

**SAMPLE STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY
NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED
BY SCHOOL LEADERSHIP AND LEGAL COUNSEL
PRIOR TO APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNING BOARD**

**THE DOCUMENT WILL BE REVISED FROM TIME TO TIME TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF THE
ORGANIZATION. HOWEVER THE DUE PROCESS RIGHTS OF THE TEACHERS WILL ALWAYS BE
ADDRESSED IN THIS DOCUMENT**

**SAMPLE STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICIES
NEW MEXICO SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS**

Consistent, fair and respectful discipline is essential to the educational process. Discipline must be taught just as any other content matter. Instructors are expected to be fair, consistent, and respectful in their handling of discipline related matters. Most discipline issues should be handled in the classroom. Good planning, active and engaging learning, and good classroom management are the keys to prevent student discipline problems. All staff members are expected to adhere to the New Mexico School for the Arts (School for the Arts") Student Disciplinary Policies and Procedures and utilize any school-wide adopted classroom management model.

ACTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINARY ACTION

DISRUPTION OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROCESS. Students may not disrupt the educational process, and disruption of the educational process is an infraction and is subject to disciplinary action. The following is a list of actions that disrupt the educational process. This list is not all-inclusive; acts of misconduct not specified herein shall also be subject to discretionary action by appropriate school personnel. This document does not attempt to set societal standards. The criterion used for defining unacceptable behavior is whether or not it has the potential to disrupt the educational process. These guidelines follow municipal and state guidelines. (Definitions of these terms are indexed in the back of this handbook.)

Disruption of the education process can include:

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| Absences, Excessive | Gang-Related Activity |
| Arson, Category I and II | General Disruptive Conduct |
| Assault/Bullying | Language, Profane/Abusive |
| Assault, Aggravated | Materials, Obscene |
| Battery, Aggravated | Paraphernalia Possession |
| Battery/Fighting | Robbery |
| Bomb Threat/False Alarm | Sexual Harassment |
| Bus Disruption (Field Trips) | Tardy, Excessive |
| Controlled Substance, Possession/Use | Theft |
| Defiance of School Personnel/Authorities | Tobacco, Possession/Use |
| Dress Code Violation | Trespassing/Unauthorized presence |
| Extortion | Vandalism |
| Firearm Possession/Use | Weapon Possession/Use |

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TOBACCO POLICY. The Substance Abuse and Tobacco Policy is in effect twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, at all times/locations from the first day of fall sports practices to the end of the school year. Violation of the substance abuse and tobacco policy can be the subject of disciplinary action.

CLOSED CAMPUS. Students may not leave campus during the school day (this includes lunch-time) without documented (written or verbal) permission from parents or guardians. Violation of the closed campus policy may be considered an infraction and subject to disciplinary action.

PUBLIC DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION. – Hand holding is permissible. Physical conduct beyond that is considered an infraction and may constitute Sexual Harassment.

INTERVENTIONS/CONSEQUENCES AT SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS

The following sequence of interventions is designed to accommodate existing learning and developmental differences of students associated with any violation of the School for the Arts Student Code of Conduct:

- Level I Interventions/Consequences
Action administered by the Classroom Teacher or Aide.
- Level II Interventions/Consequences
Action administered by Lead Teacher or Office Personnel.
- Level III Interventions/Consequences
Action administered by the Principal or Designated Administrator.

Adherence to the school-wide rules of School for the Arts is expected. Failure by students to behave as required will result in specific Interventions/Consequences for unacceptable actions(s). Behavior related to a child's disability will be managed in a manner consistent with applicable laws and regulations.

ZERO TOLERANCE. The School follows a zero tolerance policy on behaviors and actions that have the potential to inflict bodily injury or create an unsafe environment. **Automatic suspensions** will be given for these types of infractions. Administration will take into consideration age and the developmental level of students when making determination as to the type and intensity of the consequences.

MULTIPLE REFERRALS. School for the Arts is committed to creating a safe learning environment free of disruption and distraction. When behaviors concerns continue to occur after interventions it may have the potential to be progressively more serious and/or problematic warranting a higher level of intervention. **Students will receive increasing severe consequences for infractions even if they are of a less severe nature. Note: A specific conduct violation may require administrative intervention regardless of the number of times it has occurred.**

DISCIPLINARY CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION STUDENTS.

