

Policy 4.2: Safe Schools Policy (Drugs, Alcohol, Tobacco and Weapons)**Tuscaloosa City Schools**

Original Adopted Date: 02/17/2015

Status: ADOPTED

4.2.1 Prohibition on the Possession of Firearms – The possession of a firearm in a school building, on school grounds, on Board property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored functions is prohibited except for authorized law enforcement personnel and as provided by law. For purposes of this policy, the term “firearm” has the same definition as is found in 18 U.S.C §921.

a. Penalties for violations – In addition to any criminal penalties that may be imposed, the following penalties will be imposed for unauthorized possession of firearms:

1. Students – Students will be expelled for a period of one year. The expulsion requirement may be modified in writing by the Board upon recommendation of the Superintendent on a case-by-case basis. Students who are expelled for firearm possession may not attend regular school classes, but may be permitted to attend alternative schools or education programs established by the Board. Discipline of students with disabilities who violate the firearm possession policy will be determined on a case-by-case basis in accordance with federal and state law. Parents of students who violate this policy will also be notified by the principal of violations.

2. Employees – Employees will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.

3. Other Persons – Other persons may be denied re-entry to school property.

b. Notification of Law Enforcement – The appropriate law enforcement authority, which may include the city police, county sheriff, and the local district attorney, will be notified by the principal of violations of this policy.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1, 24.3 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-.02; Federal Gun Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. 7151; Federal Gun Free School Zone Act of 1995 (18 U.S.C. §922(q))]

4.2.2 Prohibition on the Possession of Weapons – The possession of a deadly weapon or dangerous instrument in a school building, on school grounds, on school property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored functions is prohibited except for authorized law enforcement personnel. For purposes of this policy, the terms “deadly weapon” and “dangerous instruments” include but are not limited to explosives, incendiary devices, projectiles, knives with a blade length of more than two (2) inches, archery equipment, devices designed to expel projectiles at a high rate of speed, any device so classified under state or federal

law, and any device either used or intended to be used in such manner as to inflict bodily harm, provided that the terms "deadly weapon" and "dangerous instruments" will exclude, to the extent permitted by law, devices and equipment that are used for the purpose of and in connection with school or Board sanctioned educational, team, or competitive activities.

a. Penalties for Violations – In addition to any criminal penalties that may be imposed, the following penalties will be imposed for unauthorized possession of deadly weapons or dangerous instruments:

1. Students – Students will be disciplined in accordance with the Board's Code of Student Conduct.
2. Employees – Employees will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.
3. Other Persons – Other persons may be denied re-entry to school property.

b. Notification of Law Enforcement – The appropriate law enforcement authority, which may include the city police, county sheriff, and the local district attorney, will be notified by the principal of violations of this policy.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-02(1)(b)]

4.2.3 Illegal Drugs and Alcohol – The possession, transfer, use, manufacture, or distribution of illicit drugs, drug paraphernalia, or alcohol is prohibited in a school building, on school grounds, on school property, on school buses, or at school-sponsored functions. Persons who ingest, consume, inject, or otherwise use illegal drugs/alcohol or use drugs without medical justification and are thereby under the influence of such substances on school grounds or at school activities will be in violation of the Code of Conduct and law.

a. Penalties for Violations – In addition to any criminal penalties that may be imposed, the following penalties will be imposed for unauthorized possession of illegal drugs or alcohol:

1. Students – Students will be disciplined in accordance with the Board's Code of Student Conduct.
2. Employees – Employees will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.
3. Other Persons – Other persons may be denied re-entry to school property.

b. Notification of Law Enforcement – The appropriate law enforcement authority, which may include the city police, county sheriff, and the local district attorney, will be notified by the principal of violations of this policy.

4.2.4 Tobacco – The use of tobacco products and the illegal possession, distribution, and sale of tobacco products on school property is prohibited. These prohibitions also apply to electronic cigarettes, vape pens,

hookah pens, e-hookahs, vape pipes and any similar type of device designed to deliver nicotine, flavor, and other chemicals via inhalation.

a. Penalties for Violation

1. Students – Students will be disciplined in accordance with the Board's Code of Student Conduct.
2. Employees – Employees will be subject to adverse personnel action, which may include termination.
3. Other Persons – Other persons may be denied re-entry to school property.

b. Parental Notification – Parents and guardians may be notified of actual or suspected violations of the tobacco prohibition whether or not the student is charged with a violation of Board policy, which includes, the Code of Student Conduct.

