**CRIMINAL BEHAVIOR** *Policy Code:* **4335**

Criminal or other illegal behavior is prohibited. Any scholar who the principal reasonably believes has engaged in criminal behavior on school premises or at school activities will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, as stated in applicable board policies, and also may be criminally prosecuted.

School officials shall cooperate fully with any criminal investigation and prosecution. School officials shall independently investigate any criminal behavior that also violates school rules or board policy.

# Scholars Charged with or Convicted of Criminal Behavior

The executive director principal may take reasonable or legally required measures to preserve a safe, orderly environment when a scholar has been charged with or convicted of a serious crime, regardless of whether the alleged offense was committed on school grounds or was related to school activities. Depending upon the circumstances, including the nature of the crime or alleged crime, the child’s age, and the publicity within the school community, reasonable or legally required efforts may include changing a scholar’s classroom assignment The scholar will continue to be provided with educational opportunities unless and until the scholar is found to have violated board policy or school rules and is suspended or expelled in accordance with procedures established in board policy.

# Reporting Criminal Behavior

A school employee is permitted to report to law enforcement an assault by a scholar on a school employee. The principal or other supervisors shall not, by threats or in any other manner, intimidate, or attempt to intimidate the school employee from doing so.

The principal must immediately report to law enforcement the following acts when he or she has personal knowledge or actual notice from school personnel that such acts have occurred on school property, regardless of the age or grade of the perpetrator or victim: (1) assault resulting in serious personal injury; (2) sexual assault; (3) sexual offense; (4) rape; (5) kidnapping; (6) indecent liberties with a minor; (7) assault involving the use of a weapon; (8) possession of a firearm in violation of the law; (9) possession of a weapon in violation of the law; and (10) possession of a controlled substance in violation of the law. If the principal willfully fails to make a required report to law enforcement he or she will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal.

The executive director shall notify the board in writing or by e-mail of any report made by the principal to law enforcement. Such notice must occur by the end of the workday in which the incident occurred, when reasonably possible, but not later than the end of the following workday. In addition, the principal or designee must notify the parents of scholars who are alleged to be victims of any reported offenses.

Certain crimes must be reported to the State Board of Education in accordance with State Board of Education Policy HRS-A-000.

Legal References: Gun-Free Schools Act, 20 U.S.C. 7961; G.S. 14-17, -18, -27.21, -27.22, -27.24 through -27.27, -27.29, -27.30, -27.33, -32 through -34.10, -39, -87, -202, -202.1, -202.2, -269.2; ch. 90 art. 5; 115C-47(56); -288(g); State Board of Education Policy HRS-A-000

Cross References: Alternative Learning Programs/Schools (policy 3470/4305), Drugs and Alcohol (policy 4325), Theft, Trespass, and Damage to Property (policy 4330), Assaults, Threats, and Harassment (policy 4331), Weapons, Bomb Threats, Terrorist Threats, and Clear Threats to Safety (policy 4333), School-Level Investigations (policy 4340)

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