- Special education students are not immune from the district's disciplinary process once placement procedures are properly followed. Since the exclusion of a student with a disability from his/her education program for more than a total of ten (10) days during a school year may constitute a significant change in placement, the following considerations must be addressed:
- When considering long-term suspension or expulsion, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team must first determine whether the behavior of concern is a manifestation of the student's disability and whether his/her program is appropriate.
- If the IEP team determines both that the behavior is not a manifestation of the student's disability and that the student's program is appropriate, disciplinary actions may be taken in accordance with the procedures in this handbook.
- Should the disciplinary procedures include long-term suspension or expulsion, the district must continue to provide the educational services defined in the IEP.

- If the IEP Team determines either that the behavior is related to the student's disability or that the student's program is not appropriate, and then the student may not be suspended and must receive an appropriate program.
- Any suspension that excludes a student from his/her IEP services must be counted when calculating the total number of suspension days (10 consecutive days or a series of suspensions that constitute a change in placement).
- The decision to remove a student from his/her IEP services must be made on an individual basis.
- Procedural safeguards outlined in the New Mexico Department of Education Standards for Excellence in Compliance Manual ensure that parental due process rights are afforded.
- All federal guidelines regarding the provision of education continuation services for suspended special education students will be adhered to.
- Special education students are entitled to a due process hearing.

STAFF ACTIONS FOR INFRACTIONS

THE FOLLOWING ACTIONS MAY BE TAKEN BY SCHOOL STAFF DEPENDING ON THE INFRACTION AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE INFRACTION.

STUDENT REFERRALS/INCIDENT REPORTS. From time to time, an incident may occur that, while it is critical to note in a student's discipline file, does not necessarily lead to a referral or clear punishment/consequence. In these instances will be filled out as an Incident Report on the Referral Form and filed with the front office. Incidents appropriate for this form may include a brief discussion between a parent and teacher about a concern regarding a student's behavior, or a student who has been repeatedly accused of bullying another student but no direct evidence exists, etc. The Incident Report will be reviewed and noted by the Administrator in charge of discipline and placed in the student's file.

STUDENT CONTRACTS.

The student may be asked to enter into a Student Success Contract to ensure the student's continued success at the school. In a Student Success Contract,

- Student commits to more positive behavior in the form of a written contract;
- Student may be assigned school or community service;
- The principal or designee will determine terms of the contract; and
- Students may be taken to a long-term suspension hearing for contract violation.

REFERRALS.

- Student may be referred to School Assistance Team, school counselor, or school mental health team. School authority may refer students to a variety of appropriate professionals within the school setting for intervention.
- Student and school authority may call parent/guardian to discuss problem and solution.
- Student may be referred to counselor or outside agencies.
- Student may be formally referred for legal action.

REMOVAL FROM CLASS.

- Student may be removed from class or activity but remains at school pending conference with appropriate school personnel.

- Student may be placed in an alternative educational setting until satisfactory resolution is reached.
- Student may be suspended from school for no more than one (1) day, pending parent conference.
- The authority of the schools is to supervise and control the conduct of students and includes the authority to impose reasonable periods of detention during the day or outside normal school hours, as disciplinary measures.
- Reasonable periods of detention may be imposed with the procedures for Short-term suspension. The removal from setting to an alternative supervised area and/or loss of privileges.

COMMUNITY SERVICE. Student may engage in reasonable and appropriate activities that constitutes restitution for an infraction.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION. The removal from setting and/or loss of privileges to an alternative supervised area. Students are responsible for keeping their class work current.

- Involves community service on campus
- 1 – 10 school days at administrator's discretion
- Student will be allowed to make-up class work, homework, quizzes, etc.
- Students may or may not be allowed to participate in extracurricular/co-curricular activities/athletics during days of in-school suspension, at the discretion of the administrative authority
- Parent/administrator contact and disciplinary notice issued.

SUSPENSION OF EXTRA-CURRICULAR PRIVILEGES.

- Students may be removed, at the discretion of the principal, from any part or all of extra-curricular privileges for time periods up to one (1) full calendar year.
- Participation in extra-curricular activities is a privilege offered to and earned by students.
- Because participants are serving as representatives of their school and community, their conduct is expected to exemplify high standards at all times.
- Participants are expected to adhere to higher standards of academics and conduct than established for the general school population in order to maintain their extra-curricular privileges.

