

Agenda of Special Budget and Tax Rate Meeting

The Board of Trustees Abilene Independent School District

A Special Budget and Tax Rate Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Abilene Independent School District will be held Thursday, August 14, 2025, beginning at 5:00 PM in the Boardroom, One AISD Center 241 Pine Street, Abilene, Texas 79601.

The subjects to be discussed or considered or upon which any formal action may be taken are listed below. Items do not have to be taken in the same order as shown on this meeting notice. Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Board/Superintendent Announcements/Information
- II. Oral Communication from the Public
- III. Public Hearing on Budget and Tax Rate for 2025-26
 - A. Open Public Hearing
 - B. Receive public input concerning the 2025-26 Proposed Budget and Proposed Tax Rate
 - C. Close Public Hearing
- IV. Business Items Requiring Board Action
 - A. The Board will discuss and consider approval of the 2025-2026 Student Code of Conduct.
Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Student Services
 - B. The Board will consider approval of Proposed Local Policy FNCE.
Dr. Gustavo Villanueva, Associate Superintendent for Student Services
 - C. The Board will consider approval of the 2024-25 FY Budget Amendments.
Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer
 - D. The Board will consider adoption of the 2025-26 Budgets for General Fund, Student Nutrition Fund, Debt Service Fund and Internal Service Fund.
Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer
 - E. The Board will consider adoption of an Ordinance setting the 2025-26 Tax Rate.
Mrs. Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer
 - F. The Board will consider approval of Resolution and Order of Election for an Abilene ISD Voter-Approved Tax Rate Election (VATRE) on November 4, 2025.
Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent
- V. Adjournment.

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item III.B.

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Public Hearing

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Public Hearing on Budget and Tax Rate for 2025-2026

Background Information:

Attached is the supporting documentation for your review and consideration regarding the approval of the 2025–2026 fiscal year budget by function. The proposed budget reflects a projected deficit of \$3,404,674.00.

In addition to the budget, the Board will consider adopting an Ordinance to establish the 2025–2026 tax rate (Tax year 2025). Please note that the adoption of the Ordinance must appear as a separate item on the meeting agenda.

The recommended total tax rate is \$0.9580 per \$100 of valuation, consisting of:

- \$0.7421 for Maintenance & Operations (M&O)
- \$0.2159 for Interest & Sinking (I&S)
-

Because this proposed rate exceeds the voter-approved tax rate by \$0.06, a Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) is required if the board chooses to adopt the rate as presented.

Attached Supporting Documents: Presentation

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: None

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds



Public Hearing **August 2025 Special Meeting**

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

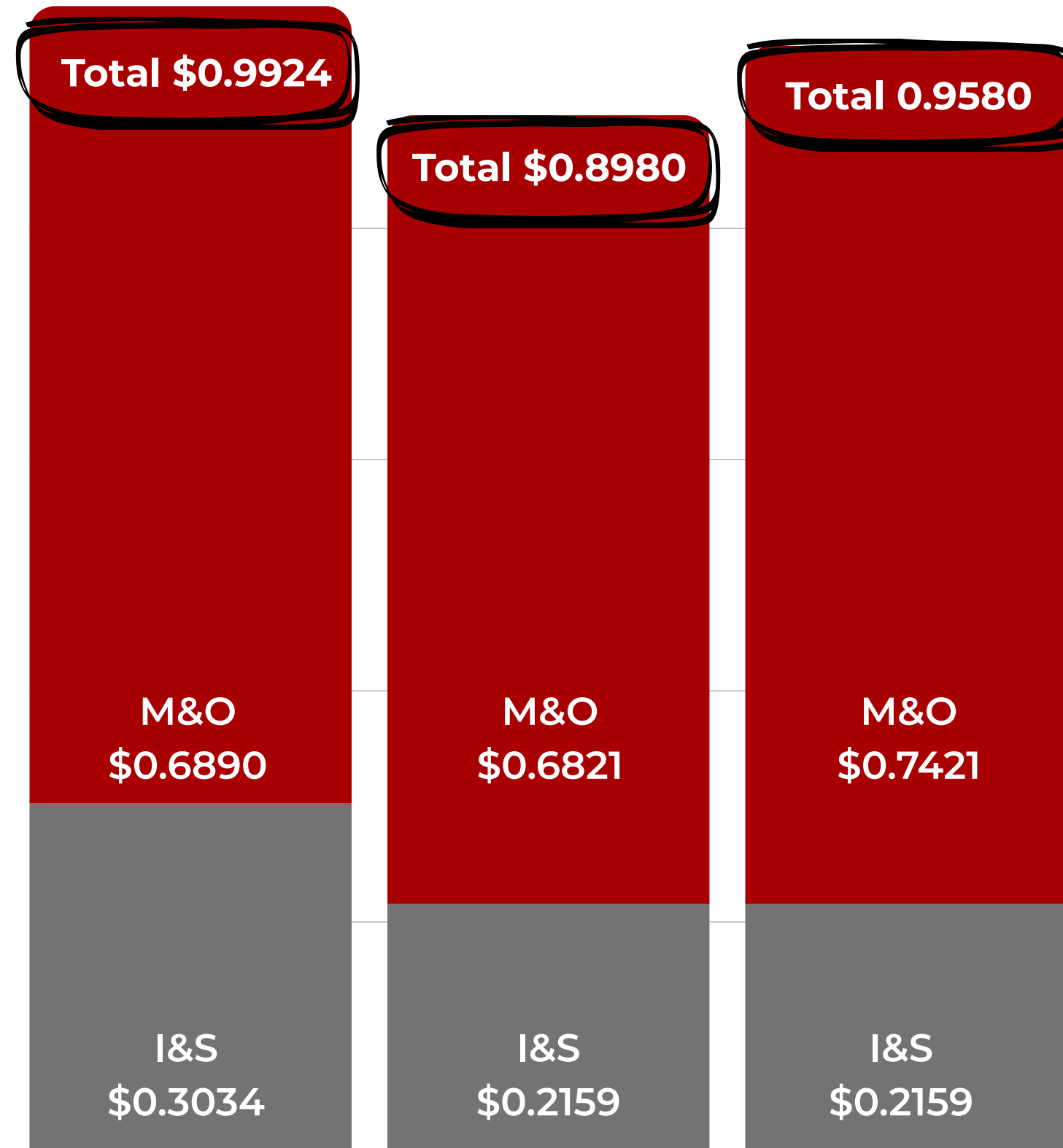


Objectives

- Consideration of Ordinance to set the Tax Rate
- Proposed Revenue
- Proposed Budget Summary
- Proposed Budget By Function
- Questions

Consideration of Ordinance to set the Tax Rate

Tax Rate



Fiscal Year	M&O Tax Rate	I&S Tax Rate	Total Tax Rate
2024-25	0.6890	0.3034	0.9924
2025-26 VATR	0.6821	0.2159	0.8980
2025-26 VATRE Add 3 Golden & 3 Copper Pennies	0.7421	0.2159	0.9580
Change FY25 to FY26	0.0531	-0.0875	-0.0344

Recommendation: The Board approve the ordinance setting the tax rate for tax year 2025 as presented.

• • • • •
Maintenance & Operation Rate : \$0.7421
Interest & Sinking Rate: \$0.2159

Total Tax Rate for FY 26 (Tax Year 2025):
\$0.9580

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REMINDERS

No matter what, the next tax rate for Abilene ISD will decrease from the prior year.

No matter what, the taxes on an average Abilene ISD property will decrease.

6 pennies equals \$10M dollars for Abilene ISD students & staff.

2025-2026 Proposed Revenue

Proposed Revenue does NOT include potential impact from VATRE.

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	
	GENERAL	GENERAL	
	FUND	FUND	Increase
Estimated Tax Rate	\$0.6890	\$0.6821	(Decrease)
ESTIMATED REVENUES			
<u>Local Revenue</u>			
5711 Property Taxes-Current	\$40,876,631	43,102,287	2,225,656
5712 Property Taxes-Delinquent	600,000	600,000	-
5719 Penalties, Interest, Others	400,000	400,000	-
5739 Tuition-Local	35,000	35,000	-
5742 Interest on Investments	1,500,000	1,500,000	-
5743 Rental of Facilities	15,000	15,000	-
5744 Gifts/Bequests	15,000	15,000	-
5749 Miscellaneous Local Revenue	325,000	325,000	-
5754 Print Shop	75,000	75,000	-
5752 Gate Receipts	600,000	600,000	-
<u>Total Local Revenue</u>	<u>\$44,441,631</u>	<u>\$46,667,287</u>	<u>2,225,656</u>
<u>State Revenue</u>			
5811/12 Per Capita/Foundation	86,882,527	94,302,963	7,420,436
5831 TRS On-Behalf	8,200,000	8,200,000	-
5819/29 State Rev-TEA (Tech/JJAEP)	70,000	70,000	-
<u>Total State Revenue</u>	<u>\$95,152,527</u>	<u>\$102,572,963</u>	<u>\$7,420,436</u>
<u>Federal Revenue</u>			
5929 Federal-TEA (Indirect/ROTC)	750,000	750,000	-
5931 SHARS	1,000,000	1,000,000	-
5941 Impact Aid	275,000	275,000	-
5949 Federal Revenue-Direct	85,000	85,000	-
5949 Federal Revenue-QSCB Interest	281,000	281,000	-
<u>Total Federal Revenue</u>	<u>2,391,000</u>	<u>2,391,000</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	<u>\$141,985,158</u>	<u>\$151,631,250</u>	<u>9,646,092</u>

2025-2026 Proposed Budget Summary

	2% GPI AP
Proposed Pay Increase Percentage:	4% GPI All Other Pay Groups
<u>Revenues</u>	
Local Revenue	\$ 46,667,287.00
State Revenue	\$ 102,572,963.00
Federal Revenue	\$ 2,391,000.00
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 151,631,250.00</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Current Payroll	\$ 121,207,399.61
Teacher Retention Allotment - HB2 Funded	\$ 3,817,758.00
General Pay Increase per TASB	\$ 1,707,668.00
Adjustments to Pay per TASB	\$ 230,246.00
Total Payroll	<u>\$ 126,963,071.61</u>
Non Payroll Expenditures	<u>\$ 28,072,852.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 155,035,923.61</u>
Excess Revenue Over/(Under)	\$ (3,404,673.61)

2025-2026 Proposed Budget By Function

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type
	General Fund	Student Nutrition Fund	Debt Service Fund	Internal Service Fund
Revenues				
5700s - Local	\$ 46,667,287	\$ 4,229,151	\$ 13,642,844	\$ 640,000
5800s - State	102,572,963	399,046	-	-
5900s - Federal	2,391,000	8,645,800	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 151,631,250</u>	<u>\$ 13,273,997</u>	<u>\$ 13,642,844</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>
Expenditures				
11 - Instruction	\$ 82,323,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
12 - Instructional Resources & Media	2,068,196	-	-	-
13 - Curriculum & Staff Development	1,246,340	-	-	-
21 - Instructional Leadership ²	3,179,751	-	-	-
23 - School Leadership	9,610,179	-	-	-
31 - Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	8,024,076	-	-	-
32 - Social Work Services	1,913,541	-	-	-
33 - Health Services	2,108,000	-	-	-
34 - Student Transportation	5,713,383	-	-	-
35 - Food Service	-	13,107,986	-	-
36 - Extracurricular Activities	3,551,868	-	-	-
41 - General Administration ^{1,2}	7,801,065	-	-	640,000
51 - Plant Maintenance & Operations	16,084,454	121,042	-	-
52 - Security & Monitoring Services	1,421,334	-	-	-
53 - Data Processing Services	5,756,410	-	-	-
61 - Community Services	629,757	-	-	-
71 - Debt Service	2,607,865	-	16,529,212	-
81 - Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	-	-	-
95 - Payments to JJAEP	275,000	-	-	-
99 - Other Intergovernmental Charges	721,320	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 155,035,924</u>	<u>\$ 13,229,028</u>	<u>\$ 16,529,212</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ (3,404,674)</u>	<u>\$ 44,969</u>	<u>\$ (2,886,368)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>



QUESTIONS?



Public Hearing **August 2025 Special Meeting**

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV A

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025 Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Action Item Future Action Required: Yes If Yes, Month: August

Subject: 25-26 Student Code of Conduct Approval

Background Information:

The Student Code of Conduct is reviewed and approved annually by the Board of Trustees. In legislative years, updates are made to align with newly enacted state laws. The 2025–2026 version includes significant revisions due to legislative changes, primarily driven by the following bills:

- **HB 6:** Major reforms to student discipline procedures
- **HB 1481:** Prohibition of personal communication device use during the school day
- **SB 326:** Requirement to address antisemitism in student behavior policies
- **SB 569:** Mandates consideration of virtual/hybrid education as an alternative to expulsion

Key Updates Include:

- **In-School Suspension (ISS):**
No maximum cap on ISS days; however, administrators must review each case every 10 school days to assess continued appropriateness.
- **Personal Communication Devices:**
Use of personal devices during the instructional day is prohibited. Districts must establish disciplinary consequences and make exceptions for medical, IEP, or Section 504 needs.
- **Antisemitism:**
Added as a general conduct violation. The district must use the state-defined standard to determine if conduct is motivated by antisemitism.
- **Artificial Intelligence Use:**
Misuse of AI (e.g., for cheating or prohibited conduct) is now classified as academic dishonesty.
- **Mandatory Expulsion for Title 5 Felonies:**
Expulsion is now required for Title 5 felony offenses, even when committed off campus.
- **Assault of a School Employee:**
Assault against school personnel is now a mandatory expellable offense.
- **Virtual Expulsion Option:**
Districts now have the authority to establish virtual programs for students who are expelled.

Attached is the final version of the 2025–2026 Student Code of Conduct. The highlighted sections indicate our recommended optional items for your review.

Also attached are the dress and grooming guideline recommendations

Attached Supporting Documents:

Board Slides of Presentation

Annotated Version/Redline of Student Code of Conduct

Dress and Grooming 2025 - 2026

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

We recommend approval of the 25-26 Student Code of Conduct

Contact Person:

Alison Camp



**ABILENE ISD
CODE OF CONDUCT
2025-26**

Student Code of Conduct

Dear Student and Parent:

As required by state law, the board of trustees has officially adopted the Student Code of Conduct in order to promote a safe and orderly learning environment for every student.

We urge you to read this publication thoroughly and to discuss it with your family. If you have any questions about the required conduct and consequences for misconduct, we encourage you to ask for an explanation from the student's teacher or campus administrator.

A paper "hard copy" of this publication is available upon request from your campus principal's office at no cost to you. Again, please do not hesitate to let us know of any questions or concerns regarding expectations of appropriate student conduct and related disciplinary procedures.

Best wishes for a successful school year.

Dr. John Kuhn
Abilene ISD Superintendent

Student Code of Conduct

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Student Code of Conduct

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Student Code of Conduct

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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 alison.camp@abileneisd.org or 325-677-1444.

Purpose

The Student Code of Conduct (“Code of Conduct”), as required by Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, provides methods and options for managing student behavior, preventing and intervening in student discipline problems, and imposing discipline.

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 Code of Conduct has been adopted by the Abilene ISD board of trustees and developed with the advice of the district-level planning and decision-making committee. It provides information to parents and students regarding standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct, and procedures for administering discipline. This Code of Conduct remains in effect during summer school and at all school-related events and activities outside the school year until the board adopts an updated version for the next school year.

In accordance with state law, the Code of Conduct shall be posted at each school campus or shall be available for review at the campus principal’s office. Additionally, the Code of Conduct shall be available at the campus behavior coordinator’s office and posted on the district’s website. 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.

Not later than the first day of the 2025-2026 school year, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall prepare and provide to each school district a report identifying each law relating to school discipline that was amended or added by the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025. A school district shall provide to each student and the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student the prepared report.

Because the Code of Conduct is adopted by the district’s board of trustees, it has the force of policy. In the event of a conflict between the Code of Conduct and the Student Handbook, the Code of Conduct shall prevail.

Please note: The discipline 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

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

School rules and the district's authority 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.

The district has disciplinary authority over a student:

1. During the regular school day;
2. While the student is traveling on district transportation;
3. During lunch periods in which a student is allowed to leave campus;
4. At any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;
5. For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;
6. When retaliation against a school employee, board member, or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;
7. When a student engages in cyberbullying, as defined by Education Code 37.0832;
8. When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event;
9. For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school's real property boundary line;
10. For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of another district in Texas;
11. When the student commits a felony, as provided by Education Code 37.006, 37.007, or 37.0081; and
12. When the student is required to register as a sex offender.

Campus Behavior Coordinator

As required by law, a single person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator (CBC). The designated person may be the principal, or any other campus administrator selected by the principal. Additional staff members may assist the CBC in the performance of the CBC's duties, provided that the CBC personally verifies that all aspects of Chapter 37, Subchapter A are appropriately implemented. The CBC is primarily responsible for maintaining student discipline. The CBC shall monitor disciplinary referrals and report the following behavior to the campus's threat assessment and safe and supportive school team:

- 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;

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

- 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 shall post on its website and in the Student Handbook, for each campus, the email address and telephone number of the person serving as CBC. Contact information may be found at abileneisd.org and on each campuses' website.

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, 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 FNF(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 suspicion 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 notice.

Reporting Crimes

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

Security Personnel

The board utilizes school resource officers (SROs), school marshals, 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.

The law enforcement duties of school resource officers are:

- SROs will serve to protect life and property of AISD, its employees, students, and citizens.

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

- SROs will comply with and enforce state and local laws.
- SROs will be visible and provide an active presence on the campus and deal with law enforcement matters that concern violations of state or local laws.
- SROs will coordinate and assist all law enforcement agency requests to conduct formal police interviews on campuses, as well as arrests needing to be made on campuses.
- SROs will perform any other duties as directed by the Chief of Police or any additional duties as directed by AISD after being approved by the Chief of Police.

“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 eligible, a student shall not have engaged in any misconduct that resulted 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 that resulted in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.

Unauthorized Persons

In accordance with Education Code 37.105, a school administrator, SRO, or district 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.

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

[See Restrictions During Placement for information regarding a student assigned to DAEP at the time of graduation.]

Standards for Student Conduct

Standards for Student Conduct

Each student is expected to:

- Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not.
- Behave in a responsible manner.
- Exercise self-discipline.
- Attend all classes regularly and on time.
- Bring appropriate materials and assignments to class.
- Meet district and campus standards of grooming and dress.
- 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 Code of Conduct.

General Conduct Violations

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 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.
- Leave school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission.
- Disobey rules for conduct in district vehicles.
- Refuse to accept discipline or consequence assigned by a teacher or principal.

Mistreatment of Others

Students shall not:

- Use profanity or vulgar language or make obscene gestures.
- Fight or scuffle. [See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for assault.]
- Threaten a district student, employee, or volunteer, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment.
- Engage in any behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct and is motivated by antisemitism. [See Glossary]
- Engage in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists. (See Glossary for all four terms.)
- Release or threaten to release intimate visual material of a minor or a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student's consent.
- Engage in sexual, racial, 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]
- Coerce an individual to act through the use or threat of force.

General Conduct Violations

- Commit extortion or blackmail.
- 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.

Property Offenses

Students shall not:

- Damage or vandalize property owned by others. [See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for felony criminal mischief.]
- 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 Penal Code. [See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for felony robbery, aggravated robbery, and theft.]
- 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 location-restricted knife;
- *A club;
- *A firearm;
- A stun gun;

General Conduct Violations

- Knuckles;
- A pocketknife or any other small knife;
- Mace or pepper spray;
- Pornographic material;
- Tobacco products (including nicotine pouches), cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and any component, part, or accessory for an e-cigarette device;
- Matches or a lighter;
- A laser pointer, unless it is for 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

Students shall not:

- Use a personal communication device, including a cell phone, or other electronic device on school property during the school day and shall store the device in accordance with the method of storage established by the district. [See Glossary]
- The district may authorize the use of a personal communication device for the following reasons:
 - To implement an individualized education program (IEP) or for a plan created under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C Section 794) or a similar program or plan;
 - With documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or
 - To comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the district's 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, use, give, or sell alcohol or an illegal drug. [See Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement and Expulsion for mandatory and permissive consequences under state law.]
- Possess or sell seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount.

General Conduct Violations

- 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 to body or mind. [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 or harass district students, employees, board members, or volunteers, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school.
- Send, post, deliver, 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 the internet or other electronic communication 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 or infringes on the rights of another student at school.

General Conduct Violations

- Utilize 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.
- Violate safety protocols (opening exterior doors, gates or entrances where entry is prohibited)

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 intelligence, 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 materially interfere with school activities.
- Repeatedly violate other communicated campus or classroom standards of conduct.

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

Discipline Management Techniques

Discipline Management Techniques

Discipline shall be designed to improve conduct and encourage students to be responsible members of the school community. Disciplinary action shall draw on the professional judgment of teachers and administrators and on a range of discipline management techniques, including restorative practices. Discipline shall be based on 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.

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.

Students with Disabilities

The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the Code of Conduct. In the event of any conflict, the district shall comply with federal law. For more information regarding discipline of students with disabilities, see policy FOF(LEGAL).

In accordance with the Education Code, a student who receives special education services may not be disciplined in a manner that results in a change to the student's educational placement for conduct meeting the definition of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists [see Glossary] until an Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee meeting has been held 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 that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.

Techniques

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

- Verbal correction, oral or written.
- Cooling-off time or a brief "time-out" period, in accordance with law.
- Seating changes within the classroom or vehicles owned or operated by the district.
- Temporary confiscation of items that disrupt the educational process.

Discipline Management Techniques

- Rewards or demerits.
- Behavioral contracts.
- Counseling by teachers, school counselors, or administrative personnel.
- Parent-teacher conferences.
- Behavior coaching.
- Anger management classes.
- Mediation (victim-offender).
- Classroom circles.
- Family group conferencing.
- Grade reductions for cheating, plagiarism, and as otherwise permitted by policy.
- Detention, including outside regular school hours.
- Sending the student to the office, another assigned area, or to in-school suspension (ISS).
- 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 student organizations' extracurricular standards of behavior.
- Restriction or revocation of district transportation privileges.
- School-assessed and school-administered **probation.**
- In-school suspension, as specified in In-School Suspension.
- Out-of-school suspension, as specified in Out-of-School Suspension.
- Placement in a DAEP, as specified in Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement.
- Expulsion and/or placement in an alternative educational setting, as specified in Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses.
- Expulsion, as specified in Expulsion.
- 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.

Discipline Management Techniques

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 Education Code 37.0012(d).

A good-faith effort shall be made to provide written notice of the disciplinary action to the student, on the day the action was taken, for delivery to the student's parent. If the parent has

Discipline Management Techniques

not been reached by telephone or in person by 5:00 p.m. of the first business day after the day the disciplinary action was taken, the CBC shall send written notification by U.S. Mail. If the CBC 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 CBC, 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 this policy may be obtained from the central administration office or online at www.abileneisd.org.

The district shall not delay a disciplinary consequence while a student or parent pursues a grievance. In the instance of a student who is accused of conduct that meets the definition of sexual harassment as defined by Title IX, the district will comply with applicable federal law, including the Title IX formal complaint process. [See policies FFH(LEGAL) and (LOCAL)]

Removal from the School Bus

Removal from the School Bus

A bus driver may refer a student to the principal's office or the CBC's office to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The principal or CBC must employ additional discipline management techniques, as appropriate, which can include restricting or revoking a student's bus riding privileges.

To transport students safely, the vehicle operator must focus on driving and not be distracted by student misbehavior. Therefore, when appropriate disciplinary management techniques fail to improve student behavior or when specific misconduct warrants immediate removal, the principal or the CBC may restrict or revoke a student's transportation privileges, in accordance with law.

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

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 CBC's office as a discipline management technique. The CBC shall employ alternative discipline management techniques, including progressive interventions. A teacher or administrator may remove a student from class for behavior that violates this Code of Conduct to maintain effective discipline in the classroom.

Formal Teacher Removal

A teacher may initiate a formal removal from class if:

1. A student's behavior repeatedly interferes with the teacher's ability to teach the class or with other students' ability to learn.
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 37.0832.0.

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 administrator shall schedule a conference with the student's parent, the student, the teacher who removed the student from class, and any other appropriate administrator.

At the conference, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and the proposed consequences. The student shall have an opportunity to respond to the allegations.

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

- Another appropriate classroom.
- ISS.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- DAEP.

A teacher or 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.

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

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

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 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.

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

Out-of-School Suspension

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 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 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, not to exceed three school days.

