

S.F. No. 183 – Nonexclusionary Discipline

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Section 1. **School supports.** (a) A school board is encouraged to adopt a policy that promotes the understanding in school staff that when a student is unable to meet adult expectations it may be that the student lacks the skills to appropriately respond to a situation. Directs a school district to support staff in using tiered interventions that teach students skills and prioritize relationships between students and teachers.

(b) A school board is encouraged to adopt a policy that discourages teachers and staff from reacting to unwanted student behavior with approaches that take away the student’s opportunity to build skills for responding appropriately.

Section 2. **Recess and other breaks.** (a) defines “recess detention” as excluding or excessively delaying a student from participating in a scheduled recess period as a consequence for student behavior. The definition does not include providing alternative recess at the student’s choice.

(b) A school district or charter school is encouraged to ensure student access to structured breaks from the demands of school and to support teachers, principals, and school staff in their efforts to use evidence-based approaches to reduce exclusionary forms of discipline.

(c) Prohibits the use of recess detention unless:

- (1) a student causes or is likely to cause serious physical harm to other students or staff;
- (2) the student’s parent or guardian specifically consents to using recess detention; or
- (3) for student’s receiving special education services, the student’s individualized education program team determines that withholding recess is appropriate for the individualized needs of the student.

(d) A school district or charter school is prohibited from withholding recess from a student based on incomplete homework.

(e) A school district or charter school is required to direct school staff to make an attempt to notify a parent or guardian within 24 hours of using recess detention.

(f) A school district or charter school is required to compile information on recess detention at the end of each school year. The information must include the student’s age, grade, gender, race or ethnicity, and special education status and must be made available to the public upon request.

(g) A school district or charter school is prohibited from withholding or delaying excessively a student's participation in scheduled mealtimes. Clarifies that the section does not alter a school's responsibilities under the school meals program.