SUSPENSION. A suspension is the removal of a student from a class or classes and all school-related activities for any period of time. The school administration must provide written notification to each of the student's teachers and to the student's parents/legal guardians within one (1) school day of imposing any form of suspension. The school administration must keep on file a copy of the notification for any suspension occurring during a school year. The principal of the school is responsible for notification, compliance and documentation at his/her school. Copies of suspension notification may be discarded at the beginning of each academic year for prior year actions, except for any long-term suspensions or expulsions still in effect.

SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION. Short-term suspension will be at the discretion of the School Administrator and will address behaviors that disrupt the educational process. Administrators may impose Interventions/Consequences beyond the minimum mandatory in order to maintain the safety and security of the school population. Short-term suspension will be limited to no more than five (5) days, only one (1) of which can be out of school.

LONG-TERM SUSPENSION occurs as a result of a recommendation by a hearing officer at a Disciplinary Due Process Hearing. Long-term suspension is defined as the removal of a student from

instruction and all school-related activities for more than ten (10) days and up to the balance of the semester. A secondary student receiving a long-term suspension may lose credit for the semester unless placed in an alternative school setting. A student must be given the opportunity for a due process hearing prior to the suspension. The student may, at his/her own expense, choose to be represented by an attorney at the hearing. At the Principal's discretion, students may be suspended pending a due process hearing.

EXPULSION occurs as a result of a recommendation by a hearing officer at a Disciplinary Due Process Hearing. Expulsion is the removal of a student from School for the Arts for a period exceeding one (1) semester. In some cases, expulsion may be a permanent removal from school. When appropriate, a student who is expelled may be placed in an alternative program. A secondary student receiving an expulsion will lose credit for the semester in which the expulsion occurs, unless the student is engaged in an alternative program. A student must be given a due process hearing prior to expulsion. The student may, at his/her own expense, choose to be represented by an attorney at the hearing.

REIMBURSEMENTS/RESTITUTION. Restitution will be sought from anyone for damage or theft of personal or school property. This includes damage to the school facilities, i.e. bathrooms, lockers, desks, etc. – damage or loss of school textbooks materials, and supplies for which student and parents are responsible; or damage to personal property of school employees or students or school neighborhood residents. Such matters may be referred to the police or other legal authority for further action.

REFERRAL FOR LEGAL ACTION. Evidence of any illegal act or action by a student will be forwarded to the appropriate authority or law enforcement agency, i.e. police, sheriff, county, city, state or federal ordinance.

ACTIONS WHICH MAY RESULT IN SUSPENSION

STUDENTS CAN BE SUSPENDED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

a) WEAPONS

- Use of or threatening with a firearm, knife, explosive, or other object, even if manufactured for a nonviolent purpose, that has a potentially violent use, or any look-alike" object that resembles an object that has a potentially violent use, with intent to cause bodily harm. *This specifically includes "look-alike" guns and knives, such as toys.*
- Sale or furnishing of weapons (gun, sharp object, club, or an object that could inflict serious bodily injury).

b) ARSON – Category II

- Starting a fire resulting in damage to property over \$100.00 to property.
- Starting a fire resulting in injury to a person.

c) DRUG DEALING OR DISTRIBUTION

- Possession with intent to distribute alcohol or drugs, other illegal substances or look-alikes.
- Use and/or possession of drugs, alcohol, or any intoxicant.

d) SEXUAL OFFENSES

- Committed or attempted to commit sexual assault or sexual battery (see aggravated assault).
- Repeated sexual harassment including but not limited to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that can be deemed as a threat.

e) ACTS OF VIOLENCE

- Cause or attempt to cause physical injury to a staff member
- Bomb threats
- Repeated fighting
- Causing physical harm to another person
- Rioting or gang fighting

f) FIREARMS

- Possession, selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm or firearm look-alike.
- Possession of any explosive device as defined in the Gun Free Schools Act.
- The Gun Free Schools Act provides for a mandatory expulsion of one calendar year for students who are determined to have brought a firearm to school, subject to modification on a case-by-case basis.

g) USE AND/OR POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED/ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES, ALCOHOL, AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS

- First Offense – Out of school suspension and loss of privilege to participate in extracurricular activities for a time period to be determined by sponsor and administration.
- Second Offense – Suspension pending referral to Disciplinary Hearing
- All Offenses - Possible Legal Action, Long-term Suspension and/or Expulsion.

h) SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF CONTROLLED/ILLEGAL SUBSTANCE

- First Offense – Out of school suspension and loss of privilege to participate in extracurricular activities for a time period to be determined by sponsor and administration.
- Second Offense – Suspension pending referral to Disciplinary Hearing
- All Offenses - Possible Legal Action, Long-term Suspension and/or Expulsion.