In deciding whether to order out-of-school suspension, the CBC 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;

Out-of-School Suspension

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.

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

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 in conjunction with other students.

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 CBC 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.

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 of Conduct.

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]

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

- Involvement in criminal street gang activity. [see Glossary]
- Any criminal mischief, including a felony.
- Assault (no bodily injury) with threat of imminent bodily injury.
- Assault by offensive or provocative physical contact.
- 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.

The CBC **may** place a student in a DAEP for off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law if the administrator 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:

- 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.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

[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 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 sections 42.07(a)(1), (2), (3), or (7).
- Engages in expellable conduct and is six to 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 under 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:

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

- 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 CBC.

Conference

When a student is removed from class for a DAEP offense, the CBC or appropriate administrator 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 CBC or appropriate administrator 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 CBC 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 CBC shall write a placement order. A copy of the DAEP placement order and information for the parent or person standing in

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

parental relation to the student regarding the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the student for purposes of special education services 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.

If the student is placed in a DAEP and the length of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines included in this Code of Conduct, the placement order shall give notice of the inconsistency.

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 CBC shall determine the duration of a student's placement in a DAEP.

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.

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.

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.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

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 CBC or the board's designee must determine that:

1. The student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others; or
2. The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior [see Glossary] that violates the district's Code of Conduct.

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 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 central administration office or online at www.abilenesd.org.

Appeals shall begin at the Executive Director of Student Services, as the Board's designee, whose decision shall be final in accordance with policy FOC (LEGAL).

All other complaints related to discipline, other than the DAEP placement decision, should be addressed in accordance with policy FNG (LOCAL). A copy of this policy may be obtained from the principal's office or online at www.abileneisd.org. These complaints shall begin at Level 1 with the lowest level administrator who has authority to provide a resolution. (The Board encourages resolution of complaints through informal conferences with the appropriate teacher, principal, or other campus administrator.)

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.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Restrictions During Placement

The district does not permit a student who is placed in a DAEP to participate in any school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular or cocurricular activity, including seeking or holding honorary positions and/or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations.

A student placed in a DAEP shall not be provided transportation unless he or she is a student with a disability who is entitled to transportation in accordance with the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.

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 CBC 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 be conducted, and the CBC 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.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

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 of Conduct 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 CBC 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 CBC 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 decide on a case-by-case basis whether to continue the 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. The district may place the student in the district's DAEP or a regular classroom setting.

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 if the behavior committed is a reason for DAEP placement in the receiving district.

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 if 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

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

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.]

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses

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:

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.

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 regular classroom or remain in the placement. Absent a special finding, the board or its designee must follow the committee's recommendation.

The placement review of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made by the ARD committee.

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.

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.

Expulsion

In deciding whether to order expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC 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.

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 [Disciplinary Alternative Education Program \(DAEP\) 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 any amount 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-

Expulsion

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.
- Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable 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-sponsored or school-related activity of a school in another district in Texas.

While in a DAEP

A student may be expelled for engaging in documented serious misbehavior that violates the district’s Code of Conduct, 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:
 - a. Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
 - b. Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;
 - c. Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
 - d. Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
 - e. 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.
 - Indecency with a child.

Expulsion

- 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 10

When a student under the age of 10 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.

Virtual Expulsion Program

In some circumstances, a student may be placed in a virtual expulsion program.

- The school must ensure students in the program have the necessary technology and internet and must provide it if needed.
- The virtual program must, as much as possible, meet the same requirements as an in-person disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP).
- The student's placement must be reviewed every 45 school days.
- If an in-person spot becomes available, the school should plan the student's return to in-person learning.
- If continued virtual placement is appropriate, the school must document the decision.

Consideration of Virtual Education as Alternative to Expulsion

Before a school district may expel a student, the district must consider the appropriateness and feasibility of, as an alternative to expulsion, enrolling the student in a full-time hybrid program, full-time virtual program, full-time hybrid campus, or full-time virtual campus. This requirement does not apply to a student expelled under Education Code 37.0081 or 37.007(a), (d), or(e).

Process

If a student is believed to have committed an expellable offense, the CBC or other appropriate administrator 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 CBC or other administrator may place the student in:

Expulsion

- Another appropriate classroom.
- ISS.
- Out-of-school suspension.
- DAEP.

Hearing

A student facing expulsion shall be given a hearing with appropriate due process. The student is entitled to:

1. 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;
2. An opportunity to testify and to present evidence and witnesses in the student's defense; and
3. 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 Executive Director of Student Services 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 CBC 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;

Expulsion

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.

If the student is expelled, the board or its designee shall deliver 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 Executive Director of Student Services 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 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.

Time served in a Juvenile Detention Center is not counted towards the District assigned 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.

Expulsion

If the CBC 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 CBC 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 decide on a case-by-case basis the placement of a student who is subject to an expulsion order from another district or an open-enrollment charter school upon enrollment in the district.

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 10 days after the date of the emergency expulsion, the student shall be given appropriate due process required for a student facing expulsion.

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 10 years of age.

Transition Services

In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff 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(LLEGAL) and FODA(LLEGAL) 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:

Expulsion

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.

Glossary

Abuse is improper or excessive use.

Aggravated robbery is defined in part by 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 defined by Penal Code 46.01 as handgun ammunition used in pistols and revolvers and designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor.

Arson is defined in part by Penal Code 28.02 as a crime that involves:

1. Starting a fire or causing an explosion with intent to destroy or damage:
 - a. Any vegetation, fence, or structure on open-space land; or
 - b. Any building, habitation, or vehicle:
 - (1) Knowing that it is within the limits of an incorporated city or town;
 - (2) Knowing that it is insured against damage or destruction;
 - (3) Knowing that it is subject to a mortgage or other security interest;
 - (4) Knowing that it is located on property belonging to another;
 - (5) Knowing that it has located within it property belonging to another; or
 - (6) 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.
2. Recklessly starting a fire or causing an explosion while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance if the fire or explosion damages any building, habitation, or vehicle; or
3. Intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion and in so doing:

Glossary

- a. Recklessly damaging or destroying a building belonging to another; or
- b. Recklessly causing another person to suffer bodily injury or death.

Assault is defined in part by Penal Code 22.01 as intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another; intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury; or intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another that can reasonably be regarded as offensive or provocative.

Breach of computer security includes knowingly accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system without the effective consent of the owner as defined in Penal Code 33.02, if the conduct involves accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system owned by or operated on behalf of a school district and the student knowingly alters, damages, or deletes school district property or information or commits a breach of any other computer, computer network, or computer system.

Bullying is defined as a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that:

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 damage to the student's property;
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;
3. Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or
4. Infringes on the rights of the victim at school.

Bullying includes cyberbullying. (See below.) This state law on bullying prevention applies to:

1. Bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property or to the site of a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property;
2. Bullying that occurs on a publicly or privately owned school bus or vehicle being used for transportation of students to or from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity; and
3. Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity if the cyberbullying interferes with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity.

Chemical dispensing device is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of dispensing a substance capable 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.

Glossary

Club is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as an instrument, specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with the instrument, and includes but is not limited to a blackjack, nightstick, mace, and tomahawk.

Controlled substance means a substance, including a drug, an adulterant, and a dilutant, listed in Schedules I through V or Penalty Group 1, 1-A, 1-B, 2, 2-A, 3, or 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes the aggregate weight of any mixture, solution, or other substance containing a controlled substance. The term does not include hemp, as defined by Agriculture Code 121.001, or the tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) in hemp.

Criminal street gang is defined by Penal Code 71.01 as 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 defined by Education Code 37.0832 as bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an internet website, or any other internet-based communication tool.

Dangerous drug is defined by Health and Safety Code 483.001 as a device or a drug that is unsafe for self-medication and that is not included in Schedules I through V or Penalty Groups 1 through 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes a device or drug that federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription or restricts to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.

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 under Penal Code 22.05 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

Glossary

substances to the individual inhaling from the device or a consumable liquid solution or other material aerosolized or vaporized during the use of an electronic cigarette or other device described by this provision. 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 defined by Penal Code 46.01 as 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 under Penal Code 42.06 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 silencer, defined as any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm; or
4. Any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade.

Such term does not include an antique firearm.

Graffiti includes 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 Penal Code 46.01 as any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand.

Harassment includes:

1. Conduct that meets the definition established in district policies DIA(LOCAL) and FFH(LOCAL);
2. Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer; is sexually intimidating; causes physical damage to the property of another student; subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint; or maliciously and substantially harms another

Glossary

student's physical or emotional health or safety, as defined in Education Code 37.001(b)(2); or

3. Conduct that is punishable as a crime under Penal Code 42.07, including the following types of conduct if carried out with the intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another:
 - a. Initiating communication and, in the course of the communication, making a comment, request, suggestion, or proposal that is obscene, as defined by law;
 - b. Threatening, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the threat, to inflict bodily injury on the person or to commit a felony against the person, a member of the person's family or household, or the person's property;
 - c. Conveying, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the report, a false report, which is known by the conveyor to be false, that another person has suffered death or serious bodily injury;
 - d. Causing the telephone of another to ring repeatedly or making repeated telephone communications anonymously or in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another;
 - e. Making a telephone call and intentionally failing to hang up or disengage the connection;
 - f. Knowingly permitting a telephone under the person's control to be used by another to commit an offense under this section;
 - g. Sending repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another;
 - h. Publishing on an internet website, including a social media platform, repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to cause emotional distress, abuse, or torment to another person, unless the communications are made in connection with a matter of public concern, as defined by law; or
 - i. Making obscene, intimidating, or threatening telephone calls or other electronic communications from a temporary or disposable telephone number provided by an internet application or other technological means.

Hazing is defined by Education Code 37.151 as an intentional, knowing, or reckless act, on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student for the purpose of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in a student organization if the act meets the elements in Education Code 37.151, including:

1. Any type of physical brutality;
2. An activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the student's mental or physical health, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement to small spaces, calisthenics, or consumption of food, liquids, drugs, or other substances;

Glossary

3. An activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that violates the Penal Code; or
4. Coercing a student to consume a drug or alcoholic beverage in an amount that would lead a reasonable person to believe the student is intoxicated.

Hit list is defined in Education Code 37.001(b)(3) as 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.

Improvised explosive device is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a completed and operational bomb designed to cause serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage that is fabricated in an improvised manner using nonmilitary components.

Indecent exposure is defined by Penal Code 21.08 as an offense that occurs when a person exposes the person's anus or any part of the person's genitals with intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, and is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.

Intimate visual material is defined by Civil Practices and Remedies Code 98B.001 and Penal Code 21.16 as visual material that depicts a person with the person's intimate parts exposed or engaged in sexual conduct. "Visual material" means any film, photograph, video tape, negative, or slide of any photographic reproduction or any other physical medium that allows an image to be displayed on a computer or other video screen and any image transmitted to a computer or other video screen.

Location-restricted knife is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a knife with a blade over five and one-half inches.

Knuckles means 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.

Look-alike weapon means an item that resembles a weapon but is not intended to be used to cause serious bodily injury.

Machine gun as defined by Penal Code 46.01 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:

1. Clothing, purse, or backpack;

Glossary

2. 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;
3. Personal communication devices or electronic devices; or
4. Any school property used by the student, including, but not limited to, a locker or desk.

Prohibited weapon under 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
6. 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 Education Code 37.121(d) 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 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 Penal Code Section 1.07; or

4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:
 - a. Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07;
 - b. Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08;
 - c. Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03;
 - d. Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or
 - e. Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) 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 schoolwork 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 defined by Penal Code 46.01 as 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 defined by Penal Code 22.07 as 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).

Glossary

Tire deflation device is defined in part by Penal Code 46.01 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 in-fluence" need not be legally intoxicated to trigger disciplinary action.

Glossary

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.

2025-26 Model Student Code of Conduct

Revised July 2025

Annotated to show changes compared to the July 2023 edition

Policy Service

Texas Association of School Boards

The *TASB Model Student Code of Conduct* (MSCOC) is provided to Policy Service subscribers to help maintain the district's local Student Code of Conduct, mandated by Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code.

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About the Annotated Model Student Code of Conduct

Recommendations

- Review relevant changes from the 89th Legislative Session
- Identify the legal and local policies that align with the Student Code of Conduct
- Review references to law and policy
- Make sure all legal requirements are included in the district's Code of Conduct
- District staff members who administer discipline for Code of Conduct violations may wish to retain a copy of the annotated Code of Conduct for the Editorial Notes resources

The *Model Student Code of Conduct* has been edited throughout for clarity and to incorporate recent changes that have been made to other policies. **We encourage administrators to read through the entire Model carefully, especially the Editorial Notes. To make sure that all changes are included in the district's 2025-26 Code of Conduct, add the district's unique text to the TASB 2025-26 editable template rather than revising a previous district Code of Conduct.**

Track changes

- Track changes indicate revisions from the previous version
- Deletions appear in a red strike-through text: ~~deleted text~~
- Additions appear in a blue, bold, underlined text: **new text**
- Revision bars appear in the right margin
- **Yellow highlighting** shows where to make a choice or fill in information

Editorial Notes and Additional Resources Column

The Editorial Notes and Additional Resources column contains helpful information, including references to law and links to outside sources. Bill numbers are **highlighted in yellow** in the Editorial Notes to indicate new state law. "SB" stands for Senate Bill and "HB" stands for House Bill.

Important Requirements

- State law requires the **board to adopt** your district's Student Code of Conduct. The district's Code of Conduct stands as an authoritative document and once adopted, has the force of policy. Its provisions should not be repeated in the local policy manual or the student handbook. We recommend the district's attorney review the completed Code of Conduct before the board adopts it.

- The Education Code requires districts to **post and prominently display** the Code of Conduct at each school campus or have it available for review at the office of the campus principal. The Code of Conduct should also be available at the office of the campus behavior coordinator.
- The Glossary includes **legal and local definitions of terms** and must be retained as part of the Code of Conduct.
- Districts are required to **provide parents with the district's Code of Conduct**. Sample acknowledgment forms for parents are included as separate documents. The Code of Conduct may be:
 - Posted on the district website,
 - Distributed as a hard copy, or
 - Provided through other means.

Other Discipline-Related Resources

- [Education Code 37.018](#) requires the district to provide a copy of [Chapter 37, Subchapter A](#) to educators and administrators.
- The *Regulation Resource Manual* has sample forms addressing discipline issues. The *RRM* is available to superintendents and policy administrators in the Policy Online® [Governance and Management Library](#).
 - FO(EXHIBIT) on use of corporal punishment
 - FOA(EXHIBIT) on removal of a student by a teacher or bus driver
 - FOB(EXHIBIT) on out-of-school suspension
 - FOC(EXHIBIT) on placement in a DAEP
 - FOCA(EXHIBIT) on transition services and plans to assist a student's transition back into the regular educational setting from a DAEP
 - FOD(EXHIBIT) on expulsion
 - FODA(EXHIBIT) on plans to assist a student's transition back into the regular educational setting from a Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP)
 - FOE(EXHIBIT) on emergency removal

Disclaimer

The *Model Student Code of Conduct* is provided for educational purposes only to facilitate a general understanding of the law or other regulatory matters. This information is neither an exhaustive treatment on the subject nor is this intended to substitute for the advice of an attorney or other professional adviser. Consult with your attorney or professional adviser to apply these principles to specific fact situations.

Legislative bills from the 89th Legislative Session that affect the Student Code of Conduct:

- **House Bill (HB) 6** makes substantial changes to Chapter 37, including clarifying the length of suspensions, removing mandatory DAEP placements for possession of an e-cigarette, and allowing districts to create virtual expulsion programs, among other things.
- **House Bill (HB) 1481** mandates that school districts and open-enrollment charter schools adopt a written policy prohibiting students from using personal communication devices on school property during the school day. The policy must outline disciplinary measures for violations and may include provisions for device confiscation. Exceptions are provided for students with medical needs or those requiring the devices for IEPs or Section 504 plans.
- **Senate Bill (SB) 326** amends the Education Code to address antisemitism in public schools and higher education institutions. It requires these institutions to use the definition of antisemitism found in Government Code section 448.001 when determining whether a student's conduct that violated the code of conduct was motivated by antisemitism.
- **Senate Bill (SB) 569** expands virtual and hybrid education in public schools, establishing new rules for full-time virtual and hybrid campuses. It mandates that school districts consider virtual/hybrid education as an alternative to expulsion before expelling a student. The bill also outlines requirements for academic and operational planning for these programs, ensures accountability for virtual instruction providers, and provides funding through the Foundation School Program.

Note: This is not an inclusive list of all Legislative bills passed.

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Student Code of Conduct

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Student Code of Conduct</p>	
<p>Accessibility</p>	
<p>If you have difficulty accessing the information in this document because of disability, please contact the district at [insert district email address and phone number].</p>	<p>To provide assistance for people with disabilities, we recommend that you include relevant contact information here.</p>
<p>Purpose</p>	
<p>The Student Code of Conduct (“Code of Conduct”), as required by Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, provides methods and options for managing student behavior, preventing and intervening in student discipline problems, and imposing discipline.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This Code of Conduct has been adopted by the [insert district name] board of trustees and developed with the advice of the district-level planning and decision-making committee. It provides information to parents and students regarding standards of conduct, consequences of misconduct, and procedures for administering discipline. This Code of Conduct remains in effect during summer school and at all school-related events and activities outside the school year until the board adopts an updated version for the next school year.</p>	<p>We recommend that the board adopt the district’s Student Code of Conduct annually, prior to the start of each school year. While changes to the <i>TASB Model Student Code of Conduct</i> are generally made after a legislative session, district administrators should do a careful review of the district’s Code of Conduct each year to be sure it accurately reflects current practice.</p>

Student Code of Conduct

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>In accordance with state law, the Code of Conduct shall be posted at each school campus or shall be available for review at the campus principal's office. Additionally, the Code of Conduct shall be available at the campus behavior coordinator's office and posted on the district's website. 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.</p>	<p>Adjust text to reflect whether the district makes the Code of Conduct available on the district's website.</p>
<p>Not later than the first day of the 2025-2026 school year, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall prepare and provide to each school district a report identifying each law relating to school discipline that was amended or added by the 89th Legislature, Regular Session, 2025. A school district shall provide to each student and the parent of or person standing in parental relation to the student the prepared report.</p>	<p>This is a requirement of HB 6.</p>
<p>Because the Code of Conduct is adopted by the district's board of trustees, it has the force of policy. In the event of a conflict between the Code of Conduct and the Student Handbook, the Code of Conduct shall prevail.</p>	<p>To avoid conflict, we recommend that the board not adopt the Student Handbook. See BP(LOCAL) and FN(LOCAL) to confirm that the board does not adopt the Handbook.</p>
<p>Please note: The discipline 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.</p>	<p>Contact the district's local school attorney regarding the Code of Conduct and disciplining students with disabilities.</p>

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>School District Authority and Jurisdiction</p>	
<p>School rules and the district’s authority 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.</p>	
<p>The district has disciplinary authority over a student:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. During the regular school day; 2. While the student is traveling on district transportation; 3. During lunch periods in which a student is allowed to leave campus; 4. At any school-related activity, regardless of time or location; 5. For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location; 6. When retaliation against a school employee, board member, or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location; 7. When a student engages in cyberbullying, as defined by Education Code 37.0832; 8. When criminal mischief is committed on or off school property or at a school-related event; 9. For certain offenses committed within 300 feet of school property as measured from any point on the school’s real property boundary line; 10. For certain offenses committed while on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of another district in Texas; 11. When the student commits a felony, as provided by Education Code 37.006, 37.007, or 37.0081; and 12. When the student is required to register as a sex offender. 	<p>A reference to Education Code 37.007 has been added to the list of felonies for completeness and clarity.</p>

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Campus Behavior Coordinator</p> <p>As required by law, a single person at each campus must be designated to serve as the campus behavior coordinator (CBC). The designated person may be the principal, or any other campus administrator selected by the principal. Additional staff members may assist the CBC in the performance of the CBC's duties, provided that the CBC personally verifies that all aspects of Chapter 37, Subchapter A are appropriately implemented. The CBC is primarily responsible for maintaining student discipline. The CBC shall monitor disciplinary referrals and report the following behavior to the campus's threat assessment and safe and supportive school team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>The district shall post on its website and in the Student Handbook, for each campus, the email address and telephone number of the person serving as CBC. Contact information may be found at [insert URL] and at [insert URL to digital copy of Student Handbook].</p>	<p>Chapter 37 establishes the position of campus behavior coordinator (CBC) to serve at each campus within a school district and be responsible for maintaining student discipline and completing designated duties as assigned by law. If you choose to list the persons serving as a CBC in the Code of Conduct, adjust the text to the left.</p> <p>Education Code 26.015 requires districts to post on their website, for each campus, the email address and dedicated phone number of the CBC.</p> <p>Additional requirements related to the CBC have been added to comply with HB 6.</p> <p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision associated with student discipline is the statutory responsibility of the CBC. Additionally, the <i>Model</i> uses yellow shading to reflect when the district must choose whether the CBC or another administrator will perform duties regarding disciplinary issues. Unless the district designates otherwise, statute provides that a duty imposed on a principal or other campus administrator in Chapter 37 must be performed by the CBC.</p>

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Text	Editorial Notes
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.	See FFB(LOCAL) for the district's policy addressing the threat assessment and safe and supportive team.
Searches	
<p>District officials may conduct searches of students, their belongings, 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 FNF(LEGAL) and FNF(LOCAL) for more information regarding investigations and searches.</p> <p>The district has the right to search a vehicle driven to school by a student and parked on school property whenever there is reasonable suspicion to believe it contains articles or materials prohibited by the district.</p> <p>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 notice.</p>	
Reporting Crimes	
The principal or CBC and other school administrators as appropriate shall report crimes as required by law and shall call local law enforcement when an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed on campus.	Education Code 37.015 requires the district to report certain offenses that occur on school property or at school events. School administrators may call law enforcement for assistance in determining whether a crime has been committed.

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Security Personnel</p>	
<p>The board utilizes [police officers, school resource officers (SROs), school marshals, <i>and/or</i> security personnel] 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.</p> <p>The law enforcement duties of district police officers are: <i>[insert the law enforcement duties performed by district police officers working for the district.]</i></p> <p>[AND/OR]</p> <p>The law enforcement duties of school resource officers are: <i>[insert the law enforcement duties performed by SROs working with the district.]</i></p> <p>[AND/OR]</p> <p>The law enforcement duties of district security personnel are: <i>[insert the law enforcement duties performed by security personnel working with or for the district.]</i></p>	<p>Education Code 37.081 requires the district to include the duties of peace officers, school resource officers (SROs), and security personnel in its district improvement plan, Code of Conduct, and any other documents that outline the duties of such personnel. The law also states that such personnel should not be assigned duties outside of their purview of security. The board is required to coordinate with the CBC and other employees to ensure that peace officers, SROs, and security personnel are not tasked with behavioral or administrative duties better addressed by other district employees.</p> <p>Adjust the text to reflect the district’s security arrangements and the duties of any police officers, SROs, or security personnel. This section is not required if the district has not formed a police department, entered into an agreement with local law enforcement for SROs, or employed any security personnel.</p>
<p>“Parent” Defined</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>The definition of parent is included for clarification and matches the definition in FO(LOCAL).</p>

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Participating in Graduation Activities</p>	
<p>The district has the right to limit a student’s participation in graduation activities for violating the district’s Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Participation might include a speaking role, as established by district policy and procedures.</p> <p>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 eligible, a student shall not have engaged in any misconduct that resulted in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.</p> <p>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 that resulted in an out-of-school suspension, removal to a DAEP, or expulsion during the semester immediately preceding graduation.</p>	<p>Restrictions the district imposes on students who would otherwise be eligible for speaking roles at graduation but who have engaged in certain types of misconduct should be addressed in your Code of Conduct. Coordinate this provision with FNA(LOCAL) if your district has adopted this policy, and EIC(LOCAL) if this topic is addressed in that policy.</p> <p>Restrictions for students who give opening and closing remarks can differ from those with other speaking roles.</p> <p>Adjust the highlighted paragraphs to reflect the district’s restrictions and if students other than your valedictorian and salutatorian are eligible for the other speaking roles.</p>
<p>Unauthorized Persons</p>	
<p>In accordance with Education Code 37.105, a school administrator, SRO, or district 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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>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</p>	<p>Chapter 37 requires the Code of Conduct to include a statement on the authority of a school administrator, SRO, or district police officer to refuse entry to or eject a person from district property for posing a risk of harm or inappropriate behavior, and the district’s appeal process. See GKA(LEGAL) for other procedural requirements.</p>

School District Authority and Jurisdiction

Text	Editorial Notes
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.	
[See Restrictions During Placement for information regarding a student assigned to DAEP at the time of graduation.]	