[Reference: Ala. Code §16-1-24.1 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-.02(1)(b)]

4.2.5 Searches – Law enforcement agencies are permitted to make periodic visits to all schools to detect the presence of illegal drugs or weapons and may use any lawful means at their disposal to detect the presence of such substances. The visits will be unannounced to anyone except the Superintendent and principal.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 (1975); Ala. Admin. Code 290-3-1-.02(1)(b)]

4.2.6 Drug and Alcohol Free Environment – All students, employees, volunteers, parents, visitors, and other persons are prohibited from possessing, using, consuming, manufacturing, or distributing illegal controlled substances and alcohol while on Board property or while attending any Board sponsored or sanctioned event, program, activity, or function. Persons who are intoxicated or impaired by the use, consumption, or ingestion of any illegal controlled substance or alcohol are not permitted to be on school property, or to attend or participate in any Board sponsored or sanctioned event, program, activity, or function.

[Reference: ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1, 25-5-330 (1975)]

4.2.7 Adoption of Statutory Penalties and Consequences – Persons who violate the Board's prohibition of firearms, weapons, illegal drugs, or alcohol will be subject to all notification, referral, suspension, placement, re-admission, and other provisions set forth in ALA. CODE §16-1-24.1 and 24.3 (1975).

CLASSIFICATION OF VIOLATIONS

Violations of the Code of Student Conduct are grouped into three classes: minor, intermediate, and major. Before determining the classification of a violation, the principal or designee will consult with the involved students and school personnel. Once the classification of the violation is determined, the principal or designee will implement the appropriate disciplinary procedure. Each teacher will deal with general classroom disruption through effective classroom management and involvement of parents or school counselors. Only when the action taken by the teacher is ineffective, or the disruption is severe, should the student be referred to the principal or his/her designee.

MINOR OFFENSES – CLASS I

<u>Code</u>	<u>Offense: Description</u>
1.11	Disorderly conduct: Any act which disrupts the conduct of a school function or which disrupts the orderly learning environment.
1.12	Excessive tardiness: Three or more incidents of reporting late to school, class, or an assigned area.
1.13	Nonconformity to dress code: Failure to comply with the dress code set forth in this handbook.
1.14	Inappropriate public display of affection: Including, but not limited to, embracing and kissing.
1.15	Minor disruption on a school bus: Failure to comply with the Rules of Conduct for Transported Students set forth in this handbook.
1.16	Continued refusal to complete class assignments and/or failure to follow instructions: This includes, but is not limited to, failure to carry correspondence home; continuous refusal to bring notebook, pencil, books, or other classroom materials; and failure to obey directions in the hallways, at assemblies, etc.
1.17	Unauthorized use of school or personal property: Including but not limited to the use of computers, personal technology devices, online services, or websites to access inappropriate or pornographic material.
1.18	Littering or defacing school property: Knowingly depositing rubbish, refuse, waste, garbage, paper, glass, cans, bottles, trash, debris, or any foreign substance of whatever kind and description on Board property; or, spoiling the appearance of Board property by drawing or writing on it.
1.19	Displaying unsportsmanlike conduct at school athletic events: Any act contrary to the generally understood principles of sportsmanship, whether as a participant or spectator, leading to a substantial disruption of the competition or which poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of others.
1.99	Any other offense which the principal may reasonably deem to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of all relevant circumstances.

CLASS I ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSES: ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE, AND HIGH

Administrative responses for Class I violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

Elementary Students

- Student conference/written warning
- Parent contact/conference
- Before-/after-school detention
- Denial of bus privileges
- Out-of-school suspension not to exceed one day
- Assignment to in-school intervention
- Response to instruction plan for behavior
- Positive behavior support program interventions
- Counselor referral
- Social worker referral

Middle and High School Students

- Parent contact/conference
- Before-/after-school detention
- Work assignments before or after school, in-school intervention
- Out-of-school suspension not to exceed one day
- Discipline Review Committee for an alternative educational program apart from the normal setting
- Positive behavior support program interventions

- Suspension/in-school intervention combination
- Counselor referral
- Social worker referral

Prior to determining the appropriate administrative response, the principal or his/her designee will consider the student's prior disciplinary history.

