Assignments

A student shall be transferred to another campus if:

- The student has been convicted of continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual or convicted of or placed on deferred adjudication for sexual assault or aggravated sexual assault against another student on the same campus; and
- The victim's parent or another person with the authority to act on behalf of the victim requests that the board transfer the offending student to another campus.
    - If there is no other campus in the district serving the grade level of the offending student, the offending student shall be transferred to a DAEP.

Process Removals to a DAEP shall be made by the campus administrator or CBC.

Conference

When a student is removed from class for a DAEP offense, the campus administrator or appropriate campus designee shall schedule a conference within three school days with the student's parent, the student, and, in the case of a teacher removal, the teacher.

At the conference, the campus administrator or appropriate campus shall provide the student:

- Information, orally or in writing, of the reasons for the removal;

- An explanation of the basis for the removal; and
- An opportunity to respond to the reasons for the removal.

Following valid attempts to require attendance, the district may hold the conference and make a placement decision regardless of whether the student or the student's parents attend the conference.

Consideration of Mitigating Factors

In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the campus administrator shall take into consideration:

1. Self-defense (see Glossary),
2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
3. The student's disciplinary history,
4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct,
5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care), or
6. A student's status as homeless.

Placement Order

After the conference, if the student is placed in a DAEP, the district Hearing Officer shall write a placement order. A copy of the DAEP placement order shall be sent to the student and the student's parent. Not later than the second business day after the conference, the board's designee shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the placement order and all information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.

DAEP at Capacity

If a DAEP is at capacity at the time the CBC is deciding placement for conduct related to marijuana, THC, an e-cigarette, alcohol, or an abusable volatile chemical, the student shall be placed in ISS then transferred to a DAEP for the remainder of the period if space becomes available before the expiration of the period of the placement. If a DAEP is at capacity at the time the CBC is deciding placement for a student who engaged in violent conduct, a student placed in a DAEP for conduct related to marijuana, THC, an e-cigarette, alcohol, or an abusable volatile chemical may be placed in ISS to make a position in the DAEP available for the student who engaged in violent conduct. If a position becomes available in a DAEP before the expiration of the period of the placement for the student removed, the student shall be returned to a DAEP for the remainder of the period.

Coursework Notice

The parent or guardian of a student placed in DAEP shall be given written notice of the student's opportunity to complete, at no cost to the student, a foundation curriculum course in which the student was enrolled at the time of removal and which is required for graduation. The notice shall include information regarding all methods available for completing the coursework.

Length of Placement

The Hearing Officer shall determine the duration of a student's placement in a DAEP.

1. The duration of a student's placement shall be determined case by case based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misconduct, the student's attitude, and statutory requirements.
2. The maximum period of DAEP placement shall be one calendar year, except as provided below. Unless otherwise specified in the placement order, days absent from a DAEP shall not count toward fulfilling the total number of days required in a student's DAEP placement order.
3. The district shall administer the required pre- and post-assessments for students assigned to DAEP for a period of 90 days or longer in accordance with established district administrative procedures for administering other diagnostic or benchmark assessments.

Exceeds One Year

Placement in a DAEP may exceed one year when a review by the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees. The statutory limitations on the length of a DAEP placement do not apply to a placement resulting from the board's decision to place a student who engaged in the sexual assault of another student so that the students are not assigned to the same campus.

Exceeds School Year

- Students who are in a DAEP placement at the end of one school year may be required to continue that placement at the start of the next school year to complete the assigned term of placement.
- For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond the end of the school year, the campus behavior coordinator or the board's designee must determine that:
    - The student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others, or
- The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior (see Glossary) that violates the district's Code.

Exceeds 60 Days

For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond 60 days or the end of the next grading period, whichever is sooner, a student's parent shall be given notice and the opportunity to participate in a proceeding before the board or the board's designee.

Appeals

Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the CBC or campus administration.

Student or parent appeals regarding a student's placement in a DAEP should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG(LOCAL). A copy of this policy may be obtained from the principal's office, the administrator's office, the central administration office, or through Policy On Line at the following address: www.sisdk12.net

Appeals shall begin at a Level One with the campus principal or campus administration. If the student or parent did not receive the relief requested at Level One or if the time for a response has expired, the student or parent may request a conference with the Superintendent or designee (Level Two) to appeal the Level One decision. If the student or parent did not receive the relief requested at Level

Two or if the time for a response has expired, the student or parent may appeal the decision to the Board (Level Three).

The district shall not delay disciplinary consequences pending the outcome of an appeal. The decision to place a student in a DAEP cannot be appealed beyond the board.

Restrictions During Placement

- State law prohibits a student placed in a DAEP for reasons specified in state law from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular activities.
- **A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided transportation and must ride the DAEP bus to and from the DAEP campus.**
    - If he or she is a student with a disability who is entitled to transportation in accordance with the student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan will continue, but to DAEP campus.
- For seniors who are eligible to graduate and are assigned to a DAEP at the time of graduation, the last day of placement in the program shall be the last instructional day, and the student shall be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and related graduation activities unless otherwise specified in the DAEP placement order.

Placement Review

- A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the campus administrator or the board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days.
- In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall be given the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus.
- The student may not be returned to the classroom of a teacher who removed the student without that teacher's consent.