Standards for Student Conduct

Text	Editorial Notes
Standards for Student Conduct	
<p>Each student is expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Demonstrate courtesy, even when others do not.• Behave in a responsible manner.• Exercise self-discipline.• Attend all classes regularly and on time.• Bring appropriate materials and assignments to class.• Meet district and campus standards of grooming and dress.• 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 Code of Conduct.	<p>Chapter 37 requires the Code of Conduct to include standards that schools expect from students. Modify the list to emphasize conduct the district would like to encourage.</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>General Conduct Violations</p>	
<p>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 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.</p>	<p>The district should modify the list to reflect the district’s decisions on what is unacceptable student behavior. The district may want to move some of the general violations to the list of offenses for which a student may be placed in a Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement.</p>
<p>Disregard for Authority</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fail to comply with directives given by school personnel. • Leave school grounds or school-sponsored events without permission. • Disobey rules for conduct in district vehicles. • Refuse to accept discipline or consequence assigned by a teacher or principal. 	
<p>Mistreatment of Others</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use profanity or vulgar language or make obscene gestures. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fight or scuffle. [See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for assault.] 	<p>Keep in mind that not all fighting constitutes assault and may not require placement in a DAEP.</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Threaten a district student, employee, or volunteer, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in any behavior that violates the Student Code of Conduct and is motivated by antisemitism. [see Glossary] 	<p>SB 326 requires a district to use the definition of antisemitism provided by Government Code section 448.001, including the examples referenced, when determining whether behavior that violates the Code of Conduct was motivated by antisemitism.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists. [See Glossary for all four terms.] Release or threaten to release intimate visual material of a minor or a student who is 18 years of age or older without the student’s consent. 	<p>See FFI(LOCAL) for the district’s policy on bullying.</p> <p>Chapter 37 provides for DAEP placement or expulsion for a student who engages in bullying that encourages a student to die by suicide, incites violence against a student through group bullying, or releases or threatens to release intimate visual material of a minor or of an adult student without the student’s consent.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in 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. 	<p>See DIA and FFH(LOCAL) for the district’s provisions regarding harassment, including sexual or gender-based harassment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in conduct that constitutes dating violence. [see Glossary] 	<p>Education Code 37.0831 requires the district to develop a policy on dating violence and include it in the district’s improvement plan.</p> <p>FFH(LOCAL) includes prohibitions and reporting provisions on dating violence.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in inappropriate or indecent exposure of private body parts. Participate in hazing. [see Glossary] 	

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coerce an individual to act through the use or threat of force. • Commit extortion or blackmail. • 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. 	
<p>Property Offenses</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage or vandalize property owned by others. [See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for felony criminal mischief.] • 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 Penal Code. [See Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses for felony robbery, aggravated robbery, and theft.] 	<p>Damage to property equal to or in excess of \$2,500 is felony criminal mischief and requires placement in a DAEP or expulsion.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter, without authorization, district facilities that are not open for operations. 	<p>To reflect common district practice, a provision has been added stating that students shall not enter district facilities that are not open for operations without authorization.</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Possession of Prohibited Items</p>	
<p>Students shall not possess or use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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; • <u>An air gun or BB gun;</u> • A short barrel firearm; • Ammunition; • A hand instrument designed to cut or stab another by being thrown; 	<p>A student's possession of certain knives, firearms, or clubs may not be subject to mandatory expulsion, but this conduct may be punishable by placement in a DAEP. Certain knives, firearms, or clubs are included in the list of prohibited items in the general conduct violations section to support the district's authority to discipline students in these circumstances.</p> <p>SB 1596 removes short barrel firearms from the definition of prohibited weapons in the Penal Code, so those firearms are now specifically listed as a prohibited weapon here.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A firearm silencer or suppressor; 	<p>The Government Code regulates firearm suppressors, which are defined as any device designed to muffle the report of a firearm. Federal law continues to require expulsion for one year of a student who brings to school a “firearm,” including a firearm muffler or silencer. A school district may choose whether to add these devices to the list of locally prohibited items. Note that the Texas Government Code restricts a district's authority to enforce a ban on firearm suppressors with regard to the general public. School officials may want to seek legal advice regarding the change in law.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *A location-restricted knife; • *A club; 	

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *A firearm; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A stun gun; • Knuckles; 	<p>Since stun guns and knuckles are not included in Texas law as prohibited weapons, the district may want to include them on this list.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A pocketknife or any other small knife; 	<p>If the district imposes disciplinary consequences for smaller knives (blades less than five and one-half inches), including pocketknives, this text should be included here.</p> <p>In Education Code 37.007(a), the district does not have the discretion to make possession of any knife, including pocketknives and knives with blades less than five and one-half inches long, a mandatory expellable offense. See the section on Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mace or pepper spray; • Pornographic material; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobacco products (including nicotine pouches), cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and any component, part, or accessory for an e-cigarette device; 	<p>The Health and Safety Code requires the school board to prohibit students from possessing or using e-cigarettes and their related components under the Education Code.</p> <p>Nicotine pouches have been included as an example of tobacco products to ensure clarity that all nicotine delivery devices are covered as prohibited items.</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
	<p>HB 6 amends the mandatory placement requirement in a DAEP for offenses related to e-cigarettes.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matches or a lighter; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A laser pointer, unless it is for an approved use; or 	<p>Laser pointers are not addressed in Chapter 37. Because laser pointers can cause injury to eyes, however, districts should decide whether to prohibit or allow these items in school and/or at school-related activities.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any articles not generally considered to be weapons, including school supplies, when the principal or designee determines that a danger exists. <p>*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.</p>	
<p>Possession of Telecommunications <u>Personal Communication</u> or Other Electronic Devices</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display, turn on, or use <u>Bring or use</u> a telecommunications <u>personal communications</u> device, including a cell phone, or other electronic device on school property during the school day. [see Glossary] <p>[OR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use a telecommunications <u>personal communications</u> device, including a cell phone, or other electronic device <u>on school property during the school day and shall store the device in accordance with the method of storage established by the district. in violation of district and campus rules</u> [see Glossary] 	<p>Choose one of the options or adjust the suggested language to reflect district practice. HB 1481 prohibits the use of personal communication devices while on school property during the school day. Any district rules regarding possession, use, or prohibition of these items should be included in the district's acceptable use agreements, which should be signed each year. [See CQ(EXHIBIT) in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i> for samples.]</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district may authorize the use of a personal communication device for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To implement an individualized education program (IEP) or for a plan created under Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C Section 794) or a similar program or plan; • With documented need based on a directive from a qualified physician; or • To comply with a health or safety requirement imposed by law or as part of the district's safety protocols. <p>Inappropriate use of a personal communication device during the school day will result in disciplinary action in accordance with this Code of Conduct.</p>	<p>If the district confiscates and disposes of unauthorized personal communication devices, a provision must be included at FNCE(LOCAL).</p> <p>HB 1481 indicates that the district must establish disciplinary measures to be imposed for violations of the prohibition on use of a personal communication device. The district should articulate the consequences for violations in the Code of Conduct. Customize this section to reflect the district's practice regarding discipline of this infraction.</p>
<p>Illegal, Prescription, and Over-the-Counter Drugs</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess, use, give, or sell alcohol or an illegal drug. [See Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement and Expulsion for mandatory and permissive consequences under state law.] • Possess or sell seeds or pieces of marijuana in less than a usable amount. • Possess, use, give, or sell paraphernalia related to any prohibited substance. [See Glossary for "paraphernalia."] 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess, use, abuse, or sell look-alike drugs or attempt to pass items off as drugs or contraband. 	<p>Although some school officials want to include specific examples of commonly used look-alike drugs like K2 and bath salts in the Code of Conduct, we recommend using the more general text as written so that all forms of look-alike drugs are covered.</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 to body or mind. [See Glossary for “under the influence.”] 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have or take prescription drugs or over-the-counter drugs at school other than as provided by district policy. 	<p>Coordinate with the district’s FFAC and FFAF policies and regulations on administering medication. A district is prohibited from enacting, adopting, or enforcing a rule or regulation that prohibits the possession of low-THC cannabis as authorized by the Texas Compassionate Use Act, Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code which permits prescriptions for low-THC (non-intoxicating) cannabis in limited circumstances. If a student has a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis, follow the district’s policies and procedures for prescription medications.</p>
<p>Misuse of Technology Resources and the Internet</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violate policies, rules, or agreements signed by the student or the student’s parent regarding the use of technology resources. 	<p>Coordinate with the district’s CQ(LOCAL) policy, regulations, user agreements, and rules related to use of technology resources. A person commits an offense of the Penal Code if he or she poses as someone else via social networking or any internet site, including posting or sending messages.</p>

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>Conduct that constitutes breach of computer security is an expellable offense under the Penal Code. [see Expulsion]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 or harass district students, employees, board members, or volunteers, including off school property if the conduct causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment or infringes on the rights of another student at school. Send, post, deliver, 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 the internet or other electronic communication 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 or infringes on the rights of another student at school. Utilize artificial intelligence in a way that would constitute academic dishonesty or as a means of engaging in any other prohibited conduct. 	<p>A reference to the inappropriate use of artificial intelligence has been added.</p>
<p>Safety Transgressions</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	
<p>Miscellaneous Offenses</p>	
<p>Students shall not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violate dress and grooming standards as communicated in the Student Handbook. 	<p>State law prohibits a school district dress code or grooming policy, including a student dress code or grooming policy for any extracurricular activity, from discriminating against a hair texture or protective hairstyles commonly or historically associated with race. The bill does not define “protective hairstyle”, but specifies these hairstyles include braids, locks, and twists.</p> <p>Information relating to student dress code is located in the Model Student Handbook. Review the district’s dress code and revise as needed.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage in academic dishonesty, which includes cheating or copying the work of another student, unauthorized use of artificial intelligence, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. 	<p>The provision addressing cheating has been broadened to reference academic dishonesty and provide examples to align with policy EIA(LOCAL).</p> <p>A reference to the unauthorized use of artificial intelligence has been included as an example of academic dishonesty.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gamble. Falsify records, passes, or other school-related documents. 	

General Conduct Violations

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage in actions or demonstrations that substantially disrupt or materially interfere with school activities.Repeatedly violate other communicated campus or classroom standards of conduct. <p>The district may impose campus or classroom rules in addition to those found in the Code of Conduct. These rules may be posted in classrooms or given to the student and may or may not constitute violations of the Code of Conduct.</p>	

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Discipline Management Techniques</p>	
<p>Discipline shall be designed to improve conduct and encourage students to be responsible members of the school community. Disciplinary action shall draw on the professional judgment of teachers and administrators and on a range of discipline management techniques, including restorative practices. Discipline shall be based on 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.</p>	<p>Adjust the discipline management techniques as appropriate for your district. A variety of techniques may be used for violations of campus rules, classroom rules, or the Code of Conduct, subject to the prohibition on certain aversive techniques listed below.</p> <p>State law prohibits districts from placing students who are homeless or in a grade level below grade 3 in out-of-school suspension, except in limited circumstances.</p> <p>If the district is going to implement a positive behavior program as a disciplinary alternative for these students, the details of the program can be added to this section of the Code of Conduct.</p>
<p><u>First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette</u></p>	
<p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>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.</u></p>	<p>This is a new requirement from HB 6.</p>

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
Students with Disabilities	
<p>The discipline of students with disabilities is subject to applicable state and federal law in addition to the Code of Conduct. In the event of any conflict, the district shall comply with federal law. For more information regarding discipline of students with disabilities, see policy FOF(LEGAL).</p> <p>In accordance with the Education Code, a student who receives special education services may not be disciplined in a manner that results in a change to the student's educational placement for conduct meeting the definition of bullying, cyberbullying, harassment, or making hit lists [see Glossary] until an Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee meeting has been held to review the conduct.</p> <p>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 that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct.</p>	<p>The <i>Model</i> does not include federal and state requirements for the discipline of students receiving special education services. Please note, however, that Education Code 37.001 addresses the discipline of a student receiving special education services for bullying, harassment, or making hit lists and requires the district to consider a disability that substantially impairs a student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct. In addition, Education Code 37.004 addresses disciplinary placement procedures for students with disabilities. If a district takes disciplinary action that constitutes a change of placement for a student with a disability, Section 37.004 requires the district to, no later than ten school days after the change in placement: (1) seek consent from the parent to conduct a functional behavioral assessment (FBA) if the student has never had an FBA or the existing FBA is more than one year old, (2) review any previous FBAs and/or behavior intervention or improvement plans (BIPs), and (3) develop a BIP or revise the existing one, as necessary.</p> <p>Newly revised language relating to change of placement is pursuant to HB 6.</p>

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Techniques</p>	
<p>The following discipline management techniques may be used alone, in combination, or as part of progressive interventions for behavior prohibited by the Code of Conduct or by campus or classroom rules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verbal correction, oral or written. • Cooling-off time or a brief “time-out” period, in accordance with law. • 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. • Behavior coaching. • Anger management classes. • Mediation (victim-offender). • Classroom circles. • Family group conferencing. 	<p>Many of the listed discipline techniques can be used as part of a progressive intervention program, including alternative or restorative practices. Modify the list as appropriate to reflect district practice.</p> <p>Time-out that prevents a student from being involved in and progressing appropriately in the required curriculum or an applicable individualized education program (IEP), including isolating the student by the use of physical barriers, is considered a prohibited aversive technique as defined by Education Code 37.0023.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade reductions for cheating, plagiarism, and as otherwise permitted by policy. 	<p>Grade reductions must be consistent with district grading guidelines.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Detention, including outside regular school hours. 	<p>Be sure to confirm transportation arrangements prior to a student completing detention outside of regular school hours. See FO(LOCAL).</p>

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sending the student to the office, another assigned area, or to in-school suspension (ISS). 	<p>State law limiting placement in out-of-school suspension to three days does not apply to placement in ISS. HB 6 provides that there is no limit on the number of days a student may be assigned to ISS. However, the principal or other appropriate administrator must review the ISS assignment at least once every 10 school days to determine the educational progress of the child and whether continued assignment to ISS is appropriate. If they determine it is appropriate, they must document that decision. For more information, see FOB(LEGAL).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Penalties identified in student organizations' extracurricular standards of behavior. 	<p>Principals, the superintendent, or the board may approve extracurricular standards of behavior developed by sponsors and coaches of extracurricular activities. The activities may have higher standards than the Code of Conduct. Students may be denied participation in an activity for violating the extracurricular standards of behavior. Refer to FO(LOCAL) for the district's extracurricular standards of behavior and FM(LOCAL) for local policy on absences and extracurricular activities. In light of numerous legal challenges to various aspects of stricter standards as a condition of participation, we recommend that extracurricular codes be in writing and signed by the students and their parents.</p>

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Restriction or revocation of district transportation privileges. 	<p>A student's transportation privileges may generally be restricted or revoked due to misconduct. However, the district may be required to provide transportation for a student with disabilities during a disciplinary placement in accordance with state and federal law.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School-assessed and school-administered probation. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporal punishment, unless the student's parent or guardian has provided a signed statement prohibiting its use. 	<p>Coordinate with FO(LOCAL). Districts that permit the use of corporal punishment must honor a signed statement from a parent prohibiting the use of corporal punishment with his or her child. The parent must annually provide such a statement. Delete this item from the list if the district does not permit the use of corporal punishment.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-school suspension, as specified in In-School Suspension. Out-of-school suspension, as specified in Out-of-School Suspension. Placement in a DAEP, as specified in Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement. Expulsion and/or placement in an alternative educational setting, as specified in Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses. Expulsion, as specified in Expulsion. 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. 	

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Prohibited Aversive Techniques</p>	
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>Education Code 37.0023 prohibits a district employee, volunteer, or independent contractor from using aversive techniques or causing aversive techniques to be used on a student. However, this provision does not prohibit a teacher from removing a student from class under Education Code 37.002.</p> <p>Delete the reference to corporal punishment in the first bullet if your district’s FO(LOCAL) does not permit the use of corporal punishment.</p>

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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). 	
<p>Notification</p> <p>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 Education Code 37.0012(d).</p> <p>A good-faith effort shall be made to provide written notice of the disciplinary action to the student, on the day the action was taken, for delivery to the student's parent. If the parent has not been reached by telephone or in person by 5:00 p.m. of the first business day after the day the disciplinary action was taken, the CBC shall send written notification by U.S. Mail. If the CBC is not able to provide notice to the parent, the principal or designee shall provide the notice.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.0012(d) requires the CBC to promptly notify a student's parent regarding student discipline for ISS, out-of-school suspension, placement in a DAEP or JJAEP, expulsion, or when a student is taken into custody.</p>
<p><u>Parental Involvement</u></p>	
<p><u>The principal, campus behavior coordinator, or other appropriate administrator shall notify the parent of or person standing in parental relation to a student who has been placed in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or expelled of the parent's or person's right to request a behavioral agreement that specifies the responsibilities of the parent or person and student.</u></p> <p><u>The behavioral agreement must specify the responsibilities of the student and parent/guardian. If followed, the agreement may result in a reduced disciplinary placement period, as outlined in the agreement. Reduction in the disciplinary placement period does not entitle the student to different disciplinary placement. The decision to reduce, revoke, or amend the disciplinary placement period is</u></p>	<p>Choose which statement applies regarding the district's choice regarding adopting a policy for parental involvement in student disciplinary placements in accordance with HB 6.</p> <p>The commissioner will adopt a model behavioral agreement for school districts to use as a guideline.</p>

Discipline Management Techniques

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>at the sole discretion of the school administration. Compliance with the agreement is required for the reduction to remain valid.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district has not adopted a policy for parental involvement in school disciplinary placements under Education Code 37.0014.</p>	
<p>Appeals</p>	
<p>Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the teacher, campus administration, or CBC, 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 this policy may be obtained from the central administration office or online at [insert URL].</p>	<p>SB 12 requires districts to post grievance forms on the district website and make them available upon request at district facilities.</p>
<p>The district shall not delay a disciplinary consequence while a student or parent pursues a grievance. In the instance of a student who is accused of conduct that meets the definition of sexual harassment as defined by Title IX, the district will comply with applicable federal law, including the Title IX formal complaint process. See policies FFH(LEGAL) and (LOCAL).</p>	

Removal from the School Bus

Text	Editorial Notes
Removal from the School Bus	
<p>A bus driver may refer a student to the principal's office or the CBC's office to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The principal or CBC must employ additional discipline management techniques, as appropriate, which can include restricting or revoking a student's bus riding privileges.</p> <p>To transport students safely, the vehicle operator must focus on driving and not be distracted by student misbehavior. Therefore, when appropriate disciplinary management techniques fail to improve student behavior or when specific misconduct warrants immediate removal, the principal or the CBC may restrict or revoke a student's transportation privileges, in accordance with law.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.0022 authorizes a bus driver to refer a student to the appropriate administrator to maintain effective discipline on the bus. The administrator is required to utilize appropriate discipline management techniques as detailed in the district's Code of Conduct.</p>

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

Text	Editorial Notes
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.	The <i>Model</i> clarifies the specific statutory duties or responsibilities of the CBC and those of other district administrators, which may or may not include the CBC.
Routine Referral	
A routine referral occurs when a teacher sends a student to the CBC’s office as a discipline management technique. The CBC shall employ alternative discipline management techniques, including progressive interventions. A teacher or administrator may remove a student from class for behavior that violates this Code of Conduct to maintain effective discipline in the classroom.	For a routine referral, the CBC may employ one of the discipline management techniques listed. If a teacher repeatedly refers a student to the office for misconduct, the CBC must alert the student’s parent to the recurring misconduct and the possibility of placement in a DAEP if documented misconduct continues.
Formal <u>Teacher</u> Removal	
<p>A teacher may initiate a formal removal from class if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A student’s behavior has been documented by <u>repeatedly interferes with</u> the teacher as repeatedly interfering with the teacher’s ability to teach the class or with other students’ ability to learn. ; or 2. The <u>A student demonstrates</u> behavior that <u>is</u> so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that toward the teacher, <u>another adult, or cannot teach, and the</u> another students in the classroom cannot learn. 3. <u>A student engages in conduct that constitutes bullying, as defined by Education Code 37.0832.</u> 	<p>HB 6 changes the standards for teacher removals and clarifies that teacher removals can result from a single incident of student behavior. HB 6 requires that the removing teacher should have an opportunity to participate in the conference.</p>

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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.</p> <p>Within three school days of the formal removal, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall schedule a conference with the student’s parent, the student, the teacher who removed the student from class, and any other appropriate administrator.</p> <p>At the conference, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall inform the student of the alleged misconduct and the proposed consequences. The student shall have an opportunity to respond to the allegations.</p> <p>When a student is removed from the regular classroom by a teacher and a conference is pending, the CBC or other administrator may place the student in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another appropriate classroom. • ISS. • Out-of-school suspension. • DAEP. <p>A teacher or 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.</p>	
<p>Returning a Student to the Classroom</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>HB 6 provides that a model return to class plan will be adopted by the commissioner for use by a school district. A return to class plan must be created before or at the conference. A plan created before the conference must be discussed at the conference.</p>

Removal from the Regular Educational Setting

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Appeals of Formal Teacher Removals</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>HB 6 allows a district to choose whether or not they have a process for students to appeal to the school's placement review committee. Policy language will be included in Update 126</p>

In-School Suspension

Text	Editorial Notes
<p><u>In-School Suspension</u></p>	
<p><u>An in-school suspension is not subject to any time limit.</u></p> <p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>[See First-Time Offense of Possession or Use of Nicotine Delivery Product or E-Cigarette for limitations to the general rule.]</u></p>	<p>HB 6 clarified provisions related to in-school suspension.</p>
<p><u>Process</u></p>	
<p><u>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.</u></p> <p><u>The CBC shall determine the number of days of a student's suspension.</u></p>	
<p><u>In deciding whether to order in-school suspension, the CBC shall take into consideration:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>1. Self-defense [see Glossary];</u> <u>2. Intent or lack of intent at the time the student engaged in the conduct;</u> <u>3. The student's disciplinary history;</u> 	

In-School Suspension

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>4. <u>A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;</u></p> <p>5. <u>A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or</u></p> <p>6. <u>A student's status as homeless.</u></p> <p><u>The appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and cocurricular activities.</u></p>	

Out-of-School Suspension

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Out-of-School Suspension</p>	
<p>Misconduct</p>	
<p>Students may be suspended for behavior listed in the Code of Conduct as a general conduct violation, DAEP offense, or expellable offense.</p> <p>The district shall not use out-of-school suspension for students in-grade 2 or belowbelow grade 3 unless the conduct meets the requirements established in law.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 classroomcontains the elements of assault, sexual assault, aggravated assault, or aggravated sexual assault, as provided by the Penal Code; or • 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. <p>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.</p>	<p>Recommended adjustments have been made based on changes in HB 6.</p> <p>Districts may add to the list of offenses for which students may be suspended or removed to a DAEP, but all such offenses must be listed and defined in the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Education Code 37.005 prohibits a district from placing in out-of-school suspension a student who is homeless unless the student engages in certain conduct. Chapter 37 allows for the CBC to work with the homeless liaison to find an appropriate alternative for the student.</p>

Out-of-School Suspension

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Process</p>	
<p>State law allows a student to be suspended 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The CBC shall determine the number of days of a student’s suspension, not to exceed three school days.</p>	<p>Chapter 37 does not limit the number of times a student can be suspended in a semester or year. A district may be challenged, however, if it suspends a student so frequently that the suspension has the effect of depriving a student of the right to an education.</p>
<p>In deciding whether to order out-of-school suspension, the CBC shall take into consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>The appropriate administrator shall determine any restrictions on participation in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular and cocurricular activities.</p>	<p>Chapter 37 requires the CBC to consider these mitigating factors when making decisions about suspension.</p>
<p>Alternative Assignment</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>HB 6 provides for alternative placement with sufficient documentation and may only be used in extenuating circumstances and not used as a</p>