INTERMEDIATE OFFENSES – CLASS II

<u>Code</u>	<u>Offense: Description</u>
2.20	Possession or use of tobacco and vaping products: Possession, use, distribution, or sale/transfer of tobacco products, e-cigarettes, lighters, or a match.
2.21	Trespassing: To enter or remain on Board property without authorization or invitation and with no lawful purpose for entry, including students under suspension or expulsion, and unauthorized persons who enter or remain on Board property after being directed to leave by an authorized Board employee. A person commits the offense of trespass if he/she knowingly enters or remains in a building or upon real property that is fenced or enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders.
2.22	Fighting: Mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence where there are at least two participants, but no one main offender and no major injury. This does not include verbal confrontations, tussles, or major confrontations. This conduct creates a substantial risk of serious physical injury to another person.
2.23	Excessive disorderly conduct: Any continuous and disruptive act that substantially disrupts the conduct of a school function or which substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment, or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others.
2.24	Defiance of authority: Opposition or disregard of an order of instruction from a school board employee or others having legal authority (policeman, fireman) openly expressed in words or actions.
2.25	Disruptive demonstrations: Demonstrations consisting of five or more participants who, in the course of a demonstration, are likely to cause substantial harm or serious inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm, and intentionally refuse or fail to disperse when ordered to do so by an authorized school official, peace officer, or other public servant lawfully engaged in executing or enforcing the law.
2.26	Unjustified activation of a fire alarm system, fire extinguisher, AED, emergency, or security system: Rendering a false alarm occurs when a person knowingly causes a false fire report to be transmitted to or within an official fire department or to any other governmental agency.
2.27	Inciting or participating in a disturbance: Leading, encouraging, or assisting in a major disturbance which results in one or more of the following: destruction/damage to property or injury to others; or a substantial disruption of the learning environment which poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others.
2.28	Persistent, willful disobedience: Recurring, intentional violation of the Code of Conduct which substantially disrupts the orderly conduct of a school function; behavior which substantially disrupts the orderly learning environment or poses a threat to the health, safety, and/or welfare of students, staff, or others.
2.29	Profanity or Vulgarity: The use of obscene, abusive, vulgar, or irreverent language.
2.30	Gambling: To bet on the outcome of a game, contest, or other event; play a game of chance for stakes; or take a risk in the hopes of gaining an advantage where the stakes are \$100 or less.
2.31	Leaving class or campus without official permission: Leaving class or school without permission or skipping class or school.
2.32	Misuse of personal technology devices (PTDs): Any violation of the Cell Phone/Personal Technology Devices policy, as set forth in this handbook.
2.33	Vandalism: The willful and/or malicious destruction, damage, or defacement of public or private property, without the consent of the owner or person having control over it. This includes graffiti, carving initials in school furniture, etc.
2.34	Petty theft: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, riding, or driving away of another's property valued at \$100 or less, with intent to convert it or deprive the owner thereof.
2.35	Possession of stolen property: The possession of stolen property valued at or less than \$100 with knowledge that it is stolen.