Additional Misconduct

If during the term of placement in a DAEP the student engages in additional misconduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement be conducted, and the campus administrator may enter an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

Notice of Criminal Proceedings

When a student is placed in a DAEP for certain offenses, the office of the prosecuting attorney shall notify the district if:

1. Prosecution of a student's case was refused for lack of prosecutorial merit or insufficient evidence, and no formal proceedings, deferred adjudication (see Glossary), or deferred prosecution will be initiated; or
2. The court or jury found a student not guilty or made a finding that the student did not engage in delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision, and the case was dismissed with prejudice.

If a student was placed in a DAEP for such conduct, on receiving the notice from the prosecutor, the superintendent or designee shall review the student's placement and schedule a review with the student's parent not later than the third day after the superintendent or designee receives notice from the prosecutor. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the review.

After reviewing the notice and receiving information from the student's parent, the superintendent or designee may continue the student's placement if there is reason to believe that the presence of the student in the regular classroom threatens the safety of other students or teachers.

The student or the student's parent may appeal the superintendent's decision to the board. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal. In the case of an appeal,

the board shall, at the next scheduled meeting, review the notice from the prosecutor and receive information from the student, the student's parent, and the superintendent or designee, and confirm or reverse the decision of the superintendent or designee. The board shall make a record of the proceedings.

If the board confirms the decision of the superintendent or designee, the student and the student's parent may appeal to the Commissioner of Education. The student may not be returned to the regular classroom pending the appeal.

Withdrawal During Process

- When a student violates the district's Code in a way that requires or permits the student to be placed in a DAEP and the student withdraws from the district before a placement order is completed the campus administrator may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order.
- If the student then re-enrolls in the district during the same or a subsequent school year, the district may enforce the order at that time, less any period of the placement that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district.
- If the campus behavior coordinator or the board fails to issue a placement order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings and issue a placement order.

Newly Enrolled Students

- The district shall continue the DAEP placement of a student who enrolls in the district and was assigned to a DAEP in an open-enrollment charter school or another district including a district in another state. Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses
- When a student enrolls in the district with a DAEP placement from a district in another state, the district has the right to place the student in DAEP to the same extent as any other newly enrolled student.

- State law requires the district to reduce a placement imposed by a district in another state that exceeds one year so that the total placement does not exceed one year. After a review, however, the placement may be extended beyond a year if the district determines that the student is a threat to the safety of other students or employees or the extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Emergency Placement Procedure
When an emergency placement is necessary because the student's behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with classroom or school operations, the student shall be given oral notice of the reason for the action. Not later than the tenth day after the date of the placement, the student shall be given the appropriate conference required for assignment to a DAEP.

Transition Services
In accordance with law and district procedures, campus designee shall provide transition services to a student returning to the regular classroom from an alternative education program, including a DAEP. See policy FOCA(LEGAL) for more information.

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses
This section includes two categories of offenses for which the Education Code provides unique procedures and specific consequences.

Registered Sex Offenders
- Upon receiving notification in accordance with state law that a student is currently required to register as a sex offender, the district must remove the student from the regular classroom and determine appropriate placement unless the court orders JJAEP placement.
- If the student is under any form of court supervision, including probation, community supervision, or parole, the student shall be placed in either DAEP or JJAEP for at least one semester.
- If the student is not under any form of court supervision, the student may be placed in DAEP or JJAEP for one semester or placed in a regular classroom. The student may not be placed in the regular classroom if the board or its designee determines that the student's presence:
    - Threatens the safety of other students or teachers,
    - Will be detrimental to the educational process, or
    - Is not in the best interests of the district's students.

Newly Enrolled Students
- If a student enrolls in the district during a mandatory placement as a registered sex offender, the district may count any time already spent by the student in a placement or may require an additional semester in an alternative placement without conducting a review of the placement.

Review Committee
- At the end of the first semester of a student's placement in an alternative educational setting and before the beginning of each school year for which the student remains in an alternative placement, the district shall convene a committee, in accordance with state law, to review the

student's placement.

- The committee shall recommend whether the student should return to the Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses regular classroom or remain in the placement.
- The placement review of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made by the ARD committee.

Appeal

A student or the student's parent may appeal the placement by requesting a conference between the board or its designee, the student, and the student's parent. The conference is limited to the factual question of whether the student is required to register as a sex offender. Any decision of the board or its designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Emergency Placement Procedure

When an emergency placement is necessary because the student's behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with classroom or school operations, the student shall be given oral notice of the reason for the action. Not later than the tenth day after the date of the placement, the student shall be given the appropriate conference required for assignment to a DAEP.

Transition Services

In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff shall provide transition services to a student returning to the regular classroom from an alternative education program, including a DAEP. [See policy FOCA(LEGAL) for more information.]

Expulsion

In deciding whether to order expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the campus administrator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see Glossary),
- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
- The student's disciplinary history,
- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct,
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care), or
- A student's status as homeless.

Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion Some of the following types of misconduct may result in mandatory placement in a DAEP, whether or not a student is expelled. (See DAEP Placement)

Any Location

A student may be expelled for:

- Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to die by suicide.
- Inciting violence against a student through group bullying.

- Releasing or threatening to release intimate visual material of a minor or of a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Criminal mischief, if punishable as a felony.
- Breach of computer security. (See Glossary.)
- Engaging in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school.

At School, Within 300 Feet, or at a School Event

A student may be expelled for committing any of the following offenses on or within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line, or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property:

- Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug, unless the conduct is punishable as a felony. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code does not violate this provision. (See Glossary for "under the influence.")
- Selling, giving, or delivering another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol; or committing a serious act or offense while under the influence of alcohol, if the conduct is not punishable as a felony.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to the abuse of volatile chemicals.
- Engaging in deadly conduct. (See Glossary.)