Out-of-School Suspension

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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.</p>	<p>routine replacement for out-of-school suspension. The district shall maintain the information and documentation of each assignment to include the parent's or person's request and the reason for the parent's or person's unavailability.</p>
<p>Coursework During Suspension</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>For purposes of DAEP, elementary classification shall be kindergarten-grade 5 and secondary classification shall be grades 6-12.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>For purposes of DAEP, elementary classification shall be kindergarten-grade 6 and secondary classification shall be grades 7-12.</p>	<p>As required by 19 Administrative Code 103.1201(h)(1), the district must separate elementary students from secondary students in the DAEP setting and must designate through policy the district's grade configuration for elementary and secondary. Choose one of the two options or adjust the grade levels as necessary.</p>
<p>Summer programs provided by the district shall serve students assigned to a DAEP in conjunction with other students.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>Summer programs provided by the district shall serve students assigned to a DAEP separately from those students who are not assigned to the program.</p>	<p>The Administrative Code also requires districts to designate through policy whether the district's summer programs will serve DAEP students with other students. Choose one option, depending on whether DAEP students attend summer programs with other students.</p>
<p>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.</p>	
<p>In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC shall take into consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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; 	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>4. A disability that substantially impairs the student's capacity to appreciate the wrongfulness of the student's conduct;</p> <p>5. A student's status in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services (foster care); or</p> <p>6. A student's status as homeless.</p>	
<p>Discretionary Placement: Misconduct That May Result in DAEP Placement</p>	
<p>A student may be placed in a DAEP for behaviors prohibited in the General Conduct Violations section of this Code of Conduct.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>A student may be placed in a DAEP for the following conduct violations:</p>	<p>Choose between referring to the list in the General Conduct Violations section as behaviors that may result in placement or create a list of behaviors that the district has decided warrant DAEP placement and delete the other option.</p>
<p>Misconduct Identified in State Law</p>	
<p>In accordance with state law, a student may be placed in a DAEP for any of the following offenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to <u>die by</u> commit or attempt to commit 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] 	<p>Language regarding death by suicide has been updated as recommended by mental health professionals.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involvement in criminal street gang activity. [see Glossary] 	<p>Districts experiencing gang activity should consult their school attorneys to define gang-related activity for consistent discipline.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal mischief, not punishable as a felony. <p>[OR]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any criminal mischief, including a felony. 	<p>Criminal mischief generally constitutes a felony under Penal Code 28.03 if the property damage meets or exceeds \$2,500. The district must decide whether to make this an offense for which a student will be placed in a DAEP or expelled. If the felony is retained here, delete the text on Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assault (no bodily injury) with threat of imminent bodily injury. • Assault by offensive or provocative physical contact. 	<p>A student is subject to mandatory DAEP placement for engaging in assault with bodily injury under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1) on or within 300 feet of district property or while attending a school-related activity. If the district will place a student in a DAEP for assault that does not result in bodily injury, such as assault with threat of imminent bodily injury under Penal Code 22.01(a)(2) or assault of an offensive or provocative nature under Penal Code 22.01(a)(3), the misconduct should be listed here.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>Revision pursuant to HB 6.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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.</p>	
<p>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. Aggravated robbery or felonies listed as offenses in Title 5 [see Glossary] of the Penal Code are punishable as mandatory expulsions.</p>	<p>The Education Code requires a superintendent to consider information included in the notification from law enforcement of a student's arrest in determining whether there is a reasonable belief that the student engaged in conduct constituting a felony offense.</p> <p>However, in accordance with Education Code 37.006(e), additional information requested by the superintendent or designee from law enforcement for the purpose of creating a threat assessment or safety plan for the student cannot be used to determine whether there is a reasonable belief that the student engaged in a felony offense for discipline purposes.</p> <p>Revisions to this section are the result of HB 6.</p>
<p>The CBC may place a student in a DAEP for off-campus conduct for which DAEP placement is required by state law if the administrator does not have knowledge of the conduct before the first anniversary of the date the conduct occurred.</p>	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>
<p>Mandatory Placement: Misconduct That Requires DAEP Placement</p>	
<p>A student must be placed in a DAEP if the student:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school. [see Glossary] 	<p>If the district decides that it will always expel for conduct relating to false alarm, report, or terroristic threat, delete the text here in favor of the text in the section on Expulsion. This</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
	<p>includes behaviors such as calling in a bomb threat or pulling a fire alarm without cause. A district may want to list bomb threats as an expellable offense and the pulling of a fire alarm as a DAEP placement. The district may also want to take age and grade level into consideration when determining consequences.</p> <p>If a district receives a bomb threat or terroristic threat involving a facility where students are present, Education Code 37.113 requires providing notice "as soon as possible" to parents of students who are assigned to or who regularly use the facility.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engages in conduct punishable as a felony. • Commits an assault [see Glossary] under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1). 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>State law requires mandatory placement in a DAEP for selling, giving, delivering, possessing, using, or being under the influence of marijuana, THC, or e-cigarettes 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.</p> <p>A district is prohibited from enacting, adopting, or enforcing a rule or regulation that prohibits the possession of low-THC cannabis as authorized by The Texas Compassionate Use Act, Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code, which</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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] 	<p>permits prescriptions for low-THC cannabis in limited circumstances. If a student has a prescription, any possession or use of low-THC cannabis should not be considered a violation of the adjacent text. Follow the district's policies and procedures for prescription medications. [See FFAC and FFAF.]</p> <p>HB 6 removes mandatory DAEP placement for possession or use of e-cigarettes. It also clarifies that a felony offense is also a mandatory expulsion.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages in conduct that contains the elements of an offense of harassment against an employee under Penal Code sections 42.07(a)(1), (2), (3), or (7) 	<p>Education Code 37.006 requires the district to place a student in a DAEP if the student engages in certain forms of harassment against an employee while on or within 300 feet of school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property. Although HB 1427 expanded the definition of harassment under Penal Code 42.07, the new law made no change to the types of harassment against a school employee that are subject to mandatory DAEP placement under Chapter 37.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages in expellable conduct and is six to nine years of age. 	<p>The law regarding students under the age of 10 is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students under age six cannot be placed in a DAEP unless they commit a federal firearms offense. Students between six and nine years of age who commit expellable offenses listed in

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
	<p>Education Code 37.007 may not be expelled and must be placed in a DAEP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary students cannot be placed in a DAEP with students not in elementary school.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 under Penal Code 36.06 against any school employee or volunteer on or off school property. (Committing retaliation in combination with another expellable offense is addressed in Expulsion.) 	Text removed to match statutory language.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	This is a change from HB 6 .
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engages in conduct punishable as aggravated robbery or a felony listed under Title 5 [see Glossary] 	HB 6 necessitated this revision.
<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A felony offense under Title 5; The offense of deadly conduct under Section 22.05; The felony offense of aggravated robbery under Section 29.03; The offense of disorderly conduct involving a firearm under Section 42.01(a)(7) or (8); or The offense of unlawfully carrying weapons under Section 46.02, except for an offense punishable as a Class C misdemeanor under that section. <p>7. 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) that the student engaged in the conduct.</p>	Revisions in HB 6 necessitated revisions to this section, which has also been restructured for clarity.

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Sexual Assault and Campus Assignments</p>	
<p>A student shall be transferred to another campus if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>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.</p>	
<p>Process</p>	
<p>Removals to a DAEP shall be made by the CBC.</p>	<p>As noted above, Chapter 37 of the Education Code clarifies that the CBC is the person with the authority to place a student in a DAEP.</p>
<p>Conference</p>	
<p>When a student is removed from class for a DAEP offense, the CBC or appropriate administrator 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.</p> <p>At the conference, the CBC or appropriate administrator shall provide the student:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	<p>State law makes clear that conference provisions in Education Code 37.009(a) apply to all removals for mandatory placement in a DAEP under Education Code 37.006(a).</p> <p>FOC(EXHIBIT), found in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i>, provides a sample notice of a removal conference.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Consideration of Mitigating Factors</p>	
<p>In deciding whether to place a student in a DAEP, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC shall take into consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>
<p>Placement Order</p>	
<p>After the conference, if the student is placed in a DAEP, the CBC shall write a placement order. A copy of the DAEP placement order and information for the parent or person standing in parental relation to the student regarding the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the student for purposes of special education services shall be sent to the student and the student's parent.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>If the student is placed in a DAEP and the length of placement is inconsistent with the guidelines included in this Code of Conduct, the placement order shall give notice of the inconsistency.</p>	<p>State law amends Chapter 37 to require the district to provide information to a student's parent about the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the student for purposes of special education services when a student is placed for a mandatory DAEP offense.</p> <p>FOC(EXHIBIT), found in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i>, provides sample placement orders.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>DAEP at Capacity</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>State law states when a DAEP is at capacity, a student who engaged in conduct related to marijuana, THC, an e-cigarette, alcohol, or an abusable volatile chemical must be placed in ISS until the student can be transferred to a DAEP if space becomes available before the expiration of the period of the placement.</p> <p>In addition, when a DAEP is at capacity, a student in a DAEP for conduct related to marijuana, THC, e-cigarette, alcohol, or an abusable volatile chemical may be moved to ISS to create space for a student who engaged in violent conduct. If space becomes available, the removed student must be returned to a DAEP to complete the period of the placement.</p>
<p>Coursework Notice</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.008 requires districts to ensure parents are properly informed about their child's options for completing coursework while in DAEP.</p>
<p>Length of Placement</p>	
<p>The CBC shall determine the duration of a student's placement in a DAEP.</p>	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
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.	
The maximum period of DAEP placement shall be one calendar year, except as provided below.	Districts are required to have guidelines for setting the term of a DAEP placement. The length of placement may be for as few as three days or as long as one year. Districts may list categories of offenses or individual offenses or may list one year as the maximum for any offense. The district may also choose to specify the length of a placement for a student who repeats an offense.
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.	FOC(EXHIBIT), found in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i> , prompts districts to clarify whether placements are for calendar days or school days and whether absences count towards the total days assigned in the placement order. Align this statement with the district's practice.
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.	The Administrative Code requires districts to have procedures for administering academic assessments to students assigned to a DAEP for a period of 90 days or longer upon initial placement and subsequently on the date of release, or as near that date as possible.
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.	

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Exceeds School Year</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>For placement in a DAEP to extend beyond the end of the school year, the CBC or the board's designee must determine that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student's presence in the regular classroom or campus presents a danger of physical harm to the student or others; or 2. The student has engaged in serious or persistent misbehavior [see Glossary] that violates the district's Code of Conduct. 	
<p>Exceeds 60 Days</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Appeals</p>	
<p>Questions from parents regarding disciplinary measures should be addressed to the campus administration.</p> <p>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 central administration office or online at [insert URL].</p>	

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Appeals shall begin at <i>[insert the appropriate level of the complaint process, i.e., Level One or Level Two]</i> with the <i>[insert the appropriate title or position of the board's designee, i.e., CBC, principal, or superintendent]</i>.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>Appeals shall begin at Level <i>[insert the level listed at FNG that applies to the board]</i> with the board.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.009(a) allows for students to appeal a decision by a CBC or other administrator to place a student in a DAEP. The district must designate whether the appeal is to be made to the board or the board's designee by choosing the option that reflects district practice. Although this provision in the Education Code states that this appeal is final whether it is made to the board or the board's designee, TASB recommends that districts allowing an initial appeal to be made to the board's designee also allow a subsequent appeal to be made to the board as a final step, if necessary, in an effort to reduce parent and student frustration and to comply with the Texas Constitution, which extends citizens the right to be heard by a governmental body (including a school board) for redress of grievances.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Districts are not required to delay a consequence while a parent submits an appeal.</p>
<p>Restrictions During Placement</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district does not permit a student who is placed in a DAEP to participate in any school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular or cocurricular activity, including seeking or holding honorary positions and/or membership in school-sponsored clubs and organizations.</p>	<p>State law prohibits students placed in a DAEP for reasons listed in Education Code 37.006 from attending or participating in school-sponsored or school-related extracurricular or cocurricular activities during the period of placement (option 1). The district can expand that prohibition to include placement in a DAEP for locally defined reasons (option 2). Choose the appropriate option.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>A student placed in a DAEP shall not be provided transportation unless he or she is a student with a disability who is entitled to transportation in accordance with the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district shall provide transportation to students in a DAEP.</p>	<p>A student's transportation privileges may be taken away or restricted. However, the removal of transportation privileges from students with disabilities must be consistent with state and federal law.</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>For seniors who are eligible to graduate and are assigned to a DAEP at the time of graduation, the placement in the program shall continue through graduation, and the student shall not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and related graduation activities.</p>	<p>The Education Code prohibits students placed in a DAEP for certain reasons from participating in school-sponsored or school-related activities. Districts should decide and communicate clearly to parents and students whether a DAEP placement in the second semester ends on the last day of instruction, allowing a student to participate in the graduation ceremony and related activities, or whether the student will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony and related activities.</p>
<p>Placement Review</p>	
<p>A student placed in a DAEP shall be provided a review of his or her status, including academic status, by the CBC 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.</p>	
<p>Additional Misconduct</p>	
<p>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 be conducted, and the CBC may enter an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.</p>	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Notice of Criminal Proceedings</p>	
<p>When a student is placed in a DAEP for certain offenses, the office of the prosecuting attorney shall notify the district if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Withdrawal During Process</p>	
<p>When a student violates the district's Code of Conduct 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 CBC 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 CBC 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.</p>	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>
<p>Newly Enrolled Students</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district shall decide on a case-by-case basis whether to continue the 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. The district may place the student in the district's DAEP or a regular classroom setting.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district shall place a student who enrolls in the district and was previously assigned to a DAEP in an open-enrollment charter school or another district including a district in another state, directly into a regular classroom setting.</p>	<p>Choose one of the three options. The district may place a student enrolling from an open-enrollment charter school or another district in DAEP if the student was in the school's DAEP, and a copy of the placement order is provided to the district. The district may place an enrolling student who was in a DAEP in another state in the district's DAEP if the student's placement would also have been a DAEP placement in the receiving district, and the sending district provides a copy of the placement order.</p>
<p>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 if the behavior committed is a reason for DAEP placement in the receiving district.</p>	

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>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 if the extended placement is in the best interest of the student.</p>	<p>If a student was placed in a DAEP in another state for more than one year and the enrolling district continues the placement under Education Code 37.008(j), the enrolling district shall reduce the period of placement so that the aggregate period does not exceed one year unless the enrolling district determines that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student is a threat to the safety of other students or to district employees; or 2. Extended placement is in the best interest of the student.
<p>Emergency Placement Procedure</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>A principal or principal's designee can order an immediate DAEP placement of a student in accordance with Education Code 37.019.</p>
<p>Transition Services</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.023 requires the DAEP administrator to provide the administrator of the campus where the student is returning with information about the student's progress while in the alternative setting, including an assessment of academic growth and results of any assessments given to the student. No later than five instructional days after the student is released back to the campus, the campus administrator must develop a personalized</p>

Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement

Text	Editorial Notes
	<p>transition plan for the student by working with campus personnel.</p> <p>State law requires the district to provide to a student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the student for purposes of special education services as part of the student's personalized transition plan.</p> <p>FOCA(EXHIBIT), found in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i>, provides a sample plan for a student's transition back to the regular educational setting from a DAEP.</p>

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses</p>	
<p>This section includes two categories of offenses for which the Education Code provides unique procedures and specific consequences.</p>	
<p>Registered Sex Offenders</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Subchapter I of Chapter 37 addresses the placement of registered sex offenders. The district is required to remove a student from the regular classroom and determine the appropriate placement when the district receives notice under Article 15.27 or Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, that the student is currently required to register as a sex offender. The law also requires a particular composition of the review committee and for the board or its designee to make certain determinations in order to reverse the committee's recommendation.</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Review Committee</p>	
<p>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 regular classroom or remain in the placement. Absent a special finding, the board or its designee must follow the committee’s recommendation.</p> <p>The placement review of a student with a disability who receives special education services must be made by the ARD committee.</p>	
<p>Newly Enrolled Students</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Appeal</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Certain Felonies</p>	
<p>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 <u>Education Code 37.0081</u>, 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:</p>	<p>Relocated text to after Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion for clarity.</p>

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Received deferred prosecution for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a offense; ● Been found by a court or jury to have engaged in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a offense; ● Been charged with engaging in conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a offense; ● Been referred to a juvenile court for allegedly engaging in delinquent conduct for conduct defined as aggravated robbery or a offense; or ● Received probation or deferred adjudication or have been arrested for, charged with, or convicted of aggravated robbery or a offense. <p>The district may expel the student and order placement under these circumstances regardless of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.</p>	
<p>Hearing and Required Findings</p>	
<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Any decision of the board or the board's designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.</p>	

Placement and/or Expulsion for Certain Offenses

Text	Editorial Notes
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 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.	

Expulsion

Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Expulsion</p>	
<p>In deciding whether to order expulsion, regardless of whether the action is mandatory or discretionary, the CBC shall take into consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>Chapter 37 requires a CBC to consider these mitigating factors when making decisions about expulsion.</p>
<p>Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion</p>	
<p>Some of the following types of misconduct may result in mandatory placement in a DAEP, whether or not a student is expelled. [see Disciplinary Alternative Education Program (DAEP) Placement]</p>	
<p>Any Location</p>	
<p>A student may be expelled for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging in bullying that encourages a student to commit or attempt to commit 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. 	<p>Language regarding death by suicide has been updated as recommended by mental health professionals.</p> <p>Assault against a school employee or volunteer is now a mandatory expulsion pursuant to HB 6.</p>

Expulsion

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct that contains the elements of assault under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1) in retaliation against a school employee or volunteer. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal mischief, if punishable as a felony. 	<p>According to Penal Code 28.03, criminal mischief that results in damage to property of \$2,500 or more is generally punishable as a felony. The district must decide whether to make this an offense for which a student will be placed in a DAEP or expelled. If the Discretionary Placement: Misconduct That May Result in DAEP Placement text regarding criminal mischief that includes a felony was retained as a DAEP placement, it should be deleted here.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of one of the following offenses against another student: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aggravated assault. • Sexual assault. • Aggravated sexual assault. • Murder. • Capital murder. • Criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder. • Aggravated robbery. • Breach of computer security. [see Glossary] 	<p>HB 6 necessitated these deletions because they are now mandatory expulsions.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engaging in conduct relating to a false alarm or report (including a bomb threat) or a terroristic threat involving a public school. 	<p>If the district decides the offenses of making a false alarm or report or a terroristic threat should result only in a DAEP placement, delete the text here in favor of the text at Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires</p>

Expulsion

Text	Editorial Notes
	<p>Expulsion. The minimum punishment for a student who makes a false alarm or report or a terroristic threat involving a public school is placement in a DAEP. This includes calling in a bomb threat or pulling a fire alarm without cause.</p> <p>Districts may also expel for these offenses. A district may choose to list bomb threats as an expellable offense and the pulling of a fire alarm as a DAEP placement. If so, list the offenses under the appropriate category.</p>
<p>At School, Within 300 Feet, or at a School Event</p>	
<p>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:</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling, giving, or delivering to another person, or possessing, using, or being under the influence of any amount of marijuana, a controlled substance, or a dangerous drug, <u>unless the conduct is punishable as a felony</u>. A student with a valid prescription for low-THC cannabis as authorized by <u>Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code</u> 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. • Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of an offense relating to abusable volatile chemicals. 	<p>Districts should decide if offenses involving non-felony amounts of marijuana, THC, alcohol, or abusable volatile chemicals are going to be expellable offenses or mandatory DAEP placements in the district. If the board decides not to expel for these offenses, the three highlighted bulleted items will need to be adjusted to remove offenses for which the district does not wish to expel. Non-felony amounts of controlled substances and dangerous drugs remain discretionary expulsions. If the district wishes to expel for non-felony amounts of controlled substances or dangerous drugs, the two items in the first bullet need to be retained.</p> <p>A district is prohibited from enacting, adopting, or enforcing a rule or regulation that prohibits the</p>

Expulsion

Text	Editorial Notes
	<p>possession of low-THC cannabis as authorized by The Texas Compassionate Use Act, Chapter 487 of the Health and Safety Code, which permits prescriptions for low-THC cannabis in limited circumstances. If a student has a prescription, any possession or use of low-THC cannabis should not be considered a violation of the adjacent text. Follow the district's policies and procedures for prescription medications. [See FFAC and FFAF.]</p> <p>The Penal Code includes the possession, manufacture, or delivery of LSD, salts, isomers, and salts of isomers in the list of offenses with enhanced penalties if committed within 1,000 feet of district premises.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging in conduct that contains the elements of assault under Penal Code 22.01(a)(1) against an employee or a volunteer. 	<p>Assault against an employee is now a mandatory expulsion pursuant to HB 6.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engaging in deadly conduct. [see Glossary] 	
<p>Within 300 Feet of School</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aggravated assault, sexual assault, or aggravated sexual assault. Arson. (See Glossary.) Murder, capital murder, or criminal attempt to commit murder or capital murder. 	<p>The deleted text are infractions that are now mandatory expulsions pursuant to HB 6.</p>

Expulsion

Text	Editorial Notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indecency with a child. ● Aggravated kidnapping. ● Manslaughter. ● Criminally negligent homicide. ● Aggravated robbery. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Felony controlled substance or dangerous drug offenses, not including THC. ● Unlawfully carrying on or about the student’s person a handgun or a location-restricted knife, 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.) 	
<p>Property of Another District</p>	
<p>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.</p>	
<p>While in a DAEP</p>	
<p>A student may be expelled for engaging in documented serious misbehavior that violates the district’s Code of Conduct, despite documented behavioral interventions while placed in a DAEP. For purposes of discretionary expulsion from a DAEP, serious misbehavior means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deliberate violent behavior that poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others; 	<p>A district cannot expel a student from a DAEP for “serious or persistent misbehavior.” Prior to expelling a student assigned to a DAEP, district personnel must document instances of a student’s “serious misbehavior,” as defined by law, as well as attempted intervention actions.</p>

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<p>2. Extortion, meaning the gaining of money or other property by force or threat;</p> <p>3. Conduct that constitutes coercion, as defined by Penal Code 1.07; or</p> <p>4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07; b. Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08; c. Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03; d. Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or e. Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district employee. 	<p>Additionally, districts located in counties that operate JJAEPs may place a student in the JJAEP if the student engages in documented serious misbehavior.</p> <p>State law eliminates the requirement that a report of hazing be made in writing.</p>
<p>Mandatory Expulsion: Misconduct That Requires Expulsion</p>	
<p>A student must be expelled under federal or state law for any of the following offenses that occur on school property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property.</p>	<p>Revision pursuant to HB 6.</p>
<p>Under Federal Law</p>	
<p>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]</p>	<p>These provisions referencing federal law add detail from the federal Gun Free Schools Act, including how the term “school” is defined and the exceptions for lawfully stored firearms in a locked vehicle or firearms used in district activities.</p> <p>The district must expel a student for a period of one calendar year if the student brings to school a firearm, as defined by federal law. [See FNCG(LEGAL).] The superintendent may decide on a case-by-case basis to modify the length of expulsion. The district may provide educational services to expelled students age ten or older in</p>

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	the DAEP; the district must provide services to students age nine and younger in the DAEP. [See FOD(LEGAL).]
<p>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.</p>	
<p>Under the Penal Code</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unlawfully carrying on or about the student’s person the following, in the manner prohibited by Penal Code 46.02: 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A handgun, defined by state law as any firearm designed, made, or adapted to be used with one hand. [see Glossary] <i>Note:</i> 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).] 	<p>Education Code 37.007(k) creates an exception to expulsion for using or possessing firearms under the listed circumstance.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A location-restricted knife, as defined by state law. [see Glossary] 	<p>Education Code 37.007(a) references Penal Code Sections 46.02 and 46.05 for the offenses of unlawfully carrying weapons and prohibited weapons thereby removing the option for a district to expand the definition of “location-restricted knife” to include any knife, including a pocketknife, for purposes of mandatory expulsion.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possessing, manufacturing, transporting, repairing, or selling a prohibited weapon, as defined in state law. [see Glossary] 	<p>HB 6 adds kidnapping under Penal Code Section 20.03 and burglary or robbery under Sections 30.02 and 29.02.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Kidnapping or aggravated kidnapping. • Burglary, robbery or aggravated robbery. • Manslaughter. • Criminally negligent homicide. 	<p>SB 1569 removes short barrel firearms from the definition of prohibited weapon.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Engaging in retaliation against a school employee or volunteer combined with one of the above-listed mandatory expulsion offenses. 	<p>Revisions pursuant to HB 6.</p> <p>HB 6 removed the mandatory expulsion requirement for retaliation against a school employee or volunteer because regardless of the motivation it is a mandatory expulsion.</p>
<p>Under Age 10</p>	
<p>When a student under the age of 10 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.</p>	<p>In accordance with the Education Code, any student under 10 years of age who commits an</p>

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	expellable offense shall be placed in a DAEP. He or she cannot be expelled from the district.
<p><u>Virtual Expulsion Program</u></p>	
<p><u>In some circumstances, a student may be placed in a virtual expulsion program.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>The school must ensure students in the program have the necessary technology and internet and must provide it if needed.</u> • <u>The virtual program must, as much as possible, meet the same requirements as an in-person disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP).</u> • <u>The student’s placement must be reviewed every 45 school days.</u> • <u>If an in-person spot becomes available, the school should plan the student’s return to in-person learning.</u> • <u>If continued virtual placement is appropriate, the school must document the decision.</u> 	<p>HB 6 adds a virtual expulsion program if the juvenile justice alternative education program (JJAEP) rejects or releases the student early, or the school district is in a county without a JJAEP and doesn't contract with one in another county.</p>
<p><u>Consideration of Virtual Education as Alternative to Expulsion</u></p>	
<p><u>Before a school district may expel a student, the district must consider the appropriateness and feasibility of, as an alternative to expulsion, enrolling the student in a full-time hybrid program, full-time virtual program, full-time hybrid campus, or full-time virtual campus. This requirement does not apply to a student expelled under Education Code 37.0081 or 37.007(a), (d), or(e).</u></p>	<p>SB 569 sets out the considerations for virtual education as an alternative option to expulsion.</p>
<p>Process</p>	
<p>If a student is believed to have committed an expellable offense, the CBC or other appropriate administrator shall schedule a hearing within a reasonable time. The student’s parent shall be invited in writing to attend the hearing.</p>	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision associated with student discipline is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>

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<p>Until a hearing can be held, the CBC or other administrator may place the student in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another appropriate classroom. • ISS. • Out-of-school suspension. • DAEP. 	<p>FOD(EXHIBIT), found in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i>, has sample notices and forms on expulsion.</p>
<p>Hearing</p>	
<p>A student facing expulsion shall be given a hearing with appropriate due process. The student is entitled to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 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; 2. An opportunity to testify and to present evidence and witnesses in the student’s defense; and 3. An opportunity to question the witnesses called by the district at the hearing. <p>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.</p>	
<p>The hearing shall be conducted by the board of trustees, and the decision to expel shall be made by the board.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The board of trustees delegates to the <i>[insert the appropriate title or position for the district]</i> authority to conduct hearings and expel students.</p>	<p>If the board conducts all expulsion hearings, the heading and text on Board Review of Expulsion should be deleted.</p>
<p>Board Review of Expulsion</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>If the board delegates the authority to expel a student to an administrator, include the Board</p>

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<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>Review of Expulsion heading and text so that a student may appeal the decision to the board.</p>
<p>Expulsion Order</p>	
<p>Before ordering the expulsion, the board or CBC shall take into consideration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>If the student is expelled, the board or its designee shall deliver to the student and the student's parent a copy of the order expelling the student.</p> <p>Not later than the second business day after the hearing, the [insert the appropriate title or position for the district] shall deliver to the juvenile court a copy of the expulsion order and the information required by Section 52.04 of the Family Code.</p> <p>If the length of the expulsion is inconsistent with the guidelines included in the Code of Conduct, the expulsion order shall give notice of the inconsistency.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.009(f) includes a requirement for the board or CBC to consider these mitigating factors before issuing an expulsion order.</p>

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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.	Districts are required to have guidelines for setting the term of an expulsion. Districts may list categories of offenses or individual offenses or may list one year as the maximum for any offense.
An expulsion may not exceed one year unless, after review, the district determines that: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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.	In accordance with the Gun Free Schools Act and Education Code 37.007(e) , the superintendent is the only administrator who can modify the length of an 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.	

