

Frequently Asked Questions

Question	Do I have the right to appeal if my child is removed to the DAEP or Expelled?
Answer	Yes. The student and/or the student's parent or guardian will be given notice of the right to appeal a removal or expulsion decision. The appeal must be made in writing and received by the District within seven District business days of the date of the assistant superintendent's expulsion order.

Question	What is the Safe & Supportive School Program and Threat Assessment?
Answer	When a student makes a threat but has not yet caused some sort of physical pain, injury, damage, or hostile action to themselves or other students then the Safe and Supportive School Program team is responsible for removing punitive disciplinary options such as: in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, student expulsion, removal to a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or a juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP). Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS), recommended by the Texas Education Agency, should be replacing the punitive disciplinary options.

Question	Can students experiencing homelessness be suspended?
Answer	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 <u>Penal Code sections 46.02 or 46.05</u>; • 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 <u>[TEC Section 37.005]</u>. 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.

Question	How are suspensions determined?
Answer	Students may be suspended for any behavior listed in the Student Success Guide. In addition, suspensions may be used for students who have committed a removal or expulsion offense and for whom a conference or hearing is pending. An out-of-school suspension can not exceed three school days, with no limit on the number of times a student may be suspended in a semester or school year.

Question	I have questions or concerns about Austin ISD Police, whom should I contact?
Answer	If you have a question or concern regarding Austin ISD police or a specific Austin ISD officer, you may refer it to the Chief of Police or his designee by contacting him at: Phone: Austin ISD Police Department 512-414-1703 Email: AISDPD@austinisdpolice.org Location: Austin ISD Police, 4000 S. I-H 35 Frontage Rd., 3rd Floor, Austin, TX 78704 If an individual would like to file an official complaint, download the complaint form and fill out required information asked on the form. Once information is documented please take the forms to Austin ISD Police Department Headquarters and ask to speak to a police supervisor for the initiation of a complaint.

Question	How do students with disabilities advocate for themselves in the event of a removal?
Answer	A student with disabilities may be removed to an appropriate Interim Alternative Education Setting (IAES), another setting, or suspended for not more than 10 consecutive school days (to the extent such alternatives would be applied to students without disabilities). School personnel must consider any unique circumstances on a case-by-case basis when determining whether a change in placement is appropriate for the child with a disability who violates the Student Success Guide. Within 10 school days of any decision regarding a disciplinary change of placement due to a Code violation, the ARD committee must determine whether the behavior of the student is a manifestation of the student's disability. (SSG)

Question	Can the District monitor electronic device usage? Are there filters on students' District-issued devices?
Answer	Yes. Electronic mail transmissions and other use of electronic communications shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by designated staff to ensure appropriate use for educational or administrative purposes. Each District computer with Internet access shall have a filtering device or software that blocks access to visual depictions that are obscene, pornographic, inappropriate for students, or harmful to minors, as defined by the federal Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

Question	Can parents and students file a complaint to resolve conflict?
Answer	The Board encourages students and parents to discuss their concerns with the appropriate teacher, principal, or other campus administrators who have the authority to address the concerns. In the event informal resolution has been attempted, but not resolved, a 30-day deadline at "Level One" begins to run when the student or parent first knew or should have known, of the decision or action that caused the complaint or grievance. Complaints and appeals under this policy shall be submitted in writing on a form provided by the District.

Question	Can my elementary student get suspended?
Answer	A student who is enrolled in a grade level below grade three may 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 of school property, the student engages in: (1) conduct that contains the elements of an offense related to weapons under Section 46.02 or 46.05, Penal Code;

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	2) threatened the immediate health and safety of other students in the classroom; or 3) engaged in repeated or significant disruption to the classroom, as determined by the campus administrator in agreement with the classroom (4) selling, giving, or delivering to another person or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of: • (A) marijuana or a controlled substance, as defined by Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, or by 21 U.S.C. Section 801 et seq.; • (B) a dangerous drug, as defined by Chapter 483, Health and Safety Code; or • (C) an alcoholic beverage, as defined by Section 1.04, Alcoholic Beverage Code.