Within 300 Feet of School

A student may be expelled for possession of a firearm, as defined by federal law, while within 300 feet of school property, as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line.

Property of Another District

A student may be expelled for committing any offense that is a state-mandated expellable offense if the offense is committed on the property of another district in Texas or while the student is attending a school-related activity of a school in another district in Texas.

While in DAEP

A student may be expelled for engaging in documented serious misbehavior that violates the district's Code, despite documented behavioral interventions while placed in a DAEP. For purposes of discretionary expulsion from a DAEP, serious misbehavior means:

1. Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
2. Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
3. Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Penal Code 1.07; or
4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
    - Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
    - Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;
    - Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
    - Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
    - Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district employee.

Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion

A student **must** be expelled under federal or state law for any of the following offenses that occur on or off school property:

Under Federal Law

Bringing to school or possessing at school, including any setting that is under the district's control or supervision for the purpose of a school activity, a firearm, as defined by federal law. (See Glossary.)

Note: Mandatory expulsion under the federal Gun Free Schools Act does not apply to a firearm that is lawfully stored inside a locked vehicle or to firearms used in activities approved and authorized by the district when the district has adopted appropriate safeguards to ensure student safety.

Under the Penal Code

- Unlawfully carrying on or about the student's person the following, in the manner prohibited by Penal Code 46.02:
- A handgun, defined by state law as any firearm designed, made, or adapted to be used with one hand. (See Glossary.) Note: A student may not be expelled solely on the basis of the student's use, exhibition, or possession of a firearm that occurs at an approved target range facility that is not located on a school campus; while participating in or preparing for a school-sponsored, shooting sports competition or a shooting sports educational activity that is sponsored or supported by the Parks and Wildlife Department; or a shooting sports sanctioning organization working with the department. [See policy FNCG(LEGAL).]
- A location-restricted knife, as defined by state law. (See Glossary.)
- Possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a prohibited weapon, as defined in state law. (See Glossary.)
- Engages in conduct that contains the elements of the offense of exhibiting, using, or threatening to exhibit or use a firearm under Education Code 37.125.
- Behaving in a manner that contains elements of the following offenses under the Penal Code:
- Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault.
- Arson. (See Glossary.)
- Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder. o Indecency with a child.
- Kidnapping or aggravated kidnapping.
- Burglary, robbery, or aggravated robbery.
- Manslaughter.
- Criminally negligent homicide.
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual.
- Behavior punishable as a felony that involves selling, giving, or delivering to another person or possessing, using, or being under the influence of a controlled substance or a dangerous drug.
- Engaging in conduct that contains elements of assault against a school employee or volunteer.

Under Age Ten

When a student under the age of ten engages in behavior that is expellable behavior, the student shall not be expelled, but shall be placed in a DAEP.

A student under age six shall not be placed in a DAEP unless the student commits a federal firearm offense.

Process

If a student is believed to have committed an expellable offense, the campus administrator or other appropriate campus designee shall schedule a hearing within a reasonable time.

The student's parent shall be invited in writing to attend the hearing.

Until a hearing can be held, the campus administrator or other campus designee may place the student in:

- Another appropriate classroom.
- In-school suspension.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- DAEP emergency placement

Hearing

A student facing expulsion shall be given a hearing with appropriate due process.

The student is entitled to:

- Representation by the student's parent or another adult who can provide guidance to the student and who is not an employee of the district,
- Representation by the student's parent or another adult who can provide guidance to the student and who is not an employee of the district,
- An opportunity to testify and to present evidence and witnesses in the student's defense, and
- An opportunity to question the witnesses called by the district at the hearing. After providing notice to the student and parent of the hearing, the district may hold the hearing regardless of whether the student or the student's parent attends.

The board of trustees delegates to the superintendent or designee authority to conduct hearings and expel students.

Board Review of Expulsion

After the due process hearing, the expelled student may request that the board review the expulsion decisions:

- The student or parent must submit a written request to the superintendent within seven days after receipt of the written decision.
- The superintendent must provide the student or parent written notice of the date, time, and place of the meeting at which the board will review the decision.
- The board shall review the record of the expulsion hearing in a closed meeting unless the parent requests in writing that the matter be held in an open meeting.
- The board may also hear a statement from the student or parent and from the board's designee.
- The board shall consider and base its decision on evidence reflected in the record and any statements made by the parties at the review.
- The board shall make and communicate its decision orally at the conclusion of the presentation
- Consequences shall not be deferred pending the outcome of the hearing.

Expulsion Order

Before ordering the expulsion, the board or campus administrator shall take into consideration:

- Self-defense (see Glossary),

- Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct,
- The student's disciplinary history,
- A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct,
- A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care), or
- A student's status as homeless.

If the student is expelled, the board or its designee shall deliver via postal mail to the student and the student's parent a copy of the order expelling the student.
Not later than the second business day after the hearing, the administration shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the expulsion order and the information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.
If the length of the expulsion is inconsistent with the guidelines included in the Student Code of Conduct, the expulsion order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

Length of Expulsion
The length of an expulsion shall be based on the seriousness of the offense, the student's age and grade level, the frequency of misbehavior, the student's attitude, and statutory requirements.
The duration of a student's expulsion shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.
The maximum period of expulsion is one calendar year, except as provided below.
An expulsion may not exceed one year unless, after review, the district determines that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees, or
2. Extended expulsion is in the best interest of the student.