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<p>If the CBC 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.</p>	<p>Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision associated with student discipline is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>
<p>Additional Misconduct</p>	
<p>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 CBC or the board may issue an additional disciplinary order as a result of those proceedings.</p>	
<p>Restrictions During Expulsion</p>	
<p>Expelled students are prohibited from being on school grounds or attending school-sponsored or school-related activities during the period of expulsion.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Common practice for most districts has been not to give academic credit during the time a student is expelled from school. However, districts in counties that have JJAEPs must provide educational services to those students in the JJAEP, in a setting provided by the district, or through a private provider. Each district should ensure that its Code of Conduct accurately reflects local decisions in this area.</p>
<p>Newly Enrolled Students</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Chapter 37 allows the district to enroll a student expelled from another district and make one of three placements. If decisions are to be made on</p>

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<p>[OR]</p> <p>The district shall place a newly enrolled student expelled from another district or an open-enrollment charter school directly into a DAEP until the period of the expulsion is completed.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district shall decide on a case-by-case basis the placement of a student who is subject to an expulsion order from another district or an open-enrollment charter school upon enrollment in the district.</p> <p>[OR]</p> <p>The district shall place a newly enrolled student expelled from another district or an open-enrollment charter school directly into a regular classroom setting.</p>	<p>a case-by-case basis, the criteria for the decisions must not unlawfully discriminate against a student on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, age, disability, or any other basis prohibited by law.</p>
<p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	

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Text	Editorial Notes
<p>Emergency Expulsion Procedures</p>	
<p>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 10 days after the date of the emergency expulsion, the student shall be given appropriate due process required for a student facing expulsion.</p>	<p>A principal or principal's designee can order an immediate expulsion of a student in accordance with Education Code 37.019. Additional language is due to HB 6.</p>
<p>DAEP Placement of Expelled Students</p>	
<p>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 10 years of age.</p>	
<p>Transition Services</p>	
<p>In accordance with law and district procedures, campus staff 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(LLEGAL) and FODA(LLEGAL) for more information.</p>	<p>Education Code 37.023 requires the DAEP administrator to provide the administrator of the campus where the student is returning with information about the student's progress while in the alternative setting, including an assessment of academic growth and results of any assessments given to the student. No later than five instructional days after the student is released back to the campus, the campus administrator must develop a personalized transition plan for the student by working with campus personnel.</p> <p>State law requires the district to provide to a student's parent or person standing in parental relation to the student the process for requesting a full individual and initial evaluation of the</p>

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	<p>student for purposes of special education services as part of the student's personalized transition plan.</p> <p>FOCA(EXHIBIT) and FODA(EXHIBIT), found in the <i>Regulations Resource Manual</i>, provide sample plans for a student's transition back to the regular educational setting from a DAEP or JJAEP.</p>
<p>Certain Felonies</p>	<p>This section has been relocated from Discretionary Expulsion: Misconduct That May Result in Expulsion for clarity.</p>
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>The district may expel the student and order placement under these circumstances regardless of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The date on which the student's conduct occurred; 	<p>Education Code 37.0081 addresses JJAEP placement in addition to DAEP and includes additional circumstances in relation to aggravated robbery or a Title 5 felony offense. Because this provision requires a hearing before placement, the district may only want to use it for offenses that are not covered elsewhere in the Code of Conduct. Throughout the <i>Model</i>, we have noted when a particular action or decision associated with student discipline is the statutory responsibility of the CBC.</p>

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<p>2. <u>The location at which the conduct occurred;</u></p> <p>3. <u>Whether the conduct occurred while the student was enrolled in the district; or</u></p> <p>4. <u>Whether the student has successfully completed any court disposition requirements imposed in connection with the conduct.</u></p>	
<p><u>Hearing and Required Findings</u></p>	
<p><u>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:</u></p> <p>1. <u>Threatens the safety of other students or teachers;</u></p> <p>2. <u>Will be detrimental to the educational process; or</u></p> <p>3. <u>Is not in the best interest of the district's students.</u></p> <p><u>Any decision of the board or the board's designee under this section is final and may not be appealed.</u></p>	
<p><u>Length of Placement</u></p>	
<p><u>The student is subject to the placement until:</u></p> <p>1. <u>The student graduates from high school;</u></p> <p>2. <u>The charges are dismissed or reduced to a misdemeanor offense; or</u></p> <p>3. <u>The student completes the term of the placement or is assigned to another program.</u></p>	

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<u>Placement Review</u>	
<u>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.</u>	
<u>Newly Enrolled Students</u>	
<u>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.</u>	

Glossary

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<p>Abuse is improper or excessive use.</p> <p>Aggravated robbery is defined in part by Penal Code 29.03(a) as when a person commits robbery and:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. 65 years of age or older; or b. A disabled person. <p>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.</p> <p>Armor-piercing ammunition is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as handgun ammunition used in pistols and revolvers and designed primarily for the purpose of penetrating metal or body armor.</p> <p>Arson is defined in part by Penal Code 28.02 as a crime that involves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Starting a fire or causing an explosion with intent to destroy or damage: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Any vegetation, fence, or structure on open-space land; or b. Any building, habitation, or vehicle: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Knowing that it is within the limits of an incorporated city or town; (2) Knowing that it is insured against damage or destruction; (3) Knowing that it is subject to a mortgage or other security interest; (4) Knowing that it is located on property belonging to another; 	<p>The glossary provides legal definitions and locally established definitions. It is intended to help the user understand terms used in the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>SB 326 added a definition of antisemitism.</p>

Glossary

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<p>(5) Knowing that it has located within it property belonging to another; or</p> <p>(6) 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.</p> <p>2. Recklessly starting a fire or causing an explosion while manufacturing or attempting to manufacture a controlled substance if the fire or explosion damages any building, habitation, or vehicle; or</p> <p>3. Intentionally starting a fire or causing an explosion and in so doing:</p> <p>a. Recklessly damaging or destroying a building belonging to another; or</p> <p>b. Recklessly causing another person to suffer bodily injury or death.</p> <p>Assault is defined in part by Penal Code 22.01 as intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causing bodily injury to another; intentionally or knowingly threatening another with imminent bodily injury; or intentionally or knowingly causing physical contact with another that can reasonably be regarded as offensive or provocative.</p> <p>Breach of computer security includes knowingly accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system without the effective consent of the owner as defined in Penal Code 33.02, if the conduct involves accessing a computer, computer network, or computer system owned by or operated on behalf of a school district and the student knowingly alters, damages, or deletes school district property or information or commits a breach of any other computer, computer network, or computer system.</p> <p>Bullying is defined as a single significant act or a pattern of acts by one or more students directed at another student that exploits an imbalance of power and involves engaging in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that:</p> <p>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 damage to the student's property;</p> <p>2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student;</p>	

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<p>3. Materially and substantially disrupts the educational process or the orderly operation of a classroom or school; or</p> <p>4. Infringes on the rights of the victim at school.</p> <p>Bullying includes cyberbullying. (See below.) This state law on bullying prevention applies to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bullying that occurs on or is delivered to school property or to the site of a school-sponsored or school-related activity on or off school property; 2. Bullying that occurs on a publicly or privately owned school bus or vehicle being used for transportation of students to or from school or a school-sponsored or school-related activity; and 3. Cyberbullying that occurs off school property or outside of a school-sponsored or school-related activity if the cyberbullying interferes with a student's educational opportunities or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of a classroom, school, or school-sponsored or school-related activity. <p>Chemical dispensing device is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a device designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of dispensing a substance capable 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.</p> <p>Club is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as an instrument, specially designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting serious bodily injury or death by striking a person with the instrument, and includes but is not limited to a blackjack, nightstick, mace, and tomahawk.</p>	
<p>Controlled substance means a substance, including a drug, an adulterant, and a dilutant, listed in Schedules I through V or Penalty Group 1, 1-A, 1-B, 2, 2-A, 3, or 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes the aggregate weight of any mixture, solution, or other substance containing a controlled substance. The term does not include hemp, as defined by Agriculture Code 121.001, or the tetrahydrocannabinols (THC) in hemp.</p> <p>Criminal street gang is defined by Penal Code 71.01 as 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.</p>	

Glossary

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<p>Cyberbullying is defined by Education Code 37.0832 as bullying that is done through the use of any electronic communication device, including through the use of a cellular or other type of telephone, a computer, a camera, electronic mail, instant messaging, text messaging, a social media application, an internet website, or any other internet-based communication tool.</p> <p>Dangerous drug is defined by Health and Safety Code 483.001 as a device or a drug that is unsafe for self-medication and that is not included in Schedules I through V or Penalty Groups 1 through 4 of the Texas Controlled Substances Act. The term includes a device or drug that federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription or restricts to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Deadly conduct under Penal Code 22.05 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Discretionary means that something is left to or regulated by a local decision maker.</p>	
<p>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 or a consumable liquid solution or other material aerosolized</p>	

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Glossary	Editorial Notes
<p>or vaporized during the use of an electronic cigarette or other device described by this provision. 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.</p>	
<p>Explosive weapon is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as 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.</p> <p>False alarm or report under Penal Code 42.06 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:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>Firearm is defined by federal law (18 U.S.C. 921(a)) as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 silencer, defined as any device for silencing, muffling, or diminishing the report of a portable firearm; or 4. Any destructive device, such as any explosive, incendiary or poison gas bomb, or grenade. <p>Such term does not include an antique firearm.</p>	
<p>Graffiti includes 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.</p>	

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Glossary	Editorial Notes
<p>Handgun is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as any firearm that is designed, made, or adapted to be fired with one hand.</p>	
<p>Harassment includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct that meets the definition established in district policies DIA(LOCAL) and FFH(LOCAL); 2. Conduct that threatens to cause harm or bodily injury to another person, including a district student, employee, board member, or volunteer; is sexually intimidating; causes physical damage to the property of another student; subjects another student to physical confinement or restraint; or maliciously and substantially harms another student's physical or emotional health or safety, as defined in Education Code 37.001(b)(2); or 3. Conduct that is punishable as a crime under Penal Code 42.07, including the following types of conduct if carried out with the intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Initiating communication and, in the course of the communication, making a comment, request, suggestion, or proposal that is obscene, as defined by law; b. Threatening, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the threat, to inflict bodily injury on the person or to commit a felony against the person, a member of the person's family or household, or the person's property; c. Conveying, in a manner reasonably likely to alarm the person receiving the report, a false report, which is known by the conveyor to be false, that another person has suffered death or serious bodily injury; d. Causing the telephone of another to ring repeatedly or making repeated telephone communications anonymously or in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another; e. Making a telephone call and intentionally failing to hang up or disengage the connection; f. Knowingly permitting a telephone under the person's control to be used by another to commit an offense under this section; 	

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<p>g. Sending repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, embarrass, or offend another;</p>	
<p>h. Publishing on an internet website, including a social media platform, repeated electronic communications in a manner reasonably likely to cause emotional distress, abuse, or torment to another person, unless the communications are made in connection with a matter of public concern, as defined by law; or</p> <p>i. Making obscene, intimidating, or threatening telephone calls or other electronic communications from a temporary or disposable telephone number provided by an internet application or other technological means.</p>	
<p>Hazing is defined by Education Code 37.151 as an intentional, knowing, or reckless act, on or off campus, by one person alone or acting with others, directed against a student for the purpose of pledging, initiation into, affiliation with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in a student organization if the act meets the elements in Education Code 37.151, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Any type of physical brutality; 2. An activity that subjects the student to an unreasonable risk of harm or that adversely affects the student’s mental or physical health, such as sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement to small spaces, calisthenics, or consumption of food, liquids, drugs, or other substances; 3. An activity that induces, causes, or requires the student to perform a duty or task that violates the Penal Code; or 4. Coercing a student to consume a drug or alcoholic beverage in an amount that would lead a reasonable person to believe the student is intoxicated. <p>Hit list is defined in Education Code 37.001(b)(3) as 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.</p> <p>Improvised explosive device is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a completed and operational bomb designed to cause serious bodily injury, death, or substantial property damage that is fabricated in an improvised manner using nonmilitary components.</p>	

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<p>Indecent exposure is defined by Penal Code 21.08 as an offense that occurs when a person exposes the person’s anus or any part of the person’s genitals with intent to arouse or gratify the sexual desire of any person, and is reckless about whether another is present who will be offended or alarmed by the act.</p> <p>Intimate visual material is defined by Civil Practices and Remedies Code 98B.001 and Penal Code 21.16 as visual material that depicts a person with the person’s intimate parts exposed or engaged in sexual conduct. “Visual material” means any film, photograph, video tape, negative, or slide of any photographic reproduction or any other physical medium that allows an image to be displayed on a computer or other video screen and any image transmitted to a computer or other video screen.</p> <p>Location-restricted knife is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as a knife with a blade over five and one-half inches.</p> <p>Knuckles means 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.</p> <p>Look-alike weapon means an item that resembles a weapon but is not intended to be used to cause serious bodily injury.</p> <p>Machine gun as defined by Penal Code 46.01 is any firearm that is capable of shooting more than two shots automatically, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.</p> <p>Mandatory means that something is obligatory or required because of an authority.</p> <p>Paraphernalia are devices that can be used for inhaling, ingesting, injecting, or otherwise introducing a controlled substance into a human body.</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>A definition of “personal communication device” has been added pursuant to legal revisions in HB 1481.</p>
<p>Possession means to have an item on one’s person or in one’s personal property, including, but not limited to:</p>	

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<p>1. Clothing, purse, or backpack;</p> <p>2. 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;</p> <p>3. Telecommunications Personal communication devices or electronic devices; or</p> <p>4. Any school property used by the student, including, but not limited to, a locker or desk.</p> <p>Prohibited weapon under Penal Code 46.05(a) means:</p> <p>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:</p> <p>a. An explosive weapon; or</p> <p>b. A machine gun.</p>	
<p>c. A short barrel firearm;</p> <p>2. Armor-piercing ammunition;</p> <p>3. A chemical dispensing device;</p> <p>4. A zip gun;</p> <p>5. A tire deflation device; or</p> <p>An improvised explosive device.</p>	<p>SB 1569 removes short barrel firearms from the definition of prohibited weapon.</p>
<p>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.</p> <p>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</p>	

Glossary	Editorial Notes
<p>qualified student. Educational organizations listed in Education Code 37.121(d) are excepted from this definition.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Self-defense is the use of force against another to the degree a person reasonably believes is immediately necessary to protect himself or herself.</p> <p>Serious misbehavior means:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Section 1.07; or 4. Conduct that constitutes the offense of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Public lewdness under Penal Code 21.07; b. Indecent exposure under Penal Code 21.08; c. Criminal mischief under Penal Code 28.03; d. Hazing under Education Code 37.152; or e. Harassment under Penal Code 42.07(a)(1) of a student or district employee. <p>Serious or persistent misbehavior includes, but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Refusal to attempt or complete schoolwork 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. <p>Short-barrel firearm is defined by Penal Code 46.01 as 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.</p> <p>Terroristic threat is defined by Penal Code 22.07 as a threat of violence to any person or property with intent to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">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; or6. 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). <p>Tire deflation device is defined in part by Penal Code 46.01 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.</p>	

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<p>Title 5 felonies are those crimes listed in Title 5 of the Penal Code that typically involve injury to a person and may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous sexual abuse of a young child or disabled individual under Section 21.02; 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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; 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadly conduct under Section 22.05;• Terroristic threat under Section 22.07;• Aiding a person to commitdie by suicide under Section 22.08; and• Tampering with a consumer product under Section 22.09. <p>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.</p> <p>Use means voluntarily introducing into one’s body, by any means, a prohibited substance.</p> <p>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.</p>	



Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting

August 14, 2025



Student Code of Conduct

Alison Camp



Updates reflect mostly changes from the 89th Texas Legislative Session

- HB 6 : Major discipline reforms
- HB 1481: Personal communication device use
- SB 326: Antisemitism provisions
- SB 569: Consideration of virtual/hybrid education as alternative to expulsion



HB 6

- Makes substantial changes to Chapter 37
- Clarifies ISS and OSS length limits
- Removes mandatory DAEP for e-cigarette possession
- Allows creation of virtual expulsion programs



HB 1481

- Prohibit personal device use during the school day
- Establish disciplinary consequences
- Allows exceptions
- Local practice must align with the mandate



SB 326

- Requires district to define antisemitism using Government Code 448.001
- Assess motivation for conduct violations using this standard



Student Technology and AI Use

- Adds unauthorized use of artificial intelligence as academic dishonesty
- AI misuse is now a Code of Conduct violation



Campus Behavior Coordinator Role Expansion

- Only a single individual can be designated as a CBC.
- CBC is now responsible for
 - Verification of all Chapter 37 implementation
 - Coordinating with threat assessment teams
 - Posting contact info publicly per Education Code 26.015



Dress Code

- Added no costumes or parts of costumes to the Middle School and High School section.
- Removed the following sentences from #3 in the High School section.
 - No shorts, skirts, or dresses may be shorter than fingertip length with arms to your side. Clothing that is altered, slit, or frayed and exposes skin that is above fingertip length, is not allowed. Leggings / tights are not allowed without shorts or skirts unless covered by an appropriate garment that completely covers the student's buttocks.
- Removed the following sentence from #4 in the High School section.
 - No sleepwear is permitted.



Questions?

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV.B

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Type: Special

Item Type: Action Item

Future Action Required: Yes

If Yes, Month: August

Subject: FNCE (LOCAL)

Background Information:

Policy FNCE (Local), regarding personal communication devices/electronic devices, is being updated to reflect changes from the 89th Texas Legislative Session. This policy prohibits the use of electronic devices on campuses during the instructional day.

Attached Supporting Documents:

Presentation

Final version of FNCE (LOCAL)

Fiscal Implications:

None

Administrative Recommendation:

We recommend approving the adoption of local policy FNCE in alignment with recent legislative updates.

Contact Person:

Alison Camp



PROPOSED POLICY

Note: For searches of personal communication devices or other personal electronic devices, see FNF.

Personal Communication Devices

A student shall not use a personal communication device on school property during the school day. While on school property, the student shall store any personal communication 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 Student Code of Conduct.

An authorized District employee shall confiscate a student's personal communication 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:

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

Implementation

The Superintendent shall develop regulations to implement this policy.

Compliance

Annually, the Superintendent shall report to the Board on the implementation and compliance of this policy.

Personal Use

Telecommunications Devices

~~An authorized District employee may confiscate a personal telecommunications device, including a mobile telephone, used in violation of applicable campus rules.~~

~~A confiscated personal telecommunications device shall be released for a fee determined by the Board. In accordance with the~~

STUDENT CONDUCT
PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

FNCE
(LOCAL)

~~student handbook, the student or the student's parents may retrieve the device after paying the fee.~~

~~If a personal telecommunications device is not retrieved, the District shall dispose of the device after providing notice required by law.~~

~~Other Electronic
Devices~~

~~Guidelines regarding other personal electronic devices shall be addressed in the student handbook.~~

Instructional Use

~~A student shall obtain prior approval before using personal telecommunications or other personal electronic devices for on-campus instructional purposes. The student shall also acknowledge receipt and understanding of applicable regulations and shall sign the appropriate user agreements. [See CQ]~~



Board of Trustees Special Board Meeting

August 14, 2025



FNCE (LOCAL)

Alison Camp



Policy FNCE (Local), regarding personal communication devices/electronic devices, is being updated to reflect changes from the 89th Texas Legislative Session. This policy prohibits the use of electronic devices on campuses during the instructional day.

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV.C.

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Action Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: FY25 Final Budget Amendments

Background Information:

Attached are the budget amendments for the Board of Trustees' review and approval.

Board approval is required for any budget amendments involving:

- Transfers between functional categories,
- Increases or decreases in revenues or expenditures, or
- Donations received from external sources.

A summary of the proposed amendments by functional category is included for your consideration.

Attached Supporting Documents: Budget Amendment Summary for General Fund & Other Funds, Proposed Budget Amendments

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: Vote to approved proposed budget amendments as presented.