- i) CONTRACT VIOLATION** The student's refusal to comply with expectations, policies, and procedures as set forth in a Student Success Contract and agreed upon by student, parent, and school representative.

GRADE REQUIREMENTS AND PROBATION POLICY

Students are admitted to the School for the Arts based on promise, aptitude and passion. Through a public / private partnership, students are provided with academic and artistic opportunities to excel. Many students in New Mexico are interested in the opportunities provided by the school, and students enrolled in the school should continually show purpose and commitment in their work. In order to be eligible for continued enrollment at the School students must show a continued strong desire to pursue a career in the

arts. Students who show a documented lack of purpose and commitment may be administratively withdrawn from the school and not allowed to continue at the school.

Students will receive a grade from each teacher for attendance and for effort in a class, in addition to the grade for the substantive work in a class. Students will receive an attendance grade and a grade for effort in all New Mexico Art Institute classes which shall be reported to the appropriate Art Chair at the School. The Art Chair will consider these grades in giving attendance and effort grades in the art classes at the School. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of a "B" or "3.0" in their art classes (including attendance and effort grades) and a "C" or "2.0" in their academic classes (including attendance and effort grades) to demonstrate purpose and commitment. A student receiving an "F" in any class or receiving an "incomplete" in a class that is not completed within the next semester will be deemed to have a documented lack of purpose and commitment. If a special education student fails to meet the criteria in this paragraph, the Head of School will have discretion to determine if any part of the failure is due to the student's special education needs rather than a documented lack of purpose and commitment.

Students who show a documented lack of purpose and commitment shall be placed on probation and a plan shall be developed with the Student Assistance Team (SAT). The parents of a student placed on probation shall be notified of the probation and shall be invited to meet with the SAT to discuss the probation and action required in order to be released from a probationary status. The student shall sign a Student Success Contract outlining the action necessary for the student to demonstrate purpose and commitment. For the semester in which a student is on probation for documented lack of purpose and commitment, the student will not participate in the artistic performances, art shows, or other art related activities until the student demonstrates purpose and commitment as determined by the Head of School. If the Head of School determines at the end of the semester that student continues to demonstrate lack of purpose and commitment, the student may be administratively removed from the school. The Head of School shall notify the parents and the students of the decisions regarding the students being administratively removed through a written notice, sent certified mail.

A student who has been administratively removed from the school may appeal the decision to the Governing Board of the school in writing within 30 days of receipt of the written decision. The Governing Board shall review the decision of the Head of School and make a determination on the Head of School's decision within 60 days. The Governing Board may interview the parents and students as part of the review process. The decision of the Governing Board shall be final and non-appealable.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. **Absences, Excessive** Attendance that falls below 95% in a grading period (approximately 5 days out of a 9-week period).
2. **Arson** Maliciously, willfully and/or neglectfully starting, by any means, a fire or causing an explosion on school property or at any school-related activity.

Category I – Deliberately, or with reckless disregard, starting a fire with resulting expense under \$100.00.

Category II – Deliberately, or with reckless disregard, starting a fire resulting in damage over \$100.00 to property or resulting in injury to a person.

3. Assault/Bullying Any act or speech that subjects persons to indignity, humiliation, intimidation, physical abuse or threat of physical abuse, social or other isolation, shame, or disgrace.

I. Reported – incidents are reported by a student, but no direct evidence exists.

II. Observed – Witnessed incidents or evidence of incident exists.

4. Assault, Aggravated Intending or performing assault and battery with a weapon, instrument or any means of force likely to produce bodily injury. This category includes sexual assault and/or offenses.

5. Battery, Aggravated Employing hostile contact with any kind of weapon or causing great bodily harm.

6. Battery/Fighting Employing hostile contact in which at least one party has contributed to a situation by verbal action and/or bodily harm.

7. Bomb Threat and/or False Alarm

Bomb Threat – Falsely and maliciously stating to another that a bomb or other explosive has been placed in such a position that person/s or property are likely to be injured or destroyed.