State and federal law require a student to be expelled from the regular classroom for a period of at least one calendar year for bringing a firearm, as defined by federal law, to school. However, the superintendent may modify the length of the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.
Students who commit offenses that require expulsion at the end of one school year may be expelled into the next school year to complete the term of expulsion.

Withdrawal During Process
When a student's conduct requires or permits expulsion from the district and the student withdraws from the district before the expulsion hearing takes place, the district may conduct the hearing after sending written notice to the parent and student.
If the student then re-enrolls in the district during the same or subsequent school year, the district may enforce the expulsion order at that time, less any expulsion period that has been served by the student during enrollment in another district.
If the campus administrator or the board fails to issue an expulsion order after the student withdraws, the next district in which the student enrolls may complete the proceedings.

Additional Misconduct
If during the expulsion, the student engages in additional conduct for which placement in a DAEP or expulsion is required or permitted, additional proceedings may be conducted, and the campus administrator or the board may issue an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.

Restrictions During Expulsion
Expelled students are prohibited from being on school grounds or attending school-sponsored or school-related activities during the period of expulsion.
No district academic credit shall be earned for work missed during the period of expulsion unless the student is enrolled in a JJAEP or another district-approved program.

Newly Enrolled Students
The district shall continue the expulsion of any newly enrolled student expelled from another district or an open-enrollment charter school until the period of the expulsion is completed.
If a student expelled in another state enrolls in the district, the district may continue the expulsion under the terms of the expulsion order, may place the student in a DAEP for the period specified in the order, or may allow the student to attend regular classes if:

1. The out-of-state district provides the district with a copy of the expulsion order, and
2. The offense resulting in the expulsion is also an expellable offense in the district in which the student is enrolling.

If a student is expelled by a district in another state for a period that exceeds one year and the district continues the expulsion or places the student in a DAEP, the district shall reduce the period of the expulsion or DAEP placement so that the entire period does not exceed one year, unless after a review it is determined that:

1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or district employees, or
2. Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.

Emergency Expulsion Procedures
When an emergency expulsion is necessary to protect persons or property from imminent harm, the student shall be given verbal notice of the reason for the action. Emergency expulsion may be ordered based on a single incident of behavior by the student. Within ten days after the date of the emergency expulsion, the student shall be given appropriate due process required for a student facing expulsion.

DAEP Placement of Expelled Students
The district may provide educational services to any expelled student in a DAEP; however, educational services in the DAEP must be provided if the student is less than ten years of age.

Transition Services
In accordance with law and district procedures, campus designee shall provide transition services for a student returning to the regular classroom from placement in an alternative education program, including a DAEP or JJAEP. See policies FOCA(LEGAL) and FODA(LEGAL) for more information.

Certain Felonies

Regardless of whether DAEP placement or expulsion is required or permitted by one of the reasons in the DAEP Placement or Expulsion sections, in accordance with Education Code 37.0081, a student may be expelled and placed in either DAEP or JJAEP if the board or CBC makes certain findings and the following circumstances exist in relation to aggravated robbery or a felony offense under Title 5 [see Glossary] of the Penal Code.

The student must have:

- Received deferred prosecution for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Been found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Been charged with engaging in conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense;
- Been referred to a juvenile court for allegedly engaging in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense; or
- Received probation or deferred adjudication or have been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense.

The district may expel the student and order placement under these circumstances regardless of:

1. The date on which the student's conduct occurred;
2. The location at which the conduct occurred;
3. Whether the conduct occurred while the student was enrolled in the district; or
4. Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.

Hearing and Required Findings

The student must first have a hearing before the board or its designee, who must determine that in addition to the circumstances above that allow for the expulsion, the student's presence in the regular classroom:

1. Threatens the safety of other students or teachers;
2. Will be detrimental to the educational process; or
3. Is not in the best interest of the district's students. Any decision of the board or the board's designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.

Length of Placement

The student is subject to the placement until:

1. The student graduates from high school;
2. The charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor offense; or
3. The student completes the term of the placement or is assigned to another program.

Placement Review

A student placed in a DAEP or JJAEP under this section is entitled to a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the CBC or board's designee at intervals not to exceed 120 days. In the case of a high school student, the student's progress toward graduation and the student's graduation plan shall also be reviewed. At the review, the student or the student's parent shall have the opportunity to present arguments for the student's return to the regular classroom or campus.

Newly Enrolled Students

A student who enrolls in the district before completing a placement under this section from another school district must complete the term of the placement.

Somerset ISD
2026-2027 Dress Code

The district's dress code teaches grooming and hygiene, prevents disruption, minimizes safety hazards, and maintains a positive learning climate. Research has indicated that student behavior is influenced by student dress and grooming. In order to help ensure proper and acceptable behavior on the part of the student, it becomes necessary to establish certain guidelines to aid parents and students in selecting the proper attire for school wear and provide consistency district-wide.

If the principal or campus designee determines that a student's grooming and/or clothing violates the school's dress code, the student will be given an opportunity to correct the problem at school. Any student who does not comply with the dress code will be removed from the regular school setting until the student complies with this code. If so, attendance recovery hours will be required for all missed classes. Repeated offenses may result in more serious disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

If there are differences of opinion as to the appropriateness of dress, grooming, and/or determining whether or not a student's attire is disruptive or distracting to the educational environment of the school, the final determination will be made by a campus principal or designee.

