

Taber Christian High school: Student Discipline Policy

Introduction:

Taber Christian High school will operate on the educational philosophy that all our students, as image bearers, have the right to learn. To this end, each student must be in a school climate that is safe, satisfying and productive, without disruptive behavior by any student infringing upon the rights of others.

Staff, students, parents and administration all have their role in maintaining this code of conduct. By working together, we can ensure positive student conduct. Discipline is essential in building accountability, responsibility, self-control and respect for others. Students must understand that they are responsible for their behavior, and they must recognize that any behavior that disrupts or detracts from the educational and spiritual climate of this school is unacceptable. Any behavior that encroaches upon the rights of others is not responsible behavior.

*Policy IG – Student Discipline has been used as a reference for the procedures in this policy.

Students are expected to uphold behavioral standards which exist as a positive application of biblical principles.

Physical abuse and profane language will never be tolerated. As Christians and as a Christian community we have an obligation to train ourselves and our children in the instruction of the Lord. We must have boundaries and consequences for exceeding them.

The staff of the Christian school believes, that students should behave in reasonable, responsible, God honoring, positive ways and understand the need for the following expectations. **Students, whether on or off school grounds are expected to:**

- ☺ Exercise good judgement in the use of time, energy and material resources.
- ☺ Respect the property of others and to behave in a manner that reflects concern for others.
- ☺ Avoid the use of profane language, inappropriate gestures and smoking while on school property;
- ☺ Use school equipment appropriately and not become involved in activities that will harm or potentially endanger themselves or others
- ☺ Respect out-of-bounds areas as determined by the administration;
- ☺ Dress modestly and in a manner that honors God.
- ☺ Behave in law abiding ways. School is NOT a sanctuary outside of the law.
- ☺ Be diligent in pursuing his/her studies and attend school regularly and punctually.

Procedure for Policy:

Attitude for Servant Leadership

Any behavioral issue is one that impacts student learning but also signifies a breakdown in relationship with student and staff or student to student. There is much in educational research that suggests the importance of relationship in learning. In light of this, the discipline policy outline below gives guidance for various situations; however, the parties involved should work to resolve any issues, not only so that learning can continue, but also so that relationships are restored.

All TCHS students are called to embrace a ‘servant heart’ and to conduct themselves positively, respectfully and with consideration for others. Students that exhibit words and behaviors contrary to expectations laid out in this policy may be subject to the loss of the following privileges.

- School trips and off campus excursions
- Extra – curricular activities

This list is not comprehensive. The response to student misbehavior will also depend on the seriousness of the action and the attitude of the student.

Acts of Misconduct (minor offenses)

This class of behaviors are those perceived to be disruptive to the orderly process of education in the classroom, on school property or during a school sponsored activity (field trip). Some examples are:

- *Leaving the classroom without permission*
- *Running and/or making excessive noise in the classroom or hallways*
- *Initiating or participating in physical contact that disrupts or interrupts school activities.*
- *Behavior that disrupts the orderly process of classroom instruction.*

As outlined in the paragraph just below “Attitude for Servant Leadership” staff and student should work together to resolve these types of situations. At all times the goal of discipline is to correct and encourage restoration.

If the above fails, further discipline responses may be required (including the involvement of parents and administration).

Acts of Misconduct (severe, highly dangerous, frequent)

If an offense is considered severe, highly dangerous, and / or occurs too frequently, the appropriate consequence will be determined. Staff members will consider all mitigating circumstances (age/maturity of student, attitude of student, willingness to cooperate, seriousness of offense etc.) prior to disciplinary intervention and assure the due process for each student. Consideration include (but are not limited to):

- Class period suspension (can be mandated by teacher and/or admin)
- In school suspension (1-5 days mandated by admin after consulting with student and staff)
- Out of school suspension (1-5) days mandated by admin after consulting with student and staff)

*In the case of “class period suspension” parents will be notified. This may also result in a parent/teacher/student meeting being arranged to discuss behavior and possible disciplinary action (Administration will be involved).

**In the case of an “in” or “out” of school suspension a meeting/communication with school staff/admin, student and parents will occur to discuss the disciplinary action and to develop a re-entry plan.

Acts of Misconduct (major offenses)

Major offenses will immediately involve school administration. This can be a single, significant offense or the result of chronic offenses where the student has shown little or no remorse or willingness to change.

This class of behaviors are those perceived to be seriously disruptive to the orderly process of education in the classroom, on school property or during a school sponsored activity or field trip. Some examples are:

- Fighting and/or promoting of fights.
- Theft and/or vandalism
- Gross insubordination (extreme disrespect)
- Possessing, using, under the influence, or eliciting of drugs or alcohol in/on the school grounds.
- Harassment
- Possession/use of offensive weapons

In-School Suspensions – 1 to 3 full days

Out-of-School Suspensions – 1 to 3 full days

Five Full Days Out-of-School Suspension – *with recommendation to the Board of Education for Expulsion. School Administration may supersede the guidelines of the discipline protocol at any time.*

Dispute:

The full intent of this policy is listed above. If there is a time when a parent is not in agreement with the policy, they are encouraged to approach the teacher, staff member or the Principal. At all times, parents are required to talk directly with those who have been part of the specific discipline decision.

Parents are encouraged to discuss one on one with teachers. The Principal is also willing to be part of all discussions, and at times may place themselves in the conversation should they deem that necessary.

If the parent has approached the teacher or staff and Principal and still does not feel comfortable with the decision, they are able to contact the Superintendent of Horizon Schools to discuss further.