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS

GENERAL FUND

August 14, 2025

	Approved budget	Proposed amendments	Proposed amended budget
GENERAL FUND:			
Revenues -			
Local	\$ 44,465,194	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 45,465,194
State	95,152,527	5,000,000	100,152,527
Federal	2,391,000	-	2,391,000
Total	142,008,721	6,000,000	148,008,721
Expenditures -			
Instruction	82,183,234	1,500,000	83,683,234
Instructional Resources and Media Services	2,054,195	100,000	2,154,195
Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development	2,441,224	(200,000)	2,241,224
Instructional Leadership	3,152,738	100,000	3,252,738
School Leadership	9,637,952	150,000	9,787,952
Guidance, Counseling and Evaluation Services	7,251,945	150,000	7,401,945
Social Work Services	1,975,305	(50,000)	1,925,305
Health Services	2,048,228	250,000	2,298,228
Student Transportation	5,461,683	2,500,000	7,961,683
Extracurricular Activities	5,370,651	500,000	5,870,651
General Administration	6,165,980	100,000	6,265,980
Plant Maintenance and Operations	17,312,669	750,000	18,062,669
Security and Monitoring Services	1,469,344	100,000	1,569,344
Data Processing Services	6,180,368	500,000	6,680,368
Community Services	698,030	100,000	798,030
Debt Services	2,622,326	750,000	3,372,326
Debt Services	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Facilities Acquisition and Construction	-	1,000,000	1,000,000
Payments to JJAEP	175,000	500,000	675,000
Intergovernmental Charges	700,000	-	700,000
Total	156,900,872	9,800,000	166,700,872
Other Resources	-	-	-
Other Uses	-	-	-
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	\$ (14,892,151)	\$ (3,800,000)	\$ (18,692,151)

Summary of Change in Budgeted Fund Balance:

2024-25 Original Budgeted Deficit	(12,931,615)
Net Proceeds from Girl's Golf Tournament Split Between AHS & CHS	(1,320)
FY24 Outstanding Purchase Orders rolled to FY25	(1,683,948)
Reverse budget for FY24 rolled PO's paid in FY24	44,257
Net profit from Abilene Cross Country Invitational split between AHS & CHS	(7,634)
Purchase Board approved Yondr Bags for AHS/CHS/ATEMS	(124,760)

**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS
STUDENT NUTRITION FUND**

August 14, 2025

	Approved budget	Proposed amendments	Proposed amended budget
FOOD SERVICE FUND:			
Revenues -			
Local	\$ 4,033,189	\$ -	\$ 4,033,189
State	380,044	-	380,044
Federal	8,234,096	-	8,234,096
Total	12,647,329	-	12,647,329
Expenditures -			
Food Service	12,478,267	(250,000)	12,228,267
Plant Maintenance and Operations	123,923	225,000	348,923
Debt Service	-	25,000	25,000
Total	12,602,190	-	12,602,190
Other Resources	-	-	-
Other Uses	-	-	-
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	\$ 45,139	\$ -	\$ 45,139

DEBT SERVICE FUND

August 14, 2025

	Approved budget	Proposed amendments	Proposed amended budget
DEBT SERVICE FUND:			
Revenues -			
Local	\$ 17,467,512	\$ -	\$ 17,467,512
State	-	-	-
Total	17,467,512	-	17,467,512
Expenditures -			
Debt Service	17,467,512	-	17,467,512
Other Intergovernmental Charges	-	-	-
Total	17,467,512	-	17,467,512
Other Resources	-	-	-
Other Uses	-	-	-
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND (WORKERS COMP)
August 14, 2025**

	Approved budget	Proposed amendments	Proposed amended budget
INTERNAL SERVICE FUND:			
Revenues -			
Local	\$ 640,000	\$ -	\$ 640,000
Total	<u>640,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>640,000</u>
Expenditures -			
General Administration	640,000	-	640,000
Total	<u>640,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>640,000</u>
Other Resources	-	-	-
Other Uses	-	-	-
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

PROPOSED BUDGET AMENDMENTS

August 14, 2025

	Account code	Revenues - Increase/ (Decrease)	Expenditures - Increase/ (Decrease)	Excess/ (Deficit)	Account Code Explanation				
					Fund	Function	Object	Organization	
#1	19X-00-57XX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX	1,000,000.00			General	n/a	Local Revenue	Districtwide	
	19X-00-58XX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX	5,000,000.00			General	n/a	State Revenue	Districtwide	
	19X-11-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		1,500,000.00		General	Instruction	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-12-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		100,000.00		General	Media	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-13-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		(200,000.00)		General	Staff Development	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-21-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		100,000.00		General	Instructional Leadership	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-23-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		150,000.00		General	Campus Leadership	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-31-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		150,000.00		General	Guidance & Counseling	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-32-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		(50,000.00)		General	Social Work Services	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-33-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		250,000.00		General	Health Services	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-34-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		2,500,000.00		General	Student Transportation	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-36-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		500,000.00		General	Extracurricular Activities	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-41-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		100,000.00		General	General Administration	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-51-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		750,000.00		General	Plant Maintenance	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-52-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		100,000.00		General	Security & Monitoring Services	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-53-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		500,000.00		General	Data Processing Services	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-61-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		100,000.00		General	Community Services	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-71-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		750,000.00		General	Debt Service	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-72-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		1,000,000.00		General	Debt Service	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-81-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		1,000,000.00		General	Facilities Acquisition & Construction	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	19X-95-6XXX-XX-XXX-XX-XXX		500,000.00		General	Juvenile Justice Alternative Education	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	(Amend FY25 budget to cover projected YE revenues and expenditures)								
	General Fund Totals	<u>6,000,000.00</u>	<u>9,800,000.00</u>	<u>-</u>					
	Food Service Fund								
#2	240-35-6XXX-XX-XXX-99-240		(250,000.00)		Food Service	Food Service	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	240-51-6XXX-XX-XXX-99-240		225,000.00		Food Service	Facilities Maintenance & Operations	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	240-71-6XXX-XX-XXX-99-240		25,000.00		Food Service	Debt Services	Expenditures	Districtwide	
	(Amend FY25 budget to cover projected YE expenditures)								
	Food Service Totals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>					



August 2025 Special Meeting 2024-2025 Final Budget Amendments

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

FY25 Final Budget Amendments

- ➔ **Required to have all functions of the budget properly allocated.**
- ➔ **Verified in the audit process and reported as non-compliant in audit report if over budget.**
- ➔ **Captures all remaining changes to the budget before the books close.**

Recommendation:

The Board approve the final budget amendments for Fiscal Year 2025 as presented.



August 2025 Special Meeting 2024-2025 Final Budget Amendments

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV.D.

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Action Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Budget Workshop – July 2025

Background Information: Attached you will find supporting documentation for your consideration of approving the 2025-2026 fiscal year's budget by function. The documentation outlines a deficit budget of \$3,404,674.00.

Attached Supporting Documents: Budget Book Attached

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: Approve the budget by fund and function as presented.

Possible Motion Language: "Move to approve the 2025-2026 General Fund, Student Nutrition Fund, Debt Service Fund, and Internal Service Fund budgets by function as presented."

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds



ABILENEISD

2025-2026

Budget Book



Building *Brighter* Futures!

ABILENEISD

District Profile



Budget
2025-2026

ABILENE ISD

Board of Trustees



**ANGIE
WILEY**

President
Place 7
Term Ends May 2028



**RODNEY
GOODMAN**

Vice President
Place 2
Term Ends May 2028



**CINDY
EARLES**

Secretary
Place 4
Term End May 2026



**BILL
ENRIQUEZ**

Asst. Secretary
Place 6
Term Ends May 2026



**DR. TAYLOR
TIDMORE**

Member
Place 1
Term Ends May 2028



**BLAIR
SCHROEDER**

Member
Place 3
Term Ends May 2028



**DR. DANNY
WHEAT**

Member
Place 5
Term Ends May 2026

Major Functions of the Board of Trustees:

- To set goals and expectations for the school district.
- To establish policy (board-governing principles).
- To select the Superintendent of schools.
- To establish an annual budget and tax rate.
- To evaluate the effectiveness with which the Superintendent and his staff are achieving the school district goals and carrying out School Board policies.

ABILENE ISD

District Leadership



**DR. JOHN
KUHN**

Superintendent



**DR. JOSEPH
WALDRON**

Deputy
Superintendent



**MRS. ALISON
SIMS**

Associate
Superintendent for the
Development of
Human Resources



**MRS. PATTI
BLUE**

Associate
Superintendent for the
Curriculum and
Instruction



**DR. GUSTAVO
VILLANUEVA**

Associate
Superintendent for
Student Services



**MRS. JENNIFER
HINDS**

Chief Financial Officer



**DR. JORDAN
ZIEMER**

Executive Director of
Communications



**MR. JAY
ASHBY**

Executive Director of
Innovation and
Program Development



STRATEGIC PLAN

Mission:

AISD will equip learners to make a positive impact in their world through relevant, innovative, and challenging learning experiences.

Vision:

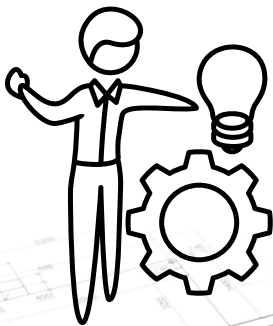
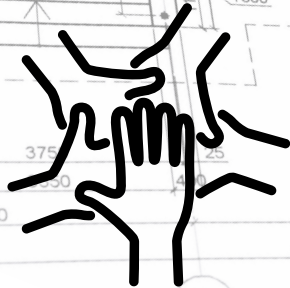
Equipped Learners. Brighter Futures.

ABILENEISD

Leaders Exemplify:

COOPERATION

- Cultivates Relationships
- Builds Community
- Encourages Collaboration

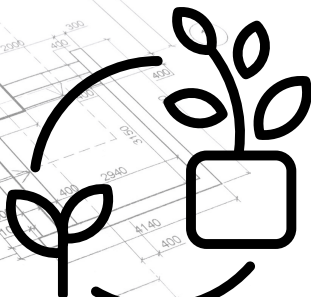


INSPIRATION

- Inspires Commitment
- Builds capacity in Self and Others
- Demonstrates Personal Integrity
- Moves with Purpose

TRANSFORMATION

- Communicates Effectively
- Accepts Ownership
- Focuses on Student Growth
- Plans Strategically



Strategic Priority #1
Learners will be actively engaged in classrooms.

- 1.3 Weekly instruction will be designed in a manner that empowers students to be active participants, creators, and producers rather than passive learners.
- 1.5 Teachers will implement engagement opportunities that provide student ownership, choices for learning, goal setting, and methods for showing mastery that are appropriate for students' individual learning needs at least once during each unit of study. (1.1.6 & 1.1.7)
- 1.6 Students will have opportunities to explore their interests related to careers and future academic and personal goals.
- 1.7 Students will use technology to create products that support mastery of content objectives.

Strategic Priority #2
Establish a culture of collaboration between students, teachers, administrators and the AISD community.

- 2.3 Teachers and administrators will develop and implement Professional Learning communities with a target of weekly collaboration. (1.1.8 & 1.1.9)
- 2.4 Administrators will collaborate with other administrators about targeted effective practices that are relevant to current campus needs on a monthly basis.

Strategic Priority #3
Abilene ISD will develop intentional strategic partnerships which capitalize on the strengths, resources, and talents of all stakeholders.

- 3.2 Through the CPAT, Abilene ISD will connect with existing and potential community partnerships to identify and facilitate opportunities for all stakeholders to collaborate and participate in events unique to each campus community each school year. (3.6.3)
- 3.3 Through the CPAT, each AISD campus will foster awareness around the importance of campus community engagement. (3.6.3)
- 3.5 Abilene ISD will collaborate between the Curriculum and Instruction, Leadership and Student Services and Communications Departments to host events to address district needs.

Strategic Priority #4
Tell the AISD story of being the school district of choice that provides unparalleled opportunities in Abilene and the Big Country.

- 4.6 Select students to lead the storytelling process in showcasing campus activities once per grading period. (4.1.3)
- 4.10 Support staff will receive yearly customer service training including de-escalation techniques to better support positive interactions with students, parents, and the community.

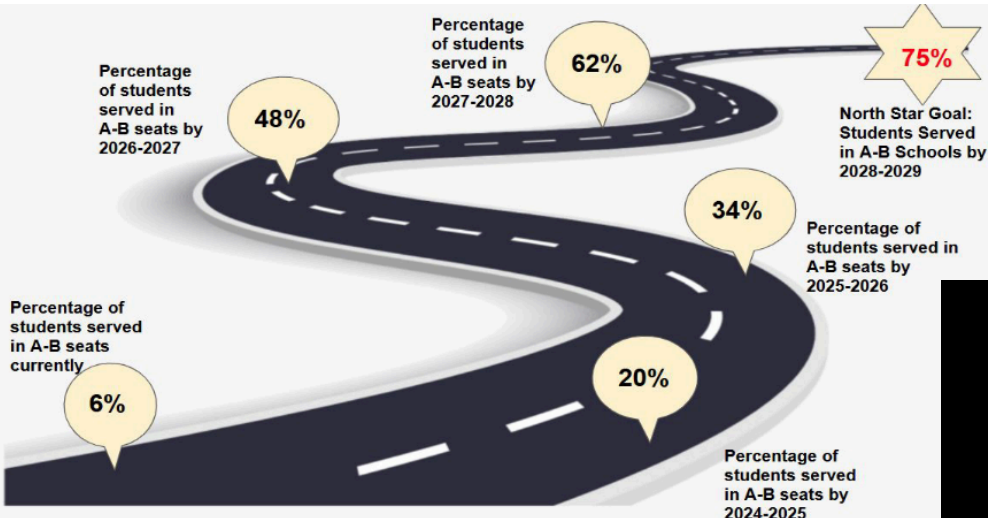
Strategic PRIORITIES





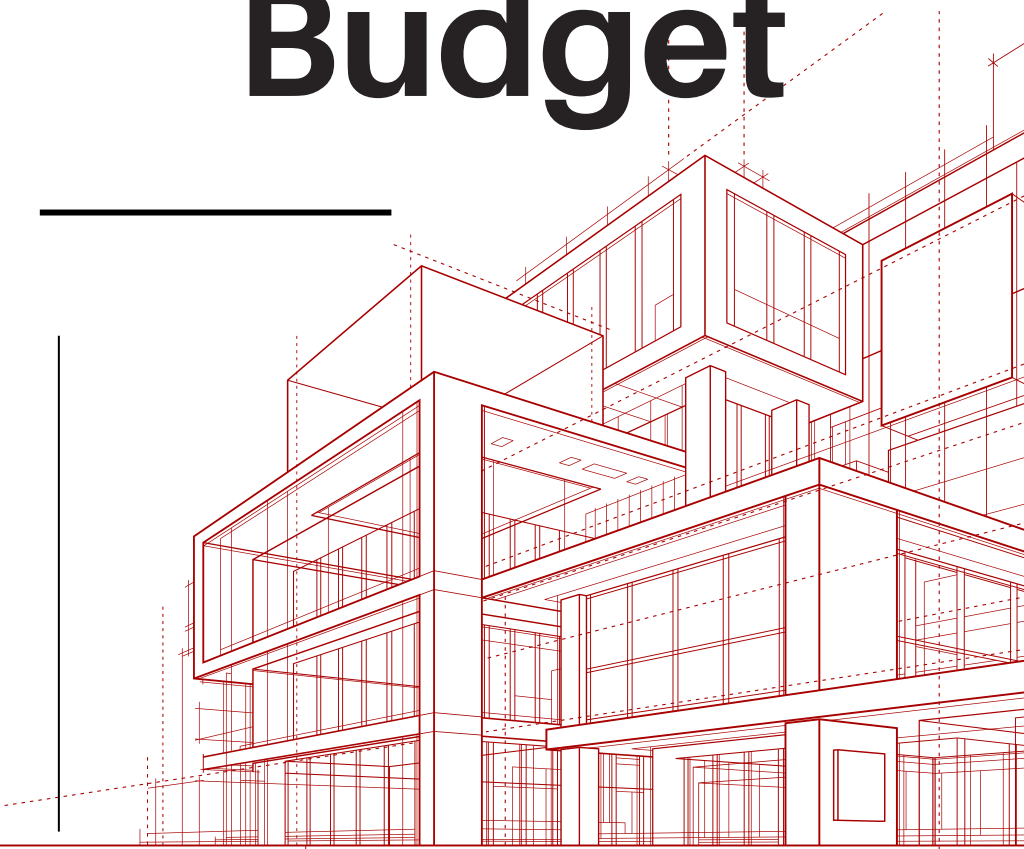
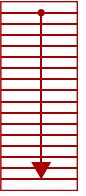
North Star Goal

By the end of the 2028-2029 school year, 75% of students in Abilene ISD will be in A or B seats.



ABILENEISD

Proposed Budget

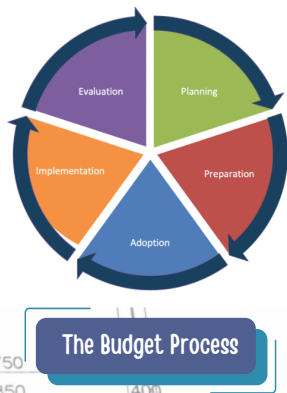


Budget

2025-2026

The Budget Process

As with any major requirement, rules and laws govern certain aspects of the process. The budgeting process in the State of Texas is no exception. The Texas Education Code Sections 44.002-44.006 establish the legal basis for school district budget development. The budgeting process is comprised of five major phases: planning, preparation, adoption, implementation, and evaluation. Budgeting essentially translates educational goals and programs into a financial resource plan. Budgeting also provides another layer of internal controls to the day-to-day operations platform by limiting spending to a prescribed threshold.



The budgetary process begins with sound planning. The District's strategic plan should be the foundation for budget planning as it defines the goals and objectives of the entire organization. Campus budgets evolve from identification of the school's goals and objectives as documented in the Campus Improvement Plan (CIP). Also essential to the annual budgeting cycle is the continuous use of the System Strategy Return on Investment (ROI): Five Key Steps. This ensures all campuses are working towards the overall District goals.

The District's strategic plan should be the foundation for the continuous cycle of budget planning, preparation, adoption, implementation and evaluations. Planning defines the goals and objectives of the organization. Preparation is the allocation of budgetary resources. The adoption stage of the budget process occurs in August each year, prior to the start of the fiscal year on September 1st. The Board of Trustees has the responsibility of adopting the budget and setting the tax rate to support the budget. After adoption, the implementation of the budget is performed by the Finance Department, with the cooperation of other District administrators. Implementation also includes establishing controls over revenues and expenditures, budget amendments, and informational reporting on the budget. Evaluation involves examination of how the funds were expended, what outcomes resulted from the expenditure of funds, and to what degree these outcomes achieved the objectives stated in the planning process. This evaluation phase is important in determining the following year's budgetary allocations. The evaluation culminates in the performance of the annual audit performed by an independent external audit firm.

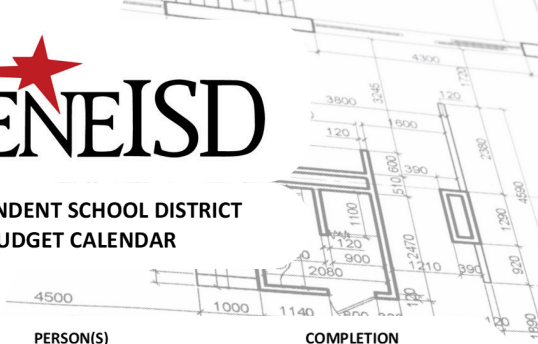
In summary, budget preparation is not a one-time exercise to determine how a school district will allocate funds. Rather, school district budget preparation is part of a continuous cycle of planning and evaluation to achieve district guiding statements.



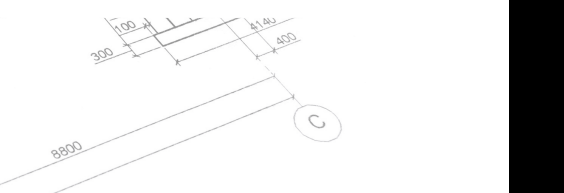
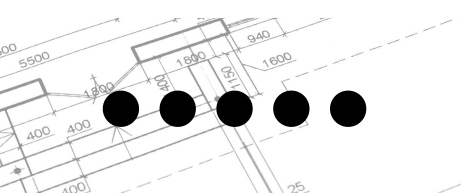


ABILENE ISD

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025-26 BUDGET CALENDAR



ACTIVITY	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	COMPLETION DATE
Discuss budget calendar and other budget items	Cabinet	January 2025
Ongoing assessment of 2025-2026 staffing needs	Assoc. Superintendent for the Development of Human Resources	February - June, 2025
Discuss budget calendar with Board	Executive Director of Finance	February 2025 (Workshop)
Prepare budget workbooks with non-payroll allocations based on 2024-25 1st semester attendance	Executive Director of Finance	March 2025
2025-26 budget workbooks will be accessible to budget managers electronically	Executive Director of Finance	April 2025
Discuss attendance projections, revenue forecasts, overall financial condition and other budget items	Executive Director of Finance Cabinet/Executive Leadership Team	April 2025 Executive Team
Budget Collaboration Meetings with all Budget Owners	Executive Director of Finance	April - May 2025
Receive estimated 2025 tax rolls from Taylor and Jones county	Appraisal Districts	April 28, 2025
2025-26 Budget Overview and preliminary budget discussion with Board	Executive Director of Finance	May 2025 (Workshop)
Discuss preliminary revenue estimates and special needs with Board	Executive Director of Finance	June 2025 (Workshop)
Discuss preliminary expenditure projections with Board	Executive Director of Finance	July 2025 (Workshop)
Receive certified 2025 tax rolls from Taylor and Jones county	Appraisal Districts	July 25, 2025
Calculation of rollback tax rate and other information for public notice	Executive Director of Finance Taylor County Appraisal District	July 25, 2025





ABILENE ISD

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025-26 BUDGET CALENDAR

<p>Approval of budget parameters to be used for budget workbook and set public meeting date to discuss budget and proposed tax rate (Recommendation: August 25, 2025)*</p>	<p>Board of Trustees</p>	<p>August 2025 (Workshop)</p>
<p>Final discussions of 2025-26 preliminary budget with Board</p>	<p>Executive Director of Finance</p>	<p>August 2025 (Workshop)</p>
<p>Vote on proposed tax rate that will be published in the notice</p>	<p>Board of Trustees</p>	<p>August 2025 (Regular Meeting)</p>
<p>Publish <i>NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS BUDGET AND PROPOSED TAX RATE</i></p>	<p>Executive Director of Finance</p>	<p>August 15, 2025*</p>
<p>Post summary of proposed budget on district website</p>	<p>Executive Director of Finance</p>	<p>August 15, 2025*</p>
<p>Conduct public hearing on 2025-26 proposed budget and tax rate, adopt budget, adopt tax rate</p>	<p>Board of Trustees</p>	<p>August 25, 2025 (Special Meeting)*</p>

*Date Subject to Change

THIS CALENDAR COMPLIES WITH THE LAWS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PREPARATION AND APPROVAL OF THE 2025-2026 BUDGET. IT ALSO COMPLIES WITH ALL TRUTH-IN-TAXATION LAWS.



Abilene Independent School District

241 Pine Street • Abilene, Texas 79601 • (325) 677-1444

August 14, 2025

To: Dr. John Kuhn, Superintendent of Schools
CC: Dr. Joseph Waldron, Deputy Superintendent

From: Jennifer Hinds, Chief Financial Officer

Subject: Proposed Budget Document for 2025-2026

The proposed expenditure budgets for the 2025-2026 school year are as follows:

General Fund	\$155,035,924
Student Nutrition Fund	\$13,229,028
Debt Service Fund	\$16,529,212
Internal Service Fund	\$640,000

The proposed expenditure budget for General Fund and Debt Service is based on an assumed tax rate of \$0.9580.

Funding at this level provides for the following major changes in the General Fund:

- \$5,755,672 Total for Employee Compensation which includes:
 - HB 2 Pay Increases for Teachers
 - \$500 Increase for Teachers with 1-2 Years Experience
 - 2% GPI for Administrative Professionals & Technology Paygrades 4-7
 - 4% GPI for Technology Paygrades 1-3, Auxiliary, and Clerical Professionals
 - Pay structure adjustments to improve & maintain market pay equity.

Funding at this level will result in an estimated deficit budget in the General Fund of \$3,404,674.

Taxable property values increased by 4.05% this year. The ADA (Average Daily Attendance) projections are based on stable post-pandemic attendance trends. Considering changes from House Bill 2, along with updated property values, tax rates, and ADA for fiscal year 2025–26, overall funding is projected to increase by \$9.6 million compared to the previous year.

While taxable property values increased due to new property development, much of that gain was offset by the assumed rise in the homestead exemption. Since local property growth lagged behind the state average, there was minimal compression of the Maintenance & Operations (M&O) tax rate. However, the property growth that did occur, combined with limited tax rate compression, results in an estimated \$2.2 million increase in local property tax revenue. Additionally, state aid is projected to grow by approximately \$7.4 million over the 2024–25 adopted budget, largely due to the legislative changes introduced by House Bill 2.

Supplemental information is provided regarding property taxes, historical ADA, fund balances and other information.

