# POLICY

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

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#### 5520 DISORDER AND DEMONSTRATION

The Board recognizes the right of each student to attend school for the purpose of receiving an education. The disruption of the educational program of the schools by disorder or any other purposeful activity will not be countenanced. The Board, having the responsibility for providing an educational program for the students of this district, shall have the authority to preserve order for the proper functioning of that program.

Students shall not be disturbed in the exercise of their constitutionally guaranteed rights to assemble peaceably and to express ideas and opinions, privately or publicly, provided that such exercise does not interfere with the operation of the schools.

In the case of disorder or disruption, the following will be done:

- 1. The Principal will be notified immediately.
- 2. The Principal will notify the Superintendent of Schools.
- 3. The Superintendent will notify the Chief of Police to alert him of the situation and request the appropriate "stand-by".
- 4. The Superintendent will consult with the Principal and Business Administrator to determine what action is to be taken. After consultation, the Superintendent will determine whether the situation requires that she/he assume control for the overall operation during the emergency.
- 5. The officers of the Board of Education will be briefed as to the situation and the proposed action.
- 6. The Superintendent will implement that action which he deems appropriate to assure normal school operation.
- 7. Circumstances may dictate rapid changes in procedure.
- 8. Parents of students involved in disruptive behavior or in violation of school rules will be informed.



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- 9. All news releases will be issued from the office of the Superintendent of Schools.
- 10. Police action will be taken only at the request of school administrators. It is expected that the police will be on a stand-by alert basis.
- 11. It is the position of the school system that there will be no 'negotiations' with any demonstration group at the time of any such demonstration. As part of any communication, however, the various means of orderly registering of grievances would be indicated.
- 12. In the event that it becomes necessary for the school to be dismissed, there should be provisions for a gradual exit from the building of students not involved. Under no circumstances, however, if violence is a part of any demonstration, should students be permitted to leave the building. They continue under the direct responsibility of the teacher to whom they are assigned; there are no bells, no class changes, there is merely the continuation of the period in existence at the time of the start of the disruption.
- 13. Each school will develop its own specific internal plan to implement this provision.
- 14. The police will be advised immediately of the situation and they will be placed on a stand-by alert. It is important that there by quick and efficient communication between the school and the police administration.
- 15. Police will be alerted with particular reference to the risk of entry of unauthorized persons and for intruders from outside the school.
- 16. If violence occurs, and the situation is to any degree out of control, the school administration will request police assistance. At the time, the matter will become the responsibility of the police.

The interests of the school system in such an extreme instance is that:

1. The situation be contained as much as possible to one area of the building;



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- That an exit from the locale of the violence be provided in order that students who wish to separate themselves from the situation be permitted to do so; and
- 3. Another location be provided in the building to locate youngsters who do not want to be involved and who need to be in a safe, supervised area. School personnel will be available to receive students at such areas

N.J.S.A. 2C:12-3; 2C:33-1; 2C:33-2; 2C:33-8

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-1; 18A:37-2

N.J.S.A. 18A:37-1



Adopted: 3 May 2004