False Alarm – Interfering with the proper functioning of a fire alarm system or giving a false alarm, whether by means of a fire alarm or otherwise.

8. Bus Disruption Deliberately or inadvertently interfering with the safe operation of a school bus which is stopped or moving; behaving in a manner adversely affecting an individual or any property on or near the bus itself, at bus stops or at pick-up areas.

9. Cell Phones violation of Cell Phone Use & Registration Agreement. Also see Nuisance Items. Misuse of cell phones and other forms of technology could include, but not be limited to the unauthorized taking of pictures, cheating, invading privacy, etc.

10. Cell Phone used for Gang Activity the use of the cell phone to call or solicit students and/or non-students for gang-related activities.

11. Contract Violation the student's refusal to comply with expectations, policies, and procedures as set forth in a Student Success Contract agreed upon by student, parent, and school representative. Contract conferences occur when as student returns from suspension.

12. *Controlled Substance, Paraphernalia Possession*** Possessing any paraphernalia, such as but not limited to rolling paper, lighters, pipes or bongs.

13. *Controlled Substance, Possession*** Possessing any substance capable of producing a change in behavior or altering a state of mind or feeling; having a "look-alike,"**a substance that looks like a controlled substance.

14. *Controlled Substance, Sale or Distribution Selling or distributing a substance capable of producing a change in behavior or altering a state of mind or feeling; including a “look-alike,”^{***} or an item sold as a controlled substance.

15. *Controlled Substance, Use. The physical, mental, or emotional impairment of personal faculties caused by the use of marijuana, hallucinogenic drugs, other abuse prone drugs, counterfeit drugs, “look-alike”, controlled substances or any substance with an intoxicating effect.

Definition of substance with intoxicating /addictive effect:

A. A substance such as, but not limited to, permanent markers, hair spray, vanilla, liquid paper, gasoline, or caffeine pills used to produce an intoxicating effect.

B. Drugs prescribed by the student’s physician that are being taken according to the discretion of the prescription are exempt under this policy. NOTE: Such prescribed medications are to be kept in the health office and taken under the supervision of school personnel. Refer to School Medication Procedures.

16. Defiance of School Personnel/Authorities Refusing to comply with any reasonable demand or request by any school official or sponsor at places and times where school personnel have jurisdiction. This includes falsely identifying oneself, the use of profane or abusive language (oral or written) which is crude, insulting, or irreverent.

17. Expulsion The removal of a student from all regular schools for a period exceeding one (1) semester. In some cases expulsion may be a permanent removal from this school system.

18. Extortion Using intimidation or the threat of violence to obtain money, information or anything else of value from another person.

19. Firearm, Possession Possession of any weapon which will or is intended to propel a projectile by the action of an explosive; this may include “look-alikes” starter gun, firearm muffler, firearm silencer, or any destruction device. In compliance with Federal Gun Free Schools Act, any student found to be in violation of this policy due to possession of a firearm, as defined in this policy, shall at a minimum be expelled from school for a period of not less than one year (365 days).

20. Gang-Related Activity Gang-related activity can be intimidating to students, faculty and staff and is disruptive to the educational process. Although this list is not all-inclusive, examples of inappropriate and unacceptable behaviors are such things as gang graffiti on school property and/or other items, intimidation of others, gang fights and/or initiation rituals, wearing gang attire or “colors.” A “gang” can be any group of students and/or non-students whose group behavior is threatening, delinquent or criminal. Since gang behavior, markers and colors are variable and subject to rapid change, school administrators and staff must exercise judgment and their individual discretion, based upon current circumstances in their neighborhood schools when evaluating gang-related activity.

Gang-related indicators that will be considered should include:

- The student associating with admitted or known gang members.
- The student wearing attire consistent with gang dress.
- The student displaying gang logos, graffiti and/or symbols on personal possessions.
- The student displaying gang hand signs or signals to others.

- The student talking about gang activities to others.