The Dress Code is in effect for students while attending school functions or school-sponsored activities on or off school property. Exceptions to this code for certain school-related events are determined by each campus. Cheer team members will be allowed to wear their extra-curricular uniform without modifications on the day of their scheduled event/activity.

Regulations shall be established concerning the grooming of students for those classes where safety in the use of power machinery and sanitary conditions in food preparation is mandatory. Students enrolled in these classes shall be informed of those regulations and are expected to conform while in these classes.

Guidelines: Students are expected to be in dress code on the first day of school and every school day.

1. **Midriff/Short blouses or cropped tops** that expose the torso/stomach are not allowed even under zipped jackets or sweaters. Blouses/tops that shift up and expose the torso/stomach when arms are raised or expose cleavage are prohibited. Muscle/tank/sleeveless/halter tops/spaghetti straps are not allowed.

2. **Jeans/pants** with slits/tears/rips/holes that expose the skin at or above the knee must be worn with tights or leggings underneath to avoid exposing skin at or above the knee. Slits/tears/rips/holes throughout the jeans/pants may not exceed two inches in width and/or length, regardless where they are located. All pant waistbands must be worn securely at the waist. Pajama pants are prohibited.

3. **Shorts/skirts/dresses** must be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee (including the slit) even if tights/leggings are worn underneath. Cutoff, boxer, and biker/spandex shorts are not permitted.

4. **Footwear** which has toes reinforced with steel, hard plastics or similar materials is specifically prohibited. House shoes and slippers are prohibited.

5. **Headwear** such as hats, caps, beanies, and hoods on hooded sweatshirts and jackets may not be worn.

6. **Hair** must be neat and clean. Any unnatural-colored (bright red, purple, blue, etc.), multi-colored, spiked, or distracting hair styles are not permitted. Eyebrows that are slashed or shaven are prohibited.

7. **Outerwear** of overcoats, topcoats, and trench coats are not allowed.

8. **Undergarments** may not be visible or exposed.

9. **Accessories** such as headphones, sunglasses, leather spiked/studded bands, heavy wallet chains, or stockings on arms or head are prohibited.

10. **Piercings** are limited to three earrings. Nose piercings are limited to one stud and **excludes all nose hoops and nose rings**. Tongue, facial and eyebrow piercings are not permitted.

11. **Skin markings** such as tattoos, visible markings, writing, and drawings on the body must be appropriate for the school environment or are expected to be covered.

12. **Style:** The District prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the principal's judgment, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of, or interference with normal school operations, or that is determined by the school's principal or designee to be gang-related or, in reasonable probability, would be construed as gang-related.

    The District prohibits pictures, emblems, or writings that are lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene, or that advertises or depicts tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs, or any other substance or paraphernalia prohibited under Policy FNCF (LEGAL/LOCAL).

Student Identification Cards

All Somerset ISD Pre-K to 12th grade students will receive a year specific student identification card (ID). **The ID includes the student's name, campus, academic year, grade, and student ID number.**

All grades 7-12 students are required to visibly wear their 2026-2027 student identification card while on campus, attending any SOMERSET ISD sponsored function, or riding in any SOMERSET ISD vehicle.

Student ID badges allow campus staff members to quickly identify students, the campus they attend, and individuals who do not belong on campus.

Wearing an ID is essential in maintaining campus safety and is required for the efficiency of the following district services:

- Constant Student Identification
- School Bus Ridership
- Child Nutrition/Lunch Line
- Movement Between Buildings
- Late Arrival to School Tracking
- Library Book/Circulation Desk Checkout
- Emergency Response Identification

SOMERSET ISD secondary students are only granted entry to extracurricular after school functions (athletic events, fine arts performances, community nights, etc.) on SOMERSET ISD property if they are wearing their student ID badge around their neck; non-compliant students will be denied entry. Students will continue to wear their ID badge while in attendance, non-compliance will result in removal from the event.

In the event that a student misplaces or forgets their ID, they can visit their designated campus location for a replacement. ***T*****he cost of a replacement ID is $5.00 to cover the expenses of associated supplies (card, lanyard,** ***sleeve, and*** **printing).**

Students not in compliance are subject to appropriate campus intervention in accordance with the SOMERSET ISD Student Code of Conduct.

Glossary

Abuse is improper or excessive use.

Aggravated robbery is defined in part by Texas Penal Code 29.03(a) as when a person commits robbery and:

1. Causes serious bodily injury to another;
2. Uses or exhibits a deadly weapon; or
3. Causes bodily injury to another person or threatens or places another person in fear of imminent bodily injury or death, if the other person is:
    a. 65 years of age or older, or
    b. a disabled person.

Antisemitism is defined by Government Code section 448.001 as a certain perception of Jews that may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. The term includes rhetorical and physical acts of antisemitism directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals or their property or toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. Examples of antisemitism are included with the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's "Working Definition of Antisemitism" adopted on May 26, 2016.

Armor-piercing ammunition is handgun ammunition used in pistols and revolvers and designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor.

