

DISCIPLINE

Bear River Middle School believes that one of the major functions of the public school is the preparation of youth for responsible citizenship. Bear River shall foster a learning environment that reinforces the concepts of self-discipline and the acceptance of personal responsibility. Students are expected to progress from being adult-directed to self-directed with minimal application of disciplinary measures.

In order to maintain an environment conducive to attaining the highest quality of education, there must exist certain disciplinary policies and regulations relating to student conduct which delineates acceptable behavior and provides the basis for sound disciplinary practices. These policies and regulations will be enforced fairly, uniformly, and consistently without regard to race, creed, color, or sex. The administration, teachers, and classified staff share the mutual responsibility for student conduct and safety and the enforcement of school policies and regulations.

The administration shall give reasonable support and assistance to all employees with respect to student discipline. Sufficient support services shall be provided so that continually disruptive students will not be returned to regular classes without some modification of behavior. Students may be assigned to other alternative programs or be subject to removal from school.

Students are responsible for:

1. Leaving personal items not necessary for the learning process at home. (This includes tape or CD players, beepers, camera phones, playing cards, dice, etc.)
2. Keeping skates, skateboards, scooters, etc., off school grounds.
3. Locking bicycles in the bicycle racks.
4. Following directions first time given.
5. Keeping hands, feet and objects to oneself at all times.
6. Listening to the one who is speaking.

Damaging or defacing of school property

School policy states that those who deface or damage school property will be held responsible for the replacement or repair. Teachers with first-hand knowledge of defacement or damage are to report it as soon as possible. Parent contact will be made and a bill sent for the repair/replacement

BEAR RIVER BEHAVIORAL PLAN

Counseling Services

Each school site will have the services of a school counselor available. The role of the counselor will be to provide early intervention for children with social and/or emotional problems, to foster communication among children and between the child and their parents, and to provide crisis intervention as needed. Moreover, the counselor will serve as a resource person to parents and teachers. He/she will refer and direct parents and students to appropriate outside agencies and programs for specialized services when needed.

Merit Program

In an effort to help your student have a meaningful and successful year at Bear River, we are utilizing a merit program. The students will receive 100 merits at the beginning of the year. Maintaining these merits throughout the year will entitle them to special activities. Students will

lose merits as the result of inappropriate behaviors. **Merits may be earned back by arrangements with teachers, through the office, or attending Saturday School.**

Students maintaining 100 merits will receive reward activities at the end of each trimester and a culminating super event at the end of the year. In order for a student to qualify for 100 merit activities, he/she could not have received more than 1 referral for the year and must have earned back the merits for that 1 referral.

Consequences

Depending upon severity or frequency of infractions to the school responsibilities, the following may be employed to correct behaviors:

1. Classroom discipline system is determined by each individual teacher.
2. A blue slip may be given for chewing gum, eating in an undesignated area or dress code violation. 3 blue slips equal one referral, which equals the loss of 5 merits.
3. Students may receive a behavior referral when demonstrating inappropriate behavior. A referral slip will go home to be signed by a parent/guardian and returned the next day. Each discipline referral will result in 5 demerits.
4. Saturday School Program (S.S.P.)
 - a. The Saturday Suspension Program is a disciplinary alternative to school suspension. Once assigned to Saturday School, this will result in 10 demerits. Instead of being suspended from school for a violation to Education Code 48900, students are assigned to S.S.P. for four hours, from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon on a Saturday. He/she is given tasks under the supervision of a certificated staff member. Failure to appear for S.S.P. will result in suspension from school the following Monday. Transportation will not be provided.

- b. Saturday School is also assigned for academic assistance. When assigned for this purpose, merits are not deducted.
 - c. *Any student attending Saturday School for discipline, attendance, to earn merits, or academic assistance must have a permission form signed by administration in order to attend. Also, students need to come prepared with enough work for the whole session and attend for the full 4 hours (8am-12pm) to receive credit. Any students who are not working or become disruptive will be dismissed and no credit will be received.*
5. Suspension or Saturday School may be used for more serious offenses. NOTE: Severe school offenses, such as fighting, will result in MANDATORY SUSPENSION for all responsible parties. Suspendable offenses include, but are not limited to:
- a. Threatening, attempting, or causing physical injury
 - b. Theft or damage of property
 - c. Obscenity
 - d. Defiance of school authorities
 - e. Disrupting school activities
 - f. Harassment

A suspension from school will result in 15 demerits.

6. Expulsion: Recommendation for expulsion is reserved for the most serious of violations. These shall include, but not be limited to:
- a. Serious physical injury
 - b. Possession of weapons
 - c. Controlled substances, both possession and/or sale
 - d. Robbery or extortion

STEP SYSTEM

The following is Bear River Middle School's progression of consequences for inappropriate behavior. Students who follow school rules will maintain their merits and have the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities. Those students who behave inappropriately will be issued a referral, assigned Saturday School or be suspended from school. Each behavioral incident is counted as one step in this system.

STEP 1 through STEP 6:

Any behavioral incident will result in parent notification in addition to an appropriate consequence as defined in “Consequences” above.

Step 1 – Appropriate Consequence + Parent Contact

Step 2 – Appropriate Consequence + Parent Contact

Step 3 – Appropriate Consequence + Parent Contact

Step 4 – Appropriate Consequence + Parent Contact

Step 5 – Appropriate Consequence + Parent Contact

Step 6 – Appropriate Consequence + Parent Contact

STEP 7 and STEP 8:

As a student accumulates his/her 7th and 8th behavioral incident, he/she will be enrolled in our Life Skills Class and assigned Saturday School in addition to parent notification and the appropriate consequence for the behavioral incident.

Step 7 – Consequence + Parent Contact + Saturday School + Life Skills

Step 8 – Consequence + Parent Contact + Saturday School + Life Skills

STEP 9, 10, 11 and 12:

As a student accumulates his/her 9th behavioral incident, he/she will be suspended from school for one day in addition to parent notification and the appropriate consequence for the behavioral incident. Steps 10, 11 and 12 are 2, 3 and 4 days of suspension respectively. A parent conference with the vice principal and other staff deemed as necessary will be conducted as a behavioral intervention between steps 9 and 12 and before a student is referred to the Opportunity School.

Step 9 – Consequence + Parent Contact + 1 Day Suspension

Step 10 – Consequence + Parent Contact + 2 Day Suspension

Step 11 – Consequence + Parent Contact + 3 Day Suspension

Step 12 – Consequence + Parent Contact + 4 Day Suspension