21. General Disruptive Conduct Willful conduct which materially and in fact disrupts or interferes with the operation of the public schools and the orderly conduct of any public school activity, including individual classes; or leads an administrative authority reasonably to forecast that such an interruption or interference is likely to occur unless preventive action is taken. *Level of intervention is subject to staff discretion.*

For example:

- Failing to provide/surrender school identification to any public school personnel or activity sponsor upon demand.
- Knowingly and deliberately failing to comply with any legal and/or official rule or regulation designed by or provided by a teacher, principal, faculty member or other public school official at any time, whether the rule is designed for the classroom, the campus in general or any other location or facility involving a school-related activity.
- Being dressed in a manner that is disruptive to the educational process.
- Cheating.
- Gambling.
- Poor Sportsmanship

22. Language, Profane and/or Abusive Using language (oral or written) which is crude, offensive, insulting or irreverent; use of coarse words to show contempt or disrespect; swearing.

23. Materials, Obscene Displaying material that is indecent and has the potential of being disruptive.

24. Nuisance Items Any item that disrupts the educational process (cell phones, CD players, radios, video games)

25. Public Displays of Affection Inappropriate physical contact (discretion of school staff).

26. Restitution Compensation for loss or damage.

27. Robbery Taking of property of another through means of force or fear.

28. Search, Minimally Intrusive Emptying of pockets, searches of student backpacks and purses, removal of hats, socks and shoes, conducted by any certified school employee, school security officer, campus security aide, or school bus driver.

29. Search, More Intrusive Pat downs and/or frisks, conducted by an authorized person of the same sex as the student being searched.

30. Search, Most Intrusive A strip search shall be conducted only upon *individualized reasonable suspicion* of a serious crime or a safety concern and shall be conducted by a school administrator of the same sex and in the presence of another authorized person of the same sex.

31. Sexual Assault An unlawful attempt to threaten to do harm of a sexual nature. Threatening physical harm to another or causing a present fear of imminent danger to the person by use of threats, gestures, verbal assaults, instigation of a sexual nature.

32. Sexual Battery Inappropriate or unwanted touching of a sexual manner. The unlawful use of force of a sexual nature upon another person.

33. Sexual Harassment Sexual harassment is a form of gender discrimination as defined in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Sexual harassment is a violation of federal law. Examples of sexual harassment include but are not limited to the following: sexual assault, unwanted touching, inappropriate comments or conversation, certain non-verbal behaviors and gestures which threaten or belittle others on the basis of gender.

34. Tagging or Graffiti Defacing, writing on or marking up school or personal property not related with media not limited to markers, paints, pencil, or pens.

35. Tardy, Excessive Student is not in the class or assigned activity when it is scheduled to begin on a habitual basis.

36. Theft I Unauthorized possession and/or sale of property of another without consent of owner (items less than \$50 monetary value).

37. Theft II Unauthorized possession and/or sale of property of another without consent of owner (items of monetary value more than \$50).

38. Tobacco Possession*** Possession of tobacco anywhere on a school campus or at a school related event is prohibited. In addition, students found in possession of tobacco products are subject to the provisions of the Substance Abuse and Tobacco Policy.

39. Tobacco Use Using any form of tobacco is prohibited. In addition, students using any form of tobacco are subject to the provisions of the Substance Abuse and Tobacco Policy.

40. Trespassing/Unauthorized Presence Entering or being on school grounds or in a school building without authorization.

41. Truancy Any absence that does not fit into the prescribed school guidelines or is not school related. Leaving campus during school hours without appropriate approval from designated authority.

42. Vandalism Deliberately or maliciously destroying, damaging and/or defacing school property or the property of another individual.

43. Weapon Possession*** Possessing a weapon such as but not limited to: a firearm, any type of gun, knife, club, explosive, spiked wrist band, chains or other item that may cause or is intended to cause injury or death. This specifically includes "look-alike" guns and knives, such as toys. School for the Arts forbids the possession, custody, or use of weapons by students or unauthorized personnel in or around school property. This policy is enacted so as to conform to the Federal Gun Free Schools Act of 1995, 33 U.S.C. 3351 (a) (1).

44. Weapon Use Use of any weapon (firearm, knife, explosive, or other object, even if manufactured for a nonviolent purpose, that has a potentially violent use, or any look-alike" object that resembles an object that

has a potentially violent use) to threaten, intimidate, attack, injure or kill any person.

**Any narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant or any kind.*

***"Look-alikes" are specifically included whether or not they are capable of producing a change in behavior or altering a state of mind.*

****"Possession," as used herein, includes not only possession on one's physical person, but also custody and control. Thus, a student may be found in possession of any item if the item is in the student's backpack, locker, car or elsewhere, if subject to the student's custody and control.*