Arson

1. A crime that involves starting a fire or causing an explosion with intent to destroy or damage:
    a. a. Any vegetation, fence, or structure on open-space land; or
    b. b. Any building, habitation, or vehicle:
        i. Knowing that it is within the limits of an incorporated city or town,
        ii. Knowing that it is insured against damage or destruction,
        iii. Knowing that it is subject to a mortgage or other security interest,
        iv. Knowing that it is located on property belonging to another,
        v. Knowing that it has located within it property belonging to another, or
2. When the person starting the fire is reckless about whether the burning or explosion will endanger the life of some individual or the safety of the property of another.
3. A crime that involves recklessly starting a fire or causing an explosion while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance and the fire or explosion damages any building, habitation, or vehicle; or
4. A crime that involves intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion and in so doing:
    a. a. Recklessly damages or destroys a building belonging to another, or
    b. b. Recklessly causes another person to suffer bodily injury or death.

Assault is defined in part by Texas Penal Code

- §22.01(a)(1) as intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another;
- §22.01(a)(2) as intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury; and
- §22.01(a)(3) as intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another that can reasonably be regarded as offensive or provocative.

Bullying is when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the district and a school district's board of trustees or the board's designee determines that the behavior:

1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

This conduct is considered bullying if it:

1. Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator who is engaging in bullying and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and
2. Interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.

Chemical dispensing device is a device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of causing an adverse psychological or physiological effect on a human being. A small chemical dispenser sold commercially for personal protection is not in this category.

Club is an instrument specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death. A blackjack, mace, and tomahawk are in the same category.

Criminal street gang is three or more persons having a common identifying sign or symbol or an identifiable leadership who continuously or regularly associate in the commission of criminal activities.

Cyberbullying is the use of any electronic communication device to engage in bullying or intimidation.

Dating violence occurs when a person in a current or past dating relationship uses physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to harm, threaten, intimidate, or control another person in the relationship. Dating violence also occurs when a person commits these acts against a person in a marriage or dating relationship with the individual who is or was once in a marriage or dating relationship with the person committing the offense, as defined by Section 71.0021 of the Family Code.

Deadly conduct occurs when a person recklessly engages in conduct that places another in imminent danger of serious bodily injury, such as knowingly discharging a firearm in the direction of an individual, habitation, building, or vehicle.

Deferred adjudication is an alternative to seeking a conviction in court that may be offered to a juvenile for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

Deferred prosecution may be offered to a juvenile as an alternative to seeking a conviction in court for delinquent conduct or conduct indicating a need for supervision.

Delinquent conduct is conduct that violates either state or federal law and is punishable by imprisonment or confinement in jail. It includes conduct that violates certain juvenile court orders, including probation orders, but does not include violations of traffic laws.

Discretionary means that something is left to or regulated by a local decision maker.

E-cigarette means an electronic cigarette or any other device that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device. The term includes any device that is manufactured, distributed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, or e-pipe or under another product name or description and a component, part, or accessory for the device, regardless of whether the component, part, or accessory is sold separately from the device.

Explosive weapon is any explosive or incendiary bomb, grenade, rocket, or mine and its delivery mechanism that is designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage, or for the principal purpose of causing such a loud report as to cause undue public alarm or terror.

False alarm or report occurs when a person knowingly initiates, communicates, or circulates a report of a present, past, or future bombing, fire, offense, or other emergency that he or she knows is false or baseless and that would ordinarily:

1. Cause action by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
2. Place a person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury; or
3. Prevent or interrupt the occupation of a building, room, or place of assembly.

Firearm is defined by federal law (18 U.S.C. § 921(a)) as:

1. Any weapon (including a starter gun) that will, is designed to, or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive;
2. The frame or receiver of any such weapon;
3. Any firearm muffler or firearm weapon; or
4. Any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade. Such a term does not include an antique firearm.

Firearm silencer means any device designed, made, or adapted to muffle the report of a firearm.

Graffiti are markings with paint, an indelible pen or marker, or an etching or engraving device on tangible property without the effective consent of the owner. The markings may include inscriptions, slogans, drawings, or paintings.

Handgun is defined by Texas Penal Code 46.01(5) as any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand.

Harassment is:

1. Conduct that meets the definition established in district policies DIA(LOCAL) and FFH(LOCAL); or
2. Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer;
3. Is sexually intimidating; causes physical damage to the property of another student;
4. Subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint; or
5. Maliciously and substantially harms another student's physical or emotional health or safety.

Hazing is an intentional or reckless act, on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, that endangers the mental or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in an organization.

Hit list is a list of people targeted to be harmed, using a firearm, a knife, or any other object to be used with intent to cause bodily harm.

Illegal knife is defined by Texas Penal Code 46.01(6) as:

1. Knife with a blade of over five and one-half inches;
2. Hand instrument designed to cut or stab another by being thrown;
3. Dagger, including, but not limited to, a dirk, stiletto, or poniard;
4. Bowie knife;
5. Sword; or
6. Spear.

Knuckles are any instrument consisting of finger rings or guards made of a hard substance and designed or adapted for inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with a fist enclosed in the knuckles.

Machine gun is any firearm that is capable of shooting more than two shots automatically, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

Mandatory means that something is obligatory or required because of an authority.

Paraphernalia are devices that can be used for inhaling, ingesting, injecting, or otherwise introducing a controlled substance into a human body.

Personal Communication Device means a telephone, cell phone such as a smartphone or flip phone, tablet, smartwatch, radio device, paging device, or any other electronic device capable of telecommunication or digital communication.

Possession means to have an item on one's person or in one's personal property, including, but not limited to, clothing, purse, or backpack; a private vehicle used for transportation to or from school or school related activities, including, but not limited, to an automobile, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle; personal communications devices or electronic devices; or any other school property used by the student, including, but not limited to, a locker or desk.

