LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DIVISION

502.1.9   Student Discipline

1. Each principal, in consultation with staff, students and parents, shall establish, review annually, and communicate annually to parents/guardians and students a Student Code of Conduct (see Policy 502.1 Appendix A and Exhibit - 502.1 Appendix B Sample School Student Code of Conduct) which shall support Policy 502.1: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning Environments. The principal shall ensure that all school staff members have an understanding of the Student Code of Conduct and the process for successfully resolving behavior problems.
2. All staff members shall:
    2.1. ensure that no student is administered a negative consequence because of the behaviour of others;
    2.2. not use verbal attacks, corporal punishment, nor actions that embarrass or humiliate students;
    2.3. ensure that all school and classroom discipline practices shall be based upon:
        2.3.1. procedures that are fair, objective, consistent and reasonable;
        2.3.2. positive school practices and effective teaching;
        2.3.3. early detection and intervention;
        2.3.4. early and ongoing communication with parents;
        2.3.5. age and developmentally appropriate expectations;
        2.3.6. involvement of school and Division resource personnel, and outside agencies when appropriate; and
        2.3.7. avoidance of threats, and other measures which can be regarded as coercive.
    2.4. respond to any misconduct that is interfering with the teaching/learning environment, or the safety or emotional wellbeing of students or staff. The action taken and/or consequences that follow any misconduct will be dependent on the:
        2.4.1. effect of the student's behaviour upon self, other students, the staff, the school, and the community;
        2.4.2. nature of the action or incident;
        2.4.3. student's age and maturity;
        2.4.4. anticipated impact of a proposed action on the student's future behaviour;
        2.4.5. previous disciplinary record of the student; and school Student Code of Conduct.

3. Teachers:
   3.1. shall develop and implement classroom management strategies that are consistent with the school's Student Code of Conduct.
   3.2. have the authority under the School Act to suspend a student from one class period.
      3.2.1. Students shall not be left unsupervised in this situation.
      3.2.2. The principal or designate may reinstate the student into the class at any time.
   3.3. If a suspension is used, the following conditions are to be met:
      3.3.1. the student and parents have been informed of the behaviour(s) that resulted in the suspension as defined in the school's Student Code of Conduct;
      3.3.2. the teacher assigning the suspension shall discuss with the student the nature of the behaviour that led to the suspension and assist the student in developing appropriate alternative behaviours for the future.
      3.3.3. teachers are responsible for providing work for a student who is suspended;
      3.3.4. parents are notified if the suspension results in the student leaving the school later than usual;
      3.3.5. loss of instructional time is avoided whenever possible.
4. Principals have the authority under the School Act to suspend a student to a maximum of five school days (see Policy 502.3 Suspensions and Expulsions).
5. Reasonable force by staff may be used:
   5.1. as self-defence or to protect others from attack;
   5.2. to restrain a student from injuring him or herself;
   5.3. to stop a fight between students; or
   5.4. to deter the student from doing damage to personal or public property.
      (See Procedure 502.1.4 Use of Physical Restraint)
6. If the principal concludes that allegations made by a student were made in an intentionally false, malicious or vindictive manner, appropriate disciplinary action shall be applied.

Procedure