



SAN DIEGO CITY SCHOOLS

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NEWS RELEASE

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Zero-Tolerance Policy in San Diego Unified School District

Strict Consequences Enforced in Secondary Schools

SAN DIEGO – A Zero-Tolerance Policy requiring the suspension and/or recommendation for expulsion of secondary school students who violate rules regarding weapons, controlled substances and physical violence continues to be enforced throughout San Diego Unified School District. The policy is designed to provide district schools with a safe and appropriate learning environment for students.

An immediate five-day suspension and a recommendation for expulsion will be made for students who repeatedly fight or participate in violent acts that cause serious injury to another; commit or attempt to commit a sexual assault or battery; or use, possess or brandish a weapon.

Students will be recommended for expulsion on their first offense for selling or furnishing prohibited/controlled substances or possessing a prohibited/controlled substance in an amount determined to be for more than personal use.

Students will be recommended for expulsion on their third offense for possession or use of prohibited/controlled substances for personal use. Possession of tobacco will result in a recommendation for expulsion upon the fourth offense.

Expulsion from a district school means the loss of student privileges to attend school or extracurricular activities. Expelled students will be placed in an alternative school or educational program for a period of time approved by the Board of Education. In addition, students who have violated the state Penal Code may be arrested, charged and taken to a county juvenile detention facility or county jail.

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An offense that takes place on a school campus or at a school activity, whether on campus or off, falls under the Zero Tolerance policy. This includes traveling to or from school or a school-sponsored activity.

Although schools do keep records of student violations that fall under the policy, this information will not follow students after graduation. For additional information, please call the City Schools Placement and Appeals Office at (619) 725-5660 or visit the district's website at www.sandi.net.

Serving more than 132,000 students, San Diego Unified School District is the second largest school district in California, with 216 schools and 34 additional educational facilities, and approximately 16,000 employees. The district is committed to accelerating gains in student performance, supporting schools and enhancing the classroom learning environment through modernized facilities and resources, and strengthening parent, community and higher education support of the educational process.

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