- 2.36 **Extortion by threat:** Maliciously threatening an injury to the person, property, or reputation of another, with the intent to extort money or any pecuniary advantage whatsoever, or with the intent to compel the person so threatened, or any person, to do any act or refrain from doing any act against his or her will. **Note:** Completion of the threat by the victim's complying with the demands, or the carrying out of the threats against the victim, constitutes a Class III offense.
- 2.37 **Unauthorized organizations:** Any campus participation in non-sanctioned fraternities, sororities, secret societies, gangs, or non-affiliated school clubs.
- 2.38 **Academic dishonesty:** Cheating, including both giving and receiving information on an academic assignment; plagiarism, i.e., use of another's words, ideas, or data without acknowledgment; or fabrication/falsification, distorting, or inventing the origin or content of information used as authority. The student may receive reduced credit or no credit on the particular assignment, along with other appropriate disciplinary action, at the discretion of the classroom teacher.
- 2.39 **Forgery:** A student commits the act of forgery if, with purpose to defraud or injure anyone, or with knowledge that he/she is facilitating a fraud or injury to be perpetrated by anyone, the student (a) alters any writing of another without his/her authority; (b) makes, completes, executes, authenticates, issues, or transfers any writing so that it purports to be the act of another who did not authorize that act, or to have been executed at a time or place or in a numbered sequence other than was in fact the case, or to be a copy of an original when or if such original existed; or (c) alters the contents of any writing which the student knows to be forged in a manner specified above.
- 2.40 **Continuous disruption on bus:** Continual failure to comply with the Rules of Conduct for Transported Students as set forth in this handbook.
- 2.41 **Computer records, destruction:** The destruction of computer records by an individual who has no right to do so nor any reasonable grounds to believe that he/she has such a right.
- 2.42 **Possession and/or use of prescription or non-prescription medication, inhalants, aerosol sprays, or other over-the-counter drugs:** Failure to comply with the Student Medication Procedures set forth in this handbook.
- 2.43 **Unauthorized recording:** Creating, publishing, or forwarding video or audio recording of a student, Board employee, or authorized guest of the school system, without that individual's permission.
- 2.44 **Possession of pornographic, suggestive, or inappropriate material:** Possession of any visual depiction of sexual conduct, breast, nudity, genital nudity, or material that appeals to a person's prurient interests.
- 2.45 **Use of racial or ethnic insults or slurs:** Oral or written affronts of a racial or ethnic nature.
- 2.46 **Unauthorized use of a computer or computer system:** Unauthorized usage or tampering which may cause a major disruption in the education process. This includes distribution of restricted passwords, unauthorized access to restricted computer sites, intentionally tampering with another student's work, intentionally damaging and/or sabotaging computer equipment belonging to the system, and other misuse of computers other than for instructional purposes.
- 2.47 **Fleeing from a school board employee:** To intentionally flee, by any means, from any Board employee who the student knows is directing them to stop.
- 2.48 **Repeated and/or excessive commission of Class I disciplinary infractions.**
- 2.99 Any other offense which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of relevant circumstances.

CLASS II ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSES

Administrative responses for Class II violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

Elementary Students

- Parent contact/conference
- Student conference/written warning
- Before-/after-school detention
- Out-of-school suspension not to exceed two days
- Assignment to in-school intervention
- Response to Instruction referral
- Positive behavior support program interventions
- Counselor referral

- Social worker referral
- Denial of bus privileges

Middle and High School Students

- First offense: In-school suspension, in-school intervention, denial of bus privileges, and/or extended work assignments before or after school, and/or suspension for one to five school days, with a parent or guardian conference required before the student may return to school.
- Subsequent offenses: Pending a full investigation, the violation may warrant suspension for up to five days, a suspension/in-school intervention combination, or a recommendation for alternative placement or expulsion.
 - Disciplinary probation or before-/after-school detention
 - Work assignments before or after school, in-school intervention
 - Special circumstances may warrant a recommendation to the Board's hearing officer for an alternative educational program apart from the normal setting
 - Positive behavior support program interventions

Prior to determining the appropriate administrative response, the principal or his/her designee will consider the student's prior disciplinary history.