Prohibited weapon under Texas Penal Code 46.05(a) means

1. The following items, unless registered with the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives or otherwise not subject to that registration requirement or unless the item is classified as a curio or relic by the U.S. Department of Justice:
    a. An explosive weapon; or
    b. A machine gun.
2. Armor-piercing ammunition;
3. A chemical dispensing device;
4. A zip gun;
5. A tire deflation device; or an improvised explosive device.

Public Lewdness is defined by Penal Code 21.07 as an offense that occurs when a person knowingly engages in an act of sexual intercourse, deviate sexual intercourse, or sexual contact in a public place or, if not in a public place, when the person is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.

Public school fraternity, sorority, secret society, or gang means an organization composed wholly or in part of students that seeks to perpetuate itself by taking additional members from the students enrolled in school based on a decision of its membership rather than on the free choice of a qualified student. Educational organizations listed in Section 37.121(d) of the Education Code are excepted from this definition.

Reasonable belief is that which an ordinary person of average intelligence and sound mind would believe. Chapter 37 requires certain disciplinary decisions when the superintendent or designee has a reasonable belief that a student engaged in conduct punishable as a felony offense. In forming such a reasonable belief, the superintendent or designee may use all available information and must consider the information furnished in the notice of a student's arrest under Code of Criminal Procedure Article 15.27.

Self-defense is the use of force against another to the degree a person reasonably believes the force is immediately necessary to protect himself or herself.

Serious misbehavior means:

1. Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others;
2. Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;
3. Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code; or
4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
    a. Public lewdness under Section 21.07, Penal Code;
    b. Indecent exposure under Section 21.08; Penal Code;

c. Criminal mischief under Section 28.03, Penal Code;
d. Personal hazing under Section 37.152; or
e. Harassment under Section 42.07(a)(1), Penal Code, of a student or district employee.

Serious or persistent misbehavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Behavior that is grounds for permissible expulsion or mandatory DAEP placement.
- Behavior identified by the district as grounds for discretionary DAEP placement.
- Actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities
- Refusal to attempt or complete school work as assigned.
- Insubordination.
- Profanity, vulgar language, or obscene gestures.
- Leaving school grounds without permission.
- Falsification of records, passes, or other school-related documents.
- Refusal to accept discipline assigned by the teacher or principal.

Short-barrel firearm is a rifle with a barrel length of less than 16 inches or a shotgun with a barrel length of less than 18 inches, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun that, as altered, has an overall length of less than 26 inches.

Terroristic threat is a threat of violence to any person or property with intent to:

1. Cause a reaction of any type by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;
2. Place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury;
3. Prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building; room, place of assembly, or place to which the public has access; place of employment or occupation; aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance; or other public place;
4. Cause impairment or interruption of public communications; public transportation; public water, gas, or power supply; or other public service;
5. Place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or
6. Influence the conduct or activities of a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state (including the district).

Tire deflation device is defined in part by Section 46.01 of the Penal Code as a device, including a caltrop or spike strip, that, when driven over, impedes or stops the movement of a wheeled vehicle by puncturing one or more of the vehicle's tires.

Title 5 felonies are those crimes listed in Title 5 of the Penal Code that typically involve injury to a person and may include:

- Murder, manslaughter, or homicide under Sections 19.02–.05;
- Kidnapping under Section 20.03;
- Trafficking of persons under Section 20A.02;
- Smuggling or continuous smuggling of persons under Sections 20.05–.06;
- Assault under Section 22.01;

- Aggravated assault under Section 22.02;
- Sexual assault under Section 22.011;
- Aggravated sexual assault under Section 22.021;
- Unlawful restraint under Section 20.02;
- Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual under Section 21.02;
- Bestiality under Section 21.09;
- Improper relationship between educator and student under Section 21.12;
- Voyeurism under Section 21.17;
- Indecency with a child under Section 21.11;
- Invasive visual recording under Section 21.15;
- Disclosure or promotion of intimate visual material under Section 21.16;
- Sexual coercion under Section 21.18;
- Injury to a child, an elderly person, or a disabled person of any age under Section 22.04;
- Abandoning or endangering a child under Section 22.041;
- Deadly conduct under Section 22.05;
- Terroristic threat under Section 22.07;
- Aiding a person to die by suicide under Section 22.08; and
- Tampering with a consumer product under Section 22.09.

Under the influence means lacking the normal use of mental or physical faculties. Impairment of a person's physical or mental faculties may be evidenced by a pattern of abnormal or erratic behavior, the presence of physical symptoms of drug or alcohol use, or by admission. A student "under the influence" need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action.

Use means voluntarily introducing into one's body, by any means, a prohibited substance.

Zip gun is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device or combination of devices that was not originally a firearm and is adapted to expel a projectile through a smooth-bore or rifled-bore barrel by using the energy generated by an explosion or burning substance.

Somerset ISD
2026-2027
Acknowledgment of the Student Code of Conduct

My child and I have been offered the option to receive a paper copy of the 2026-2027 Somerset ISD Student Code of Conduct or access it electronically at www.sisdk12.net

I have chosen to: Please check appropriate box

☐ Receive a paper copy of the Student Code of Conduct.
☐ Accept responsibility for accessing the Student Code of Conduct by visiting the Web address listed above.