**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
SUMMARY
2025 - 2026**

	<u>Governmental Fund Types</u>			<u>Proprietary Fund Type</u>
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Student Nutrition Fund</u>	<u>Debt Service Fund</u>	<u>Internal Service Fund</u>
Revenues				
5700s - Local	\$ 46,667,287	\$ 4,229,151	\$ 13,642,844	\$ 640,000
5800s - State	102,572,963	399,046	-	-
5900s - Federal	2,391,000	8,645,800	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 151,631,250</u>	<u>\$ 13,273,997</u>	<u>\$ 13,642,844</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>
Expenditures				
11 - Instruction	\$ 82,323,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
12 - Instructional Resources & Media	2,068,196	-	-	-
13 - Curriculum & Staff Development	1,246,340	-	-	-
21 - Instructional Leadership ²	3,179,751	-	-	-
23 - School Leadership	9,610,179	-	-	-
31 - Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	8,024,076	-	-	-
32 - Social Work Services	1,913,541	-	-	-
33 - Health Services	2,108,000	-	-	-
34 - Student Transportation	5,713,383	-	-	-
35 - Food Service	-	13,107,986	-	-
36 - Extracurricular Activities	3,551,868	-	-	-
41 - General Administration ^{1,2}	7,801,065	-	-	640,000
51 - Plant Maintenance & Operations	16,084,454	121,042	-	-
52 - Security & Monitoring Services	1,421,334	-	-	-
53 - Data Processing Services	5,756,410	-	-	-
61 - Community Services	629,757	-	-	-
71 - Debt Service	2,607,865	-	16,529,212	-
81 - Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	-	-	-
95 - Payments to JJAEP	275,000	-	-	-
99 - Other Intergovernmental Charges	721,320	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 155,035,924</u>	<u>\$ 13,229,028</u>	<u>\$ 16,529,212</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ (3,404,674)</u>	<u>\$ 44,969</u>	<u>\$ (2,886,368)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>

¹Includes Statutorily Required Public Notice - Required Posting \$5,000

²Includes Statutorily Required Public Notice - Lobbying \$2,420

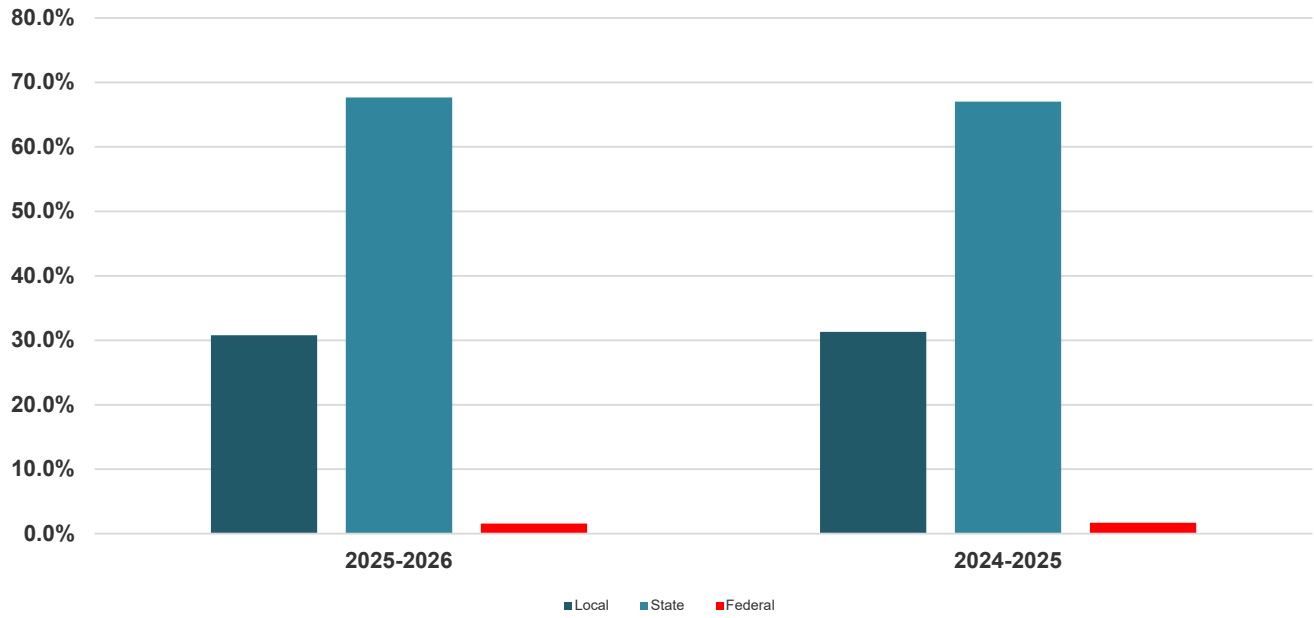
**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
GENERAL FUND - COMPARISON
2025 - 2026**

	<u>Proposed Budget 2025 - 2026</u>	<u>Adopted Budget 2024-2025</u>	<u>Change From Prior Year (\$)</u>	<u>Change From Prior Year (%)</u>
Revenues				
5700s - Local	\$ 46,667,287	\$ 44,441,631	\$ 2,225,656	5.01%
5800s - State	102,572,963	95,152,527	7,420,436	7.80%
5900s - Federal	2,391,000	2,391,000	-	0.00%
Total	<u>\$ 151,631,250</u>	<u>\$ 141,985,158</u>	<u>\$ 9,646,092</u>	6.79%
Expenditures by Function Code				
11 - Instruction	\$ 82,323,386	\$ 81,962,069	\$ 361,317	0.44%
12 - Instructional Resources & Media	2,068,196	2,042,384	25,812	1.26%
13 - Curriculum & Staff Development	1,246,340	2,199,948	(953,608)	-43.35%
21 - Instructional Leadership	3,179,751	3,144,800	34,951	1.11%
23 - School Leadership	9,610,179	9,610,170	9	0.00%
31 - Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	8,024,076	7,301,890	722,186	9.89%
32 - Social Work Services	1,913,541	1,975,297	(61,756)	-3.13%
33 - Health Services	2,108,000	2,046,988	61,012	2.98%
34 - Student Transportation	5,713,383	4,946,732	766,651	15.50%
36 - Extracurricular Activities	3,551,868	5,308,056	(1,756,188)	-33.09%
41 - General Administration	7,801,065	6,150,971	1,650,094	26.83%
51 - Plant Maintenance & Operations	16,084,454	17,084,247	(999,793)	-5.85%
52 - Security & Monitoring Services	1,421,334	1,429,803	(8,469)	-0.59%
53 - Data Processing Services	5,756,410	5,592,107	164,303	2.94%
61 - Community Services	629,757	638,446	(8,689)	-1.36%
71 - Debt Service	2,607,865	2,607,865	-	0.00%
81 - Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	-	-	0.00%
95 - Payments to JJAEP	275,000	175,000	100,000	57.14%
99 - Other Intergovernmental Charges	721,320	700,000	21,320	3.05%
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 155,035,924</u>	<u>\$ 154,916,773</u>	<u>\$ 119,151</u>	0.08%
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ (3,404,674)</u>	<u>\$ (12,931,615)</u>		
Expenditures by Object Code				
6100s - Payroll	\$ 126,963,072	\$ 128,219,839	\$ (1,256,767)	-0.98%
6200s - Contracted Services	13,112,714	12,199,425	913,289	7.49%
6300s - Materials and Supplies	6,276,364	5,080,429	1,195,935	23.54%
6400s - Other Operating Costs	4,968,909	5,744,419	(775,510)	-13.50%
6500s - Debt Service	2,607,865	2,607,865	-	0.00%
6600s - Capital Outlay	1,107,000	1,064,796	42,204	3.96%
Total	<u>\$ 155,035,924</u>	<u>\$ 154,916,773</u>	<u>\$ 119,151</u>	0.08%

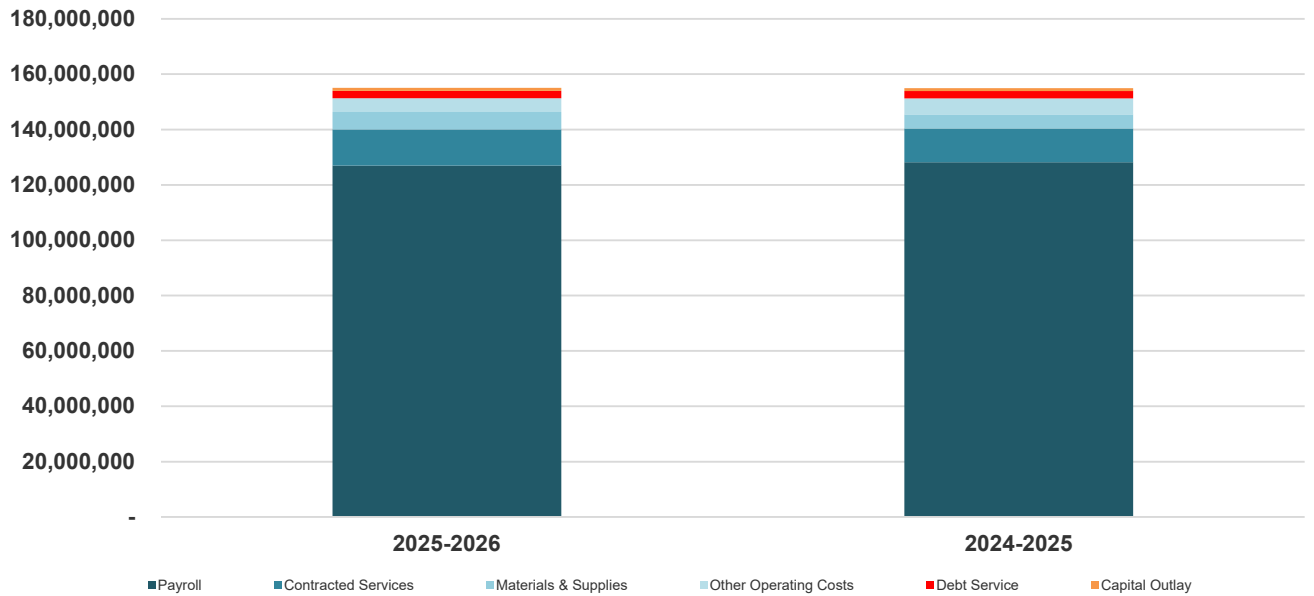
**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES
2025 - 2026**

Function	Payroll	Professional & Contracted Services	Materials and Supplies	Other Operating Costs	Debt Service	Capital Outlay	Total	% of Budget 2025-26	% of Budget 2024-25
11 - Instruction	\$ 77,723,085	\$ 1,892,448	\$ 2,242,284	\$ 465,569	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 82,323,386	53.10%	52.92%
12 - Instructional Resources & Media	1,517,106	260,030	264,545	26,515	-	-	2,068,196	1.33%	1.32%
13 - Curriculum & Staff Development	480,049	491,581	68,491	206,219	-	-	1,246,340	0.80%	1.42%
21 - Instructional Leadership	2,971,153	40,223	94,230	74,145	-	-	3,179,751	2.05%	2.03%
23 - School Leadership	9,394,276	39,736	65,616	110,551	-	-	9,610,179	6.20%	6.20%
31 - Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	7,930,406	13,414	48,937	31,319	-	-	8,024,076	5.18%	4.71%
32 - Social Work Services	1,688,158	174,200	35,683	15,500	-	-	1,913,541	1.23%	1.28%
33 - Health Services	1,889,683	194,400	17,332	6,585	-	-	2,108,000	1.36%	1.32%
34 - Student Transportation	4,375,904	193,707	338,272	15,500	-	790,000	5,713,383	3.69%	3.19%
36 - Extracurricular Activities	1,391,052	508,217	583,867	1,068,732	-	-	3,551,868	2.29%	3.43%
41 - General Administration	6,008,913	1,055,063	160,142	576,947	-	-	7,801,065	5.03%	3.97%
51 - Plant Maintenance & Operations	8,354,618	3,988,896	1,394,853	2,294,087	-	52,000	16,084,454	10.37%	11.03%
52 - Security & Monitoring Services	363,384	930,900	114,500	12,550	-	-	1,421,334	0.92%	0.92%
53 - Data Processing Services	2,387,970	2,238,165	826,860	38,415	-	265,000	5,756,410	3.71%	3.61%
61 - Community Services	487,316	95,414	20,752	26,275	-	-	629,757	0.41%	0.41%
71 - Debt Service	-	-	-	-	2,607,865	-	2,607,865	1.68%	1.68%
81 - Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00%	0.00%
95 - Payments to JJAEP	-	275,000	-	-	-	-	275,000	0.18%	0.11%
99 - Other Intergovernmental Charges	-	721,320	-	-	-	-	721,320	0.47%	0.45%
2025-26 Proposed Budget Total	\$ 126,963,072	\$ 13,112,714	\$ 6,276,364	\$ 4,968,909	\$ 2,607,865	\$ 1,107,000	\$ 155,035,924	100.00%	100.00%
% of Budget	81.89%	8.46%	4.05%	3.21%	1.68%	0.71%	100.00%		
2024-25 Adopted Budget Total	\$ 128,219,839	\$ 12,199,425	\$ 5,080,429	\$ 5,744,419	\$ 2,607,865	\$ 1,064,796	\$ 154,916,773		
% of Budget	82.77%	7.87%	3.28%	3.71%	1.68%	0.69%	100.00%		
2023-24 Amended Budget Total	\$ 117,261,432	\$ 13,507,070	\$ 8,114,392	\$ 5,377,234	\$ 2,627,471	\$ 1,397,912	\$ 148,285,511		
% of Budget	79.07%	9.11%	5.47%	3.63%	1.77%	0.94%	100.00%		

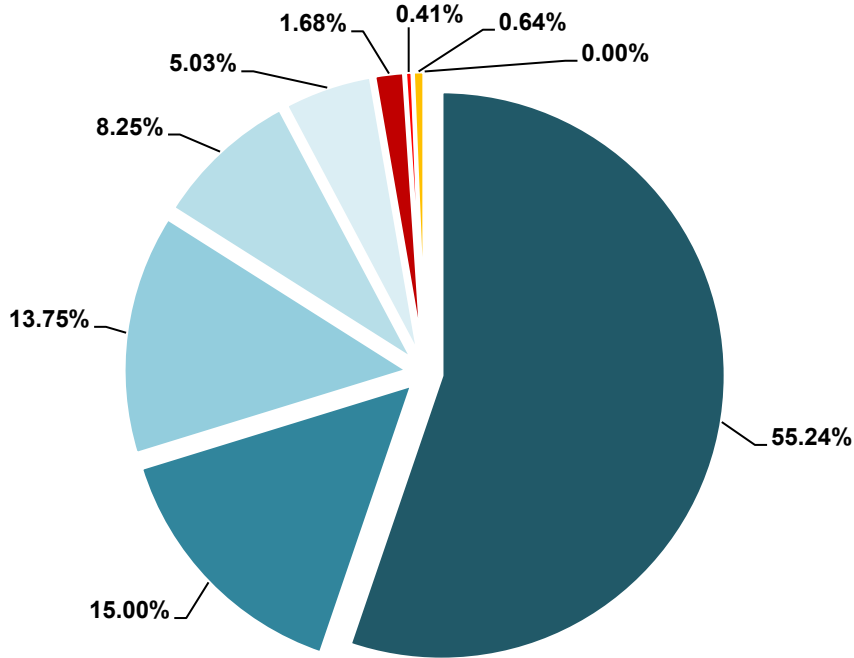
ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND - REVENUES BY SOURCE 2025 - 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET



ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL FUND - EXPENDITURES BY MAJOR OBJECT 2025 - 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET



**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
EXPENDITURES BY MAJOR FUNCTION
2025 - 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET**



Instructional	11 - Instruction	82,323,386	55.24%
	12 - Instructional Resources & Media	2,068,196	
	13 - Curriculum & Staff Development	1,246,340	
Support	51 - Plant Maintenance & Operations	16,084,454	15.00%
	52 - Security & Monitoring Services	1,421,334	
	53 - Data Processing Services	5,756,410	
Student Support	31 - Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	8,024,076	13.75%
	32 - Social Work Services	1,913,541	
	33 - Health Services	2,108,000	
	34 - Student Transportation	5,713,383	
	36 - Extracurricular Activities	3,551,868	
School Leadership	21 - Instructional Leadership	3,179,751	8.25%
	23 - School Leadership	9,610,179	
Administrative Support	41 - General Administration	7,801,065	5.03%
Debt	71 - Debt Service	2,607,865	1.68%
Ancillary	61 - Community Services	629,757	0.41%
Intergovernmental	95 - Payments to JJAEP	275,000	0.64%
	99 - Other Intergovernmental Charges	721,320	
Capital Outlay	81 - Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	0.00%
		155,035,924	100.00%

**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
GENERAL FUND - SUPPORTING INFORMATION
2025 - 2026**

Property Taxes – Current

The following assumptions and estimates were used when computing the budget for current tax revenue:

Net taxable value @ 7/23/25 (certified)	\$ 6,539,695,848.00
Less: Freeze values (Over 65/Disabled)	<u>\$ (249,461,797.00)</u>
Freeze adjusted taxable value	\$ 6,290,234,051.00
Multiply: Assumed tax rate	\$ 0.9580
Divide: Rate per \$100 of property value	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Tax levy before freeze levy	\$ 60,260,442.00
Budgeted collection percentage	98%
	<u>\$ 59,055,233.00</u>
Add: Freeze levy	<u>\$ 1,416,913.00</u>
Budgeted tax collections	\$ 60,472,146.00
Less: Interest & Sinking tax collections	\$ (13,642,844.00)
Less: Unbudgeted M&O Tax Collections	<u>\$ (3,727,015.00)</u>
Budgeted M & O tax collections	<u><u>\$ 43,102,287.00</u></u>

The 2025-26 assumed tax rates are:

Maintenance & Operations	\$ 0.7421
Interest & Sinking	0.2159
Total assumed tax rate	<u><u>\$ 0.9580</u></u>

Historical information:

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2023-24</u>	<u>2022-23</u>	<u>2021-22</u>
Net taxable value	<u>\$ 6,285,347,322</u>	<u>\$ 5,912,400,878</u>	<u>\$ 6,041,231,858</u>	<u>\$ 5,589,599,238</u>
Percent increase from prior year	<u>6.31%</u>	<u>-2.13%</u>	<u>8.08%</u>	<u>4.19%</u>
Tax rates:				
Maintenance & Operations	\$ 0.6890	\$ 0.7135	\$ 0.8809	\$ 0.9249
Interest & Sinking	0.3034	0.3191	0.3284	0.3535
Total tax rate	<u><u>\$ 0.9924</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1.0326</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1.2093</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1.2784</u></u>

**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
GENERAL FUND - SUPPORTING INFORMATION
2025-2026**

Foundation/Per Capita

The chart below reflects the state revenue, average daily attendance (ADA) and weighted average daily attendance (WADA) for the past three years. In addition, the ADA and WADA projections that were used in estimating the 2024-25 state revenue are included.

	2025-26 Proposed	2024-25 Preliminary	2023-24 Final	2022-23 Final
State revenue (foundation/per capita)	94,302,963	86,882,527	88,959,630	78,662,725
Refined ADA	12,600.000	12,600.000	13,300.000	14,100.453
Special Education FTE's:				
Homebound	0.967	0.997	1.224	1.405
Hospital class	0.765	0.789	1.155	0.550
Speech therapy	40.817	41.987	41.328	38.229
Resource room	653.666	672.270	541.772	498.162
Self-contained	170.665	175.530	189.700	187.775
Vocational adjustment class	21.404	22.013	29.501	23.920
Residential care	9.315	9.584	14.958	8.792
Mainstream ADA	209.377	215.328	213.109	230.793
Dyslexia Enrollment	541.000	537.000	631.000	521.000
Compensatory education**			9,949.000	9,949.000
Eco Disadvantaged Census Block 1	1,199.000	1,233.000	402.819	947.263
Eco Disadvantaged Census Block 2	1,402.000	1,442.000	1,351.617	1,662.333
Eco Disadvantaged Census Block 3	1,852.000	1,906.000	1,693.224	2,258.225
Eco Disadvantaged Census Block 4	2,497.000	2,568.000	2,897.733	2,770.898
Eco Disadvantaged Census Block 5	3,296.000	3,390.000	3,851.467	2,582.884
Pregnant students FTE's	1.736	1.780	2.508	2.757
Non-Economically Disadvantaged	-	-	3.000	3.000
Bilingual ADA:				
LEP Allotment	822.739	846.129	693.698	634.186
LEP Dual Language	156.903	161.364	153.733	165.019
Non-LEP Dual Language	-	-	0.898	-
Career and technology FTE's:	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Not Approved Program of Study	11.053	11.370	-	47.197
Level 1&2 Approved Program	658.223	676.940	720.395	852.541
Level 3&4 Approved Program	405.277	416.800	403.125	374.670
Early Education ADA:	3,507.805	3,607.528	3,184.376	2,975.138
CCMR Outcomes Bonus:				
Educationally Disadvantaged	-	-	12.000	12.000
Not Educationally Disadvantaged	-	-	30.000	33.000
Special Education	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
Dropout Recovery and Residential	101.508	119.625	15.185	12.049
Gifted and talented***	1,400.000	1,429.000	1,437.000	1,352.058
Weighted ADA (WADA)	18,250.139	18,588.193	18,941.074	19,528.556

** Computed using best six month average of approved free and reduced breakfast/lunch pupils through 2022-23.

*** Limited to a maximum of 5% of refined ADA (removed allotment effective 19-20 and added back 21-22).

TRS On-Behalf

Eligible district employees have a percentage of their salaries withheld that is remitted to TRS for future retirement benefits. In addition, the State pays matching funds to the TRS on behalf of the employees. These funds are paid by the State directly to TRS and do not flow through the District. These matching amounts paid by the State must be recorded by the District as on-behalf payment revenues and expenditures in accordance with required accounting principles. The on-behalf expenditures are included in the payroll budget and offset the State on-behalf revenue amount of \$8,200,000.

**ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
PROPOSED BUDGET
GENERAL FUND - SUPPORTING INFORMATION
2025 - 2026**

Fund Balance

The fund balances in the General Fund as of August 31 audited financial statements were as follows:

	2024	2023	2022	2021
Nonspendable Fund Balance				
Investment in Inventory	\$ 1,132,995	\$ 1,070,236	\$ 998,159	\$ 793,796
Prepaid Items	487,664	580,058	992,510	86,753
Restricted Fund Balance				
Retirement of Long-term debt	4,664,287	4,211,521	3,776,379	3,358,175
Committed Fund Balance				
Construction	-	-	-	5,905,065
Other (Shotwell Improvements)	502,218	502,218	502,218	502,218
Assigned Fund Balance				
Outstanding Encumbrances	1,722,656	2,226,446	5,364,969	3,819,616
Unassigned Fund Balance	41,838,598	36,903,153	46,185,271	41,740,919
Total	\$ 50,348,418	\$ 45,493,632	\$ 57,819,506	\$ 56,206,542

Per Pupil Campus Allocations

Campus budgets are established by estimating pupil ADA for the following year and administratively setting a per-pupil amount. The campus allocation is used by the campus administrator to provide for non-payroll costs such as repairs, supplies, travel and equipment. It is used for instruction, instructional resources (LRC), staff development, campus administration, counseling and student extracurricular functional expenditures. It is not used to cover athletic or maintenance (e.g., utilities) costs. Following are the per-pupil allocation rates used for 2025-26:

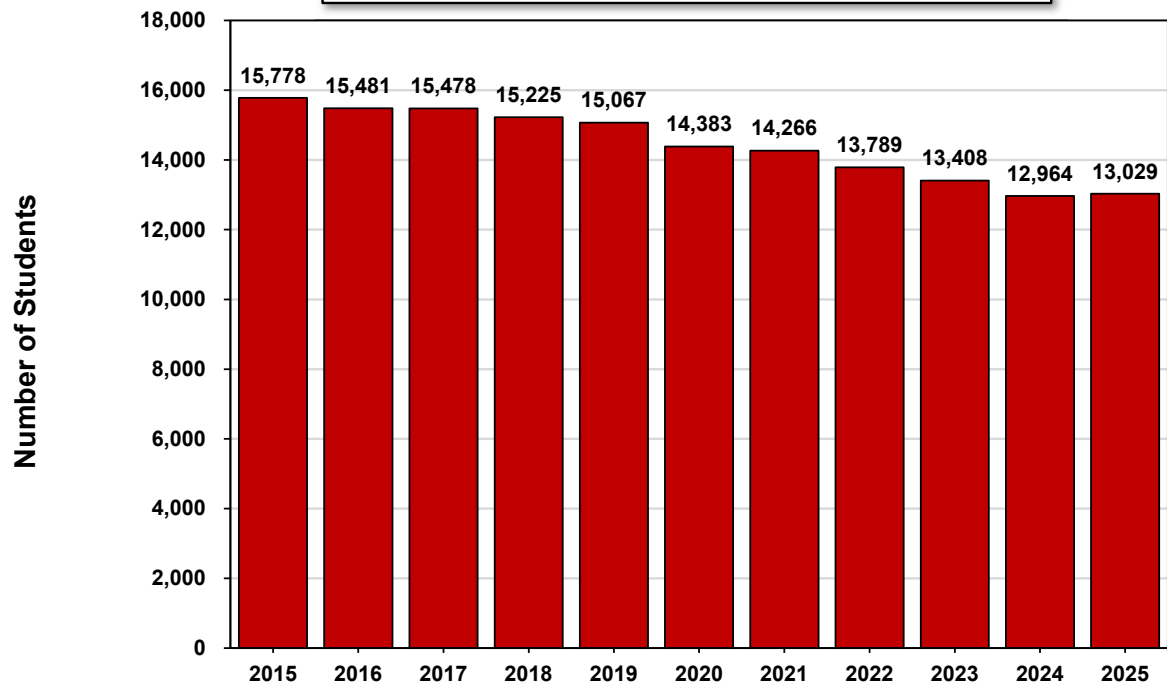
High School	\$199
Middle School	\$138
Elementary	\$119

Outstanding Encumbrances

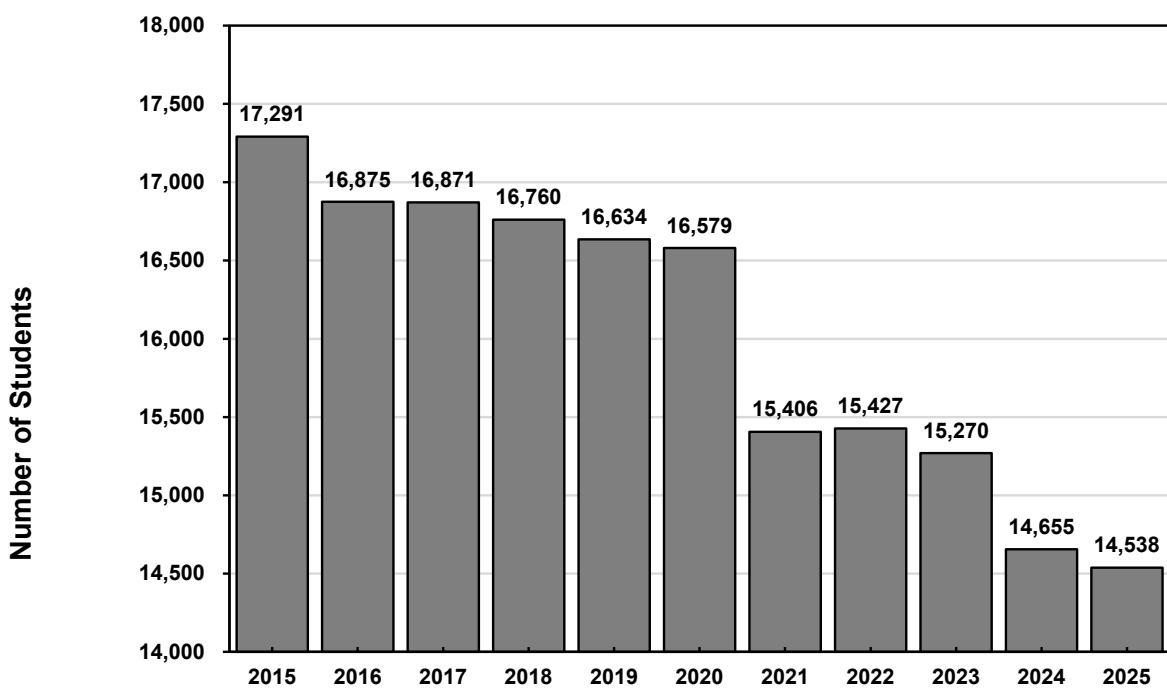
Budgets are the legal authority for expenditures. To exercise this authority, the District must have accurate up-to-date information on the status of budget balances at all times. Knowing how much money is spent is generally not sufficient. The amount committed must also be known to avoid over expenditure of budgeted funds. Encumbrances represent commitments related to contracts not yet performed and are used to control expenditures for the year and to enhance cash management. At the time these commitments are made, a purchase order is prepared and the appropriate account is checked for available funds. If an adequate balance exists, the amount of the purchase order is immediately charged to the account to reduce the available balance for control purposes. The encumbrance does not represent an expenditure for the period, only a commitment to expend resources.

Prior to the end of the year, every effort is made to liquidate all outstanding encumbrances. When encumbrances are outstanding at the fiscal year end, the District will honor the open purchase orders that support the encumbrances. For reporting purposes, outstanding encumbrances are not considered expenditures for the fiscal year. The appropriation authority expires at year-end; however, the items represented by the encumbrances are re-appropriated in the subsequent year's budget and will be reflected as expenditures in that year. During October, a budget amendment will be presented to the Board of Trustees that will allocate outstanding encumbrances to the proper expenditure accounts.

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE



ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT ENROLLMENT HISTORY





August 2025 Special Meeting Budget Adoption

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

2025-2026 Proposed Revenue

Proposed Revenue does NOT include potential impact from VATRE.

	<u>2024-25</u>	<u>2025-26</u>	
	GENERAL	GENERAL	
	FUND	FUND	Increase
Estimated Tax Rate	\$0.6890	\$0.6821	(Decrease)
ESTIMATED REVENUES			
<u>Local Revenue</u>			
5711 Property Taxes-Current	\$40,876,631	43,102,287	2,225,656
5712 Property Taxes-Delinquent	600,000	600,000	-
5719 Penalties, Interest, Others	400,000	400,000	-
5739 Tuition-Local	35,000	35,000	-
5742 Interest on Investments	1,500,000	1,500,000	-
5743 Rental of Facilities	15,000	15,000	-
5744 Gifts/Bequests	15,000	15,000	-
5749 Miscellaneous Local Revenue	325,000	325,000	-
5754 Print Shop	75,000	75,000	-
5752 Gate Receipts	600,000	600,000	-
<u>Total Local Revenue</u>	\$44,441,631	\$46,667,287	2,225,656
<u>State Revenue</u>			
5811/12 Per Capita/Foundation	86,882,527	94,302,963	7,420,436
5831 TRS On-Behalf	8,200,000	8,200,000	-
5819/29 State Rev-TEA (Tech/JJAEP)	70,000	70,000	-
<u>Total State Revenue</u>	\$95,152,527	\$102,572,963	\$7,420,436
<u>Federal Revenue</u>			
5929 Federal-TEA (Indirect/ROTC)	750,000	750,000	-
5931 SHARS	1,000,000	1,000,000	-
5941 Impact Aid	275,000	275,000	-
5949 Federal Revenue-Direct	85,000	85,000	-
5949 Federal Revenue-QSCB Interest	281,000	281,000	-
<u>Total Federal Revenue</u>	2,391,000	2,391,000	-
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUES	\$141,985,158	\$151,631,250	9,646,092

2025-2026 Proposed Budget Summary

	2% GPI AP
Proposed Pay Increase Percentage:	4% GPI All Other Pay Groups
<u>Revenues</u>	
Local Revenue	\$ 46,667,287.00
State Revenue	\$ 102,572,963.00
Federal Revenue	\$ 2,391,000.00
Total Revenue	<u>\$ 151,631,250.00</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Current Payroll	\$ 121,207,399.61
Teacher Retention Allotment - HB2 Funded	\$ 3,817,758.00
General Pay Increase per TASB	\$ 1,707,668.00
Adjustments to Pay per TASB	\$ 230,246.00
Total Payroll	<u>\$ 126,963,071.61</u>
Non Payroll Expenditures	<u>\$ 28,072,852.00</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 155,035,923.61</u>
Excess Revenue Over/(Under)	\$ (3,404,673.61)

2025-2026 Proposed Budget By Function

	Governmental Fund Types			Proprietary Fund Type
	General Fund	Student Nutrition Fund	Debt Service Fund	Internal Service Fund
Revenues				
5700s - Local	\$ 46,667,287	\$ 4,229,151	\$ 13,642,844	\$ 640,000
5800s - State	102,572,963	399,046	-	-
5900s - Federal	2,391,000	8,645,800	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 151,631,250</u>	<u>\$ 13,273,997</u>	<u>\$ 13,642,844</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>
Expenditures				
11 - Instruction	\$ 82,323,386	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
12 - Instructional Resources & Media	2,068,196	-	-	-
13 - Curriculum & Staff Development	1,246,340	-	-	-
21 - Instructional Leadership ²	3,179,751	-	-	-
23 - School Leadership	9,610,179	-	-	-
31 - Guidance, Counseling & Evaluation	8,024,076	-	-	-
32 - Social Work Services	1,913,541	-	-	-
33 - Health Services	2,108,000	-	-	-
34 - Student Transportation	5,713,383	-	-	-
35 - Food Service	-	13,107,986	-	-
36 - Extracurricular Activities	3,551,868	-	-	-
41 - General Administration ^{1,2}	7,801,065	-	-	640,000
51 - Plant Maintenance & Operations	16,084,454	121,042	-	-
52 - Security & Monitoring Services	1,421,334	-	-	-
53 - Data Processing Services	5,756,410	-	-	-
61 - Community Services	629,757	-	-	-
71 - Debt Service	2,607,865	-	16,529,212	-
81 - Facilities Acquisition & Construction	-	-	-	-
95 - Payments to JJAEP	275,000	-	-	-
99 - Other Intergovernmental Charges	721,320	-	-	-
Total	<u>\$ 155,035,924</u>	<u>\$ 13,229,028</u>	<u>\$ 16,529,212</u>	<u>\$ 640,000</u>
Excess Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	<u>\$ (3,404,674)</u>	<u>\$ 44,969</u>	<u>\$ (2,886,368)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>



August 2025 Special Meeting Budget Adoption

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV.D.

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Action

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Adoption of an Ordinance to set the 2024-2025 Tax Rate for the Abilene Independent School District

Background Information: At the August 14, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting, the Board will consider adopting an Ordinance to set the 2025-2026 tax rate. The adoption of the Ordinance must be a separate item on the meeting agenda. The total tax rate being considered for adoption includes the Maintenance and Operations (M&O) tax rate and the Interest and Sinking (I&S) tax rate. The administration recommends setting the M&O tax rate at \$0.7421 per \$100 of valuation and the I&S tax rate of \$0.2159 per \$100 of valuation for a total tax rate of \$0.9580.

Attached Supporting Documents: Ordinance to Set Tax Rate Attached.

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: Approve the ordinance as presented.

ABILENE ISD
CONNECT • LEAD • SUCCEED

Contact Person: Jennifer Hinds

**ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT**

August 14, 2025

On this date, we, the Board of Trustees of the Abilene Independent School District, hereby levy or set the tax rate on \$100 valuation for the district for the tax year 2025 at a total tax rate of

\$ 0.9580, to be assessed and collected by the duly specified assessor and collector as follows:

\$ 0.7421 for the purpose of maintenance and operations, and

\$ 0.2159 for the purpose of payment of principal and interest on debts.

Such taxes are to be assessed and collected by the tax officials designated by the District.

THIS TAX RATE WILL RAISE MORE TAXES FOR MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS THAN LAST YEAR'S TAX RATE.

Adopted this 14th day of August 2025, by the Board of Trustees.

President's signature – Angie Wiley

Secretary's signature – Cindy Earles

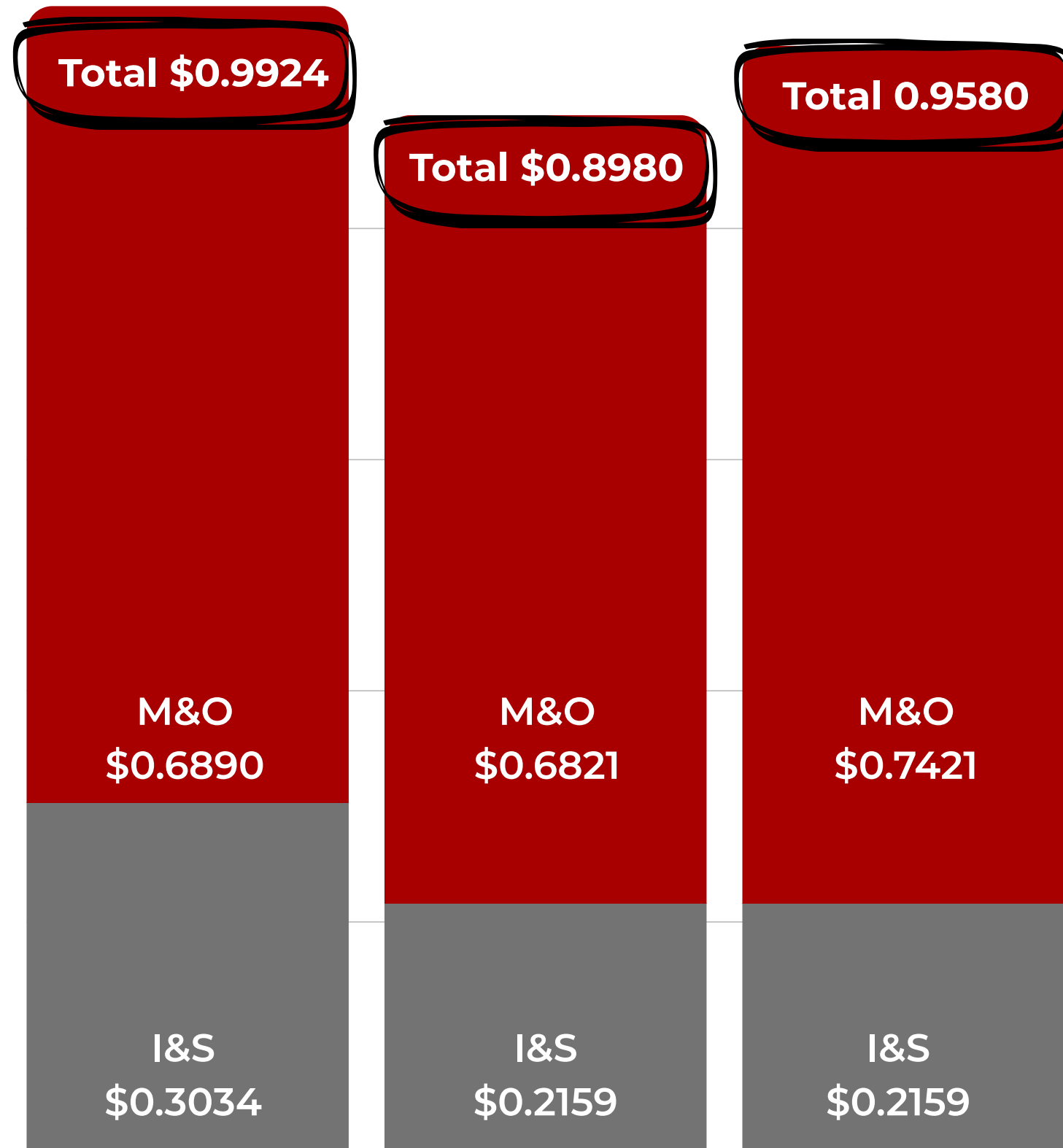


August 2025 Special Meeting Tax Rate

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

Consideration of Ordinance to set the Tax Rate

Tax Rate



Fiscal Year	M&O Tax Rate	I&S Tax Rate	Total Tax Rate
2024-25	0.6890	0.3034	0.9924
2025-26 VATR	0.6821	0.2159	0.8980
2025-26 VATRE Add 3 Golden & 3 Copper Pennies	0.7421	0.2159	0.9580
Change FY25 to FY26	0.0531	-0.0875	-0.0344

REMINDERS

No matter what, the next tax rate for Abilene ISD will decrease from the prior year.

No matter what, the taxes on an average Abilene ISD property will decrease.

6 pennies equals \$10M dollars for Abilene ISD students & staff.

Recommendation: The Board approve the ordinance setting the tax rate for tax year 2025 as presented.

• • • • •

Maintenance & Operation Rate : \$0.7421
Interest & Sinking Rate: \$0.2159

Total Tax Rate for FY 26 (Tax Year 2025):
\$0.9580

• • • • •



August 2025 Special Meeting Tax Rate

Jennifer Hinds
Chief Financial Officer

Abilene Independent School District Board Document - Agenda Item IV.F.

Meeting Date: August 14, 2025

Meeting Type: Special Meeting

Item Type: Action

Future Action Required: No

If Yes, Month: N/A

Subject: Order of Election VATRE

Background Information: At the August 14, 2025 Board of Trustees Meeting, the Board will consider Approval of Resolution and Order of Election for an Abilene ISD Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) on November 4, 2025. Attached you will find the Order of Election as well as ballot language.

Attached Supporting Documents: Order of Election, VATRE Form 50-863 Ballot Language

Fiscal Implications: None

Administrative Recommendation: Consider Approval of Resolution and Order of Election for an Abilene ISD Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) on November 4, 2025.

Possible Motion language:

CONNECT • LEAD • SUCCEED
I move to approve the Order for an Abilene ISD Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election (VATRE) on November 4, 2025 as presented.

Contact Person: Dr. John Kuhn, Dr. Joseph Waldron, Jennifer Hinds

AN ORDER CALLING A TAX RATIFICATION ELECTION TO BE HELD BY THE ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, MAKING PROVISION FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION, AND RESOLVING OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THAT ELECTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees (the *Board*) of the ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT (the *District*), located in Taylor and Jones Counties, Texas (the *Counties*), hereby finds and determines that, as a result of its adoption of an ad valorem tax rate in excess of its voter approval tax rate (formerly known as the rollback rate), the District must hold an election allowing its registered voters to determine whether to approve the adopted tax rate (the *Election*) as required by Section 26.08, as amended, Texas Tax Code; and

WHEREAS, an efficiency audit is being conducted within the District and will be presented to the Board no later than three months from the date of the auditor's appointment and thereafter be the subject of a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the District will contract with the elections administrator of Taylor County (the *Administrator*) to conduct all aspects of the Election for all registered voters of the District; and

WHEREAS, the Election may be held jointly with other political subdivisions (collectively, the *Participants*) pursuant to a joint election or similar agreement according to the Texas Election Code, as amended (the *Code*); and

WHEREAS, the Board hereby finds and determines that the actions described above are in the best interests of the residents of the District; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDERED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT THAT:

SECTION 1. Election Ordered; Purpose; Tax Rate. The Election will be held in the ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT on November 4, 2025 (*Election Day*), which is a uniform election date under the Code and is 78 or more days from the date of the adoption of this Order, for the purpose of submitting the following to the qualified voters of the District:

Measure A

Shall the Board of Trustees of the Abilene Independent School District be authorized to levy, pursuant to an order of such Board adopted on August 14th, 2025, an ad valorem tax rate of \$0.9580 per \$100 of the taxable assessed valuation of property within the Abilene Independent School District for the current tax year, being a rate that is comprised of a maintenance and operations tax rate of \$0.7421 per \$100 of such taxable assessed valuation (the legal maximum for such rate under current Texas law, and the maximum rate for maintenance and operations for which the District may, if now approved by the District's electorate at this Election, levy in each year hereafter, being then subject only to annual Board approval) and a debt service tax rate of \$0.2159 per \$100 of such taxable assessed value (an amount that is set annually by the Board), which combined tax

rate of \$0.9580 adopted by the Board on August 14th, 2025 represents an increase of an additional \$3,712,829 when compared to the prior year's revenue, calculated pursuant to Section 26.08, as amended, Texas Tax Code.

SECTION 2. Ballots. The official ballots will permit voters to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the measure above with the following ballot language:

Abilene Independent School District Proposition A

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE.

Ratifying the ad valorem tax rate of \$0.9580 in the Abilene Independent School District for the current year, a rate that will result in an increase of 14.53% percent in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the district for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$3,712,829.

SECTION 3. Polling Details.

A. One or more District election precincts are established for Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with one or more corresponding polling places as identified on Exhibit A to this Order. As permitted by the Code, polling places may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election.

B. Exhibit A also includes the places, dates, and hours for early voting in person. As permitted by the Code, these details may be changed without further Board action; any changes will not affect this Order or subsequent notice of election. Applications for voting by mail should be received no later than the close of business on October 24, 2025. Applications should be sent to the Early Voting Clerks named below. If an application for ballot by mail is faxed or emailed (or if a federal postcard application is faxed), the applicant must also mail the original.

SECTION 4. Election Officials. To the extent required by the Code or other applicable law, the appointment of election officials at polling locations will include a person fluent in the Spanish language.

A. The Administrator will appoint Presiding Judges, Alternate Presiding Judges, and Election Clerks.

B. The Early Voting Clerk for Taylor County is: Freda Ragan mailing address: P.O. Box 3318 Abilene, TX 79604 physical address: 400 Oak Street, Suite 100 Abilene TX 79602 phone: 325-674-1216 fax: 325-674-1340 and email: vote@taylorcounty.texas.gov The Early Voting Clerk will appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks. The Early Voting Clerk for Jones County is: LeeAnn Jennings mailing address: P.O. Box 552 Anson, TX 79501 physical address: 100 Courthouse Square, Anson, TX 79501 phone: 325-823-3762 fax: 325-823-3979 and email: ljennings@co.jones.tx.us The Early Voting Clerk will appoint the Deputy Early Voting Clerks.

C. The Administrator is authorized to establish an Early Voting Ballot Board and to designate the Presiding Judge of the Early Voting Ballot Board and, if needed, the members of Signature Verification Committee.

D. The District is authorized to use a Central Counting Station (the *Station*) if needed. The Administrator or the Administrator's designee is appointed as the Manager of the Station with the authority to appoint the Tabulation Supervisor, the Programmer, and any Clerks.

SECTION 5. Qualified Voters. The District's qualified voters (as defined by the Code) will be entitled to vote in the Election at the dates, times, and places reflected on Exhibit A.

SECTION 6. Legal Compliance. The Election and notice of Election will be held and conducted according to the Code and other applicable law. To the extent required by law, materials relating to the Election will be printed in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

SECTION 7. Contracting Authority. The Board authorizes the District's President of the Board, the Superintendent of Schools, or their designees to negotiate and enter into one or more joint election agreements or similar contracts with the Counties, acting by and through the Administrators, and any Participants if desired or if required to comply with applicable law.

SECTION 8. Modifications. The Board acknowledges that information required to complete the Exhibits to this Order may not be available when the Election is ordered, and the Board therefore authorizes the District's Superintendent of Schools, the President of the Board, or their designees to correct, modify, or change the Exhibits to the extent permitted by applicable law. Additionally, the Board authorizes these individuals to make technical modifications to this Order that are necessary for compliance with applicable law or to carry out the Board's intent.

SECTION 9. Findings. The recitals contained in the preamble of this Order are found to be true.

SECTION 10. Conflicts. All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Order will be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

SECTION 11. Controlling Law. This Order will be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.

SECTION 12. Open Meetings. It is officially found, determined, and declared that the meeting at which this Order is adopted was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and subject matter of the public business to be considered at such meeting, including this Order, was given, all as required by Chapter 551, as amended, Texas Government Code.

SECTION 13. Severability. If any provision of this Order or the application of this Order to any person or circumstance is held invalid, then the remainder of this Order remains effective.

SECTION 14. Effective Date. This Order is effective immediately upon its approval.

PASSED AND APPROVED on August 14th, 2025.

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Angie Wiley
President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Cindy Earles
Secretary, Board of Trustees

(DISTRICT SEAL)

[Signature Page to Election Order]

Voter-Approval Tax Rate Election Ballot for School Districts

OFFICIAL BALLOT

For _____ Date _____
(Name of School District) *(Date of Election)*

THIS IS A TAX INCREASE

Place an "X" in the square beside the statement indicating the way you wish to vote.

FOR AGAINST

Ratifying the ad valorem tax rate of \$ _____ in
(Adopted Tax Rate)

_____ for the current year, a rate that will result
(Name of School District)
in an increase of _____ *(insert percentage increase in maintenance and operations tax revenue under the adopted rate as compared to maintenance and operations tax revenue in the preceding tax year)* percent in maintenance and operations tax revenue for the district for the current year as compared to the preceding year, which is an additional \$ _____ *(insert dollar amount of increase in maintenance and operations tax revenue under the adopted tax rate as compared to maintenance and operations tax revenue in the preceding tax year)*.