MAJOR OFFENSES – CLASS III

<u>Code</u>	<u>Offense: Description</u>
3.28	Homicide: Killing of one human being by another, either intentionally or through negligence.
3.29	Sexual battery: Sexual contact forcibly and/or against the person's will or not forcibly or against the person's will, where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her youth, or because of temporary or permanent mental incapacity. This includes rape; fondling, which includes touching of private body parts of another person (either through human contact or using an object); indecent liberties; child molestation; and sodomy.
3.30	Robbery: The taking or attempting to take anything of value that is owned by another person or organization under confrontational circumstances by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.
3.31	Assault on Board employee: A student who, with intent to cause serious physical injury to a Board employee during or as a result of the performance of his/her duty, causes said physical injury.
3.32	Aggravated battery: Intentionally causing great bodily harm, disability, or permanent disfigurement; use of a deadly weapon.
3.33	Violence/threat of violence: The infliction of force with the intent to cause injury to another or damage to the property of another; or an expression of an intention to inflict violence on another with the apparent ability to carry out that threat.
3.34	Intimidation: A threat or other action that is intended to cause fear or apprehension in another, especially for the purpose of coercing or deterring a student from participating in or taking advantage of any school program, benefit, activity, or opportunity for which the student is or would be eligible.
3.35	Aggravated fighting: Mutual participation in a fight involving physical violence where there are at least two participants but no one main offender and at least one of the participants sustained a serious physical injury. If any one participant sustains a serious physical injury, all participants are guilty of a Class III offense.
3.36	Assault: An actual and intentional touching or striking of another person against their will or intentionally causing bodily harm to an individual, i.e., when one physically attacks or "beats up" another individual.
3.37	Offensive touching of another person: Touching another person's genitalia or intimate body parts (breasts, buttocks) or touching any part of another person, or subjecting them to physical contact, if done with an intent to harass, annoy, or alarm that person.
3.38	Burglary: The unlawful entry into a building or other structure with intent to commit an offense.
3.39	Grand theft: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, riding, or driving away of another's property, valued at more than \$100, with intent to convert it or deprive the owner thereof.
3.40	Kidnapping: The unlawful seizure, transportation, and/or detention of a person against his/her will or of a minor without the consent of his/her parent.
3.41	Arson: Intentionally damaging property or putting property at risk of damage by starting or maintaining a fire or causing an explosion.

- 3.42 **Drugs:** The unlawful use, cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, possession, transportation, or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance, or equipment and devices used for preparing or taking drugs or narcotics. This includes being under the influence of or possessing drugs or substances represented as drugs. This also includes prescription or over-the-counter medication if abused by the student or the possession of said drugs at the school without a properly completed School Medication Prescriber/Parent Authorization Form.
- 3.43 **Harassment:** A continuous pattern of intentional behavior including, but not limited to, written, electronic, verbal, non-verbal, or physical acts that (a) place a person in reasonable fear of harm to his or her person or damage to his or her property; (b) have the effect of substantially interfering with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of a student; (c) have the effect of substantially disrupting or interfering with the orderly operation of a school; (d) have the effect of creating a hostile environment; or have the effect of being sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to create an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.
- 3.44 **Bullying:** Any intentional written, electronic, verbal, non-verbal, or physical behavior or action against another, including but not limited to any threatening, insulting, or dehumanizing gesture that a reasonable person should know will have the effect of:
- placing another in reasonable fear of substantial harm to his or her emotional or physical well-being or substantial harm to his or her property;
 - creating a hostile, threatening, humiliating, or abusive educational environment due to the pervasiveness or persistence of the actions or due to a power differential between the bully and the target;
 - interfering with a student having a safe school environment that is necessary to facilitate educational performance, opportunities, or benefits; or
 - perpetuating bullying by inciting, soliciting, or coercing an individual or group to demean, dehumanize, embarrass, or cause emotional, psychological, or physical harm to another person.
- 3.45 **Cyberbullying:** An act of harassment, intimidation, discrimination, or bullying committed through the use of digital technology, including but not limited to email, blogs, cell phone, social media (Facebook, Twitter), chat rooms, instant messaging, or the use of data or computer software that is accessed through a computer, computer system, or computer network.
- 3.46 **Cyberstalking:** To engage in a course of conduct to communicate, or to cause to be communicated, words, images, or language by or through the use of electronic mail or electronic communication, directed at or about a specific person, causing substantial emotional distress to that person, and serving no legitimate purpose.
- 3.47 **Sexual harassment:** Any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature.
- 3.48 **Sexual offense:** This includes sexual intercourse, sexual contact, or other unlawful behavior or conduct intended to result in sexual gratification without force or threat of force and where the other party is capable of giving consent.
- 3.49 **Explosives:** Preparing, possessing, or igniting an explosive on Board property likely to cause serious bodily injury or property damage. This includes any of various weapons detonated to release destructive material such as gas or smoke.
- 3.50 **Possessing and/or igniting fireworks, firecrackers, or smoke bombs:** Possession and/or ignition of any device containing gunpowder or other combustible chemicals that explode when ignited.
- 3.51 **Bomb threats:** To unlawfully place any person in fear of bodily harm, or interfere with the educational environment, by threat of explosives by any means of communication, regardless of whether or not a bomb actually exists.
- 3.52 **Discharging of any firearm:** The discharge of any firearm as defined in section 3.54.
- 3.53 **Criminal mischief/vandalism:** Willful and malicious injury or damages of \$200 or more to public property, or the real or personal property of another.
- 3.54 **Possession of firearm – Carrying a firearm is a violation of the Safe Schools Act of 2013:** 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; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; any destructive device or any machine gun. A destructive device is any bomb, grenade, mine, rocket, missile, pipe bomb, or similar device containing some type of explosive that is designed to explode and is capable of causing bodily harm or property damage. Includes firearms of any kind (loaded or unloaded), including, but not limited to, hand, zip, pistol, rifle, shotgun, starter gun, flare gun, etc.

