

## Discipline/Punishment

### Civil and Legal Rights and Responsibilities

Constitutional rights of students assure them the protection of due process of law. A system of constitutionally and legally sound procedures will be employed with regard to handling discipline in the public schools. The hallmark in the exercise of disciplinary authority shall be fairness.

Every effort shall be made by administrators and faculty members to resolve problems through effective use of school district and community resources in cooperation with the student and his family.

A student will be given an opportunity for a hearing if he/she or his/her parents indicate the desire to have one. The hearing shall be held to allow the student to contest the facts which may lead to the exercise of disciplinary authority or to contest the severity of the sanction handed down by the disciplinary authority.

Actions in suspending or expelling students shall be preceded by internal school procedures reflecting "due process" supported by defensible records.