

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The fundamental purpose of Bainbridge Island Public Schools is to provide educational opportunities for children and youth. If this purpose is to be achieved effectively, a safe and orderly learning environment must be maintained.

Pupils shall be responsible for conducting themselves in keeping with their levels of maturity, acting with due regard for the supervisory authority vested by the board in all district employees, for the educational purpose underlying all school activities, for the widely shared use of school property, and for the rights and welfare of other students.

At the same time, children and youth, by statute and by constitutional grant, have certain individual rights and privileges which must be preserved.

All students who attend the district's schools shall comply with the written policies, rules, and regulations of the schools, shall pursue the required course of studies, and shall submit to the authority of staff of the schools, subject to such corrective action or sanction as the school officials shall determine.

One basic purpose of education, since the establishment of our public school system, has been to develop an understanding and an appreciation of our representative form of government, the rights and responsibilities of the individual, and the legal processes whereby necessary changes are brought about. To achieve this purpose it is incumbent upon school districts to observe the fundamental concepts of due process in establishing local rules and regulations governing the conduct of the school.

Due Process Assurance

Prior to the implementation of discipline or corrective action as defined under RCW 28A.600.010 and pursuant to RCW 28A.305.160, the individual student will be assured substantive and procedural due process rights. In addition, reasonable efforts will be made to notify parent(s) of significant student conduct and discipline issues.

- A. The student accused of having violated a conduct rule or code will be notified of the alleged rule or code infraction and the possible disciplinary action to be taken.
- B. The student must be given the opportunity to be heard and to present any claim or defense on his/her own behalf.
- C. The school must take reasonable care to properly investigate the allegation.
- D. Any finding and/or determination by the school must be based upon reasonably trustworthy information sufficient to justify these decisions.
- E. Corrective and disciplinary sanctions will be metered in a reasonable, fair, equitable, and just manner suitable under and for each individual circumstance.
- F. These assurances do not prevent the school from taking emergency expulsion or removal actions, as deemed necessary and appropriate under prescribed law.

Legal References:	RCW	28A.600.010	Government of schools, pupils, employees, rules and regulations for--Due process guarantees--Enforcement
		28A.600.020	Government of schools, pupils, employees optimum learning atmosphere
		28A.600.040	Pupils to comply with rules & regulations
		28A.400.110	Principal to assure appropriate discipline
		28A.150.240	Basic Education Act of 1977--Certificated teaching and administrative staff as accountable for class room teaching--Scope--Responsibilities--Penalty
		28A.405.060	Course of study and regulations Enforcement--Withholding salary warrant for failure
		28A.305.160	Rules incorporating due process guarantees of pupils—Informed due process procedures when suspension of students
	WAC	180-40-225	School rules defining misconduct--Distribution of rules
		392-168	Citizen Complaint Procedure for Certain Categorical Federal Programs