- 3.55 **Possession of weapon:** Possession, use, or intent to use any instrument or object to inflict harm on another person, or to intimidate any person. Including all knives, chains, pipes, razor blades or similar instruments with sharp cutting edges, ice picks, other pointed instruments (including pencils or pens when not being used for their intended purpose), nunchucks, brass knuckles, Chinese stars, billy clubs, tear gas guns, chemical weapons or devices (mace/pepper spray), electrical weapons or devices (stun guns), BB or pellet guns, explosives or propellants, etc.
- 3.56 **Alcohol:** The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, or use of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol. This includes being intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol while under the Board's jurisdiction.
- 3.57 **Indecent exposure:** Exposure of a student's genitals, breasts, or buttocks under circumstances where the student knows his/her conduct is likely to cause an affront or alarm.
- 3.58 **Gambling:** To bet on the outcome of a game, contest, or other event; play a game of chance for stakes; or take a risk in the hopes of gaining an advantage where the stakes exceed \$100.
- 3.59 **Extortion by act:** Completion of a threat as described in 2.36.
- 3.60 **Other criminal acts:** Commission of any criminal act, not herein listed, as defined by the laws of the City of Tuscaloosa, State of Alabama, or United States of America.
- 3.61 **Dissemination of Obscene Matter:** To expose, exhibit, show, or in any way display, by electronic means or otherwise, any visual depiction of sexual conduct, breast nudity, genital nudity, or material that appeals to a person's prurient interests. This includes, but is not limited to, a visual depiction of the person disseminating the obscene material.
- 3.62 **Repeated and/or excessive commission of Class I or Class II disciplinary infractions.**
- 3.99 Any other offense which the principal may deem reasonable to fall within this category after investigation and consideration of all relevant circumstances.

CLASS III ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSES

Administrative responses for Class III offenses include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Out-of-school suspension not to exceed five days
- Denial of bus privileges
- Suspension/in-school intervention combination
- Referral to the Board's disciplinary review committee for consideration of an alternative educational program apart from the normal setting
- Recommendation for expulsion, which requires joint action of the superintendent and Board of Education
- Threat assessment

Prior to determining the appropriate administrative response, the principal or his/her designee will consider the student's prior disciplinary history.

If the decision of the superintendent is to recommend expulsion, a hearing before the School Board will be scheduled. Following the hearing, the Board will decide whether to approve the superintendent's recommendation or take some other action. In accordance with the Alabama state law requiring compulsory attendance, the Board makes the final disposition of an expulsion recommendation. The principal is initially responsible for determining that an offense for which expulsion may be warranted has been committed.

The expulsion of a student will prohibit the student from attending any school in Tuscaloosa City Schools during the period of expulsion.

1. A student may lose academic credit if:
 - a. He/she is expelled prior to taking six-weeks or semester examinations.
 - b. He/she is removed from the school attendance roll through the expulsion process.
2. A student cannot request makeup work if he/she is expelled from school. Any student while expelled from school cannot visit or otherwise be in attendance on any school campus in the TCS system.

AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Any student committing one of the offenses listed herein, whether Class I, II, or III, based on one or more of the following characteristics of the victim of such offense, will be subject to additional, or more severe, disciplinary action:

- 1) race;
- 2) color;
- 3) gender;