I understand that the handbook contains information that my child and I may need during the school year and that all students will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to the disciplinary consequences outlined in the Student Code of Conduct. If I have any questions regarding the Code of Conduct, I should direct those questions to the principal at my child's campus.

CAMPUS: _____

Please Print Student Name:	**ID #:**	**Grade:**
Student Signature:		**Date:**
Parent Signature:		**Date**

Somerset ISD
2026-2027
Confirmación del Código de Conducta Estudiantil

Acuse de recibo del Manual del Estudiante/y los Padres y el Código de Conducta Estudiantil

Mi hijo(a) y yo hemos recibido la opción de tener una copia impresa o acceso electrónico en www.sisdk12.net del Manual del Estudiante/y los Padres y el Código de Conducta Estudiantil para el año 2026-2027.

He elegido:

☐ Recibir una copia impresa del Código de Conducta Estudiantil.

☐ Aceptar la responsabilidad de acceder el Código de Conducta Estudiantil visitando la dirección del sitio Web listado arriba.

Entiendo que el manual contiene información que mi hijo(a) y yo necesitaremos durante el año escolar y que todos los estudiantes son responsables de su conducta y serán sujetos a consecuencias disciplinarias detalladas en el Código de Conducta Estudiantil. Si tengo preguntas acerca de este manual o el Código, las dirigiré al director.

CAMPUS/ESCUELA: _____

Nombre del Estudiante:	**ID #:**	**Grado:**
Firma del Estudiante:		**Fecha:**
Firma del Padre:		**Fecha:**

Somerset ISD
2026-2027
Extra-Curricular Code of Conduct

Please make sure you and your child sign, date, and return BOTH PAGES.
Failure to do so will result in an automatic removal from all extracurricular activities/teams.
THE STUDENT IS HELD TO THESE EXPECTATIONS FOR THE DURATION OF THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR.

Student: _____ Student ID: _____ Campus:_____

General Guidelines:
The student must initial each statement.
In order to attain these goals, the following standards will be in effect for all students who represent their school:

_____ It is a privilege to participate in extracurricular activities at Somerset ISD. Accordingly, I hereby agree to obey the following regulations and guidelines. I also acknowledge that the extracurricular activity contract is an extension of all UIL governing rules.

_____ To be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities, I must be enrolled in and passing all classes. All UIL rules and regulations regarding grading policies will be followed.

_____ I will not to possess, use, sell or provide alcohol, tobacco, or illegal/unauthorized drugs or related items at **any time**, both on and off campus.

- **Consequences for alcohol or drugs infractions will be subject to SISD Student Code of Conduct, in the SISD Student Handbook.**

_____ I recognize that my participation in extracurricular activities will cause me to miss instruction and it is my responsibility to make arrangements to turn in all missed assignments as required by the teacher(s).

_____ Violations of the Student Code of Conduct will have administrative/campus consequences. After the second violation of the Student Code of Conduct there will be additional consequences that may impact participation in extracurricular activities.

_____ I must be present in school all day to participate in an activity for that day. Students who miss a portion of the day due to illness and bring a doctor's note may be eligible to participate in extracurricular activities on that same day. Students who miss a day due to bereavement will be eligible to participate in an activity for that day.

_____ I will conduct myself in an orderly manner **at all times**, both on and off the campus, as well as on social media, to best represent my school, my family, my community, and myself. Any behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct will have administrative/campus consequences.

_____ I will follow the dress code as stated in the Student Handbook.

_____ I will ride to and from the activity in school transportation and I understand I may only be released to my parents/guardians. I will follow all transportation safety and conduct rules.

_____ I will be personally responsible for all school equipment checked out to me and will return it in the same condition. I will be financially responsible for their misuse.

_____ I cannot use the school facilities for practices, etc., unless I'm being supervised by a coach/sponsor.

Consequences for violating Extra-Curricular Contract Could Result in the Following:

- Conference with coach/administrator/sponsor with student and parent/guardian.
- Suspension from game/activity for a determined period of time.
- Removal from team/activity for the remainder of school year.
    - ***Note:*** *If a student quits the activity/team or chooses not to adhere to the punishment, then that student will have the consequences carried into their next season of participation. If the violation occurs at the end of one season it will carry over for the same time frame into the student's next activity/team of participation.*
    - ***Note****: Behavior punishable as a felony will be subject to consequences outlined in the SISD Student Handbook.*
    - ***Note:*** *Requests to appeal decisions shall be directed to the Director who oversees the activity/team.*

DAEP Placement:

If assigned to the DAEP, the student is suspended for the duration of the DAEP placement (school days, not calendar days), and a student/ parent conference is required for consideration of participation in any activities thereafter.

I have read and understand what is expected of Somerset ISD students under this Extra Curricular Code of Conduct.

_____ _____ _____

Student's Printed Name *Student's Signature* *Date*

FOR PARENT/ GUARDIAN:

I hereby give my consent for:_____to participate in Somerset ISD approved sports, school-sponsored clubs, and activities.

Parent/Guardian's Signature:_____ Date:_____

NOTE: This Extra Curricular Code of Conduct will be provided by each team sponsor for signature during the fall and spring semesters.
This document is also available in Spanish if needed. Please contact your school administrator.



SOMERSET INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
2026-2027
Student Code of Conduct

Please call the PEIMS/District Hearing Office if you have any questions.
210-750-8958 ext. 6115
Or contact your campus principal.

Have a successful 2026-2027 school year!
Attendance Matters!

Go Bulldogs!