

DANBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Danbury, Connecticut

REGULATIONS***SAFETY AND SECURITY***

Reviewed: 11/25/08

Policy No. 7-131.5

Maintenance of Order in the School Setting

All members of the administrative and teaching staff are responsible for maintaining order in the school setting. To meet this responsibility, staff members shall intervene to resolve problems and, when appropriate, report violations of school rules to the building principal or his/her designee(s). Violations of school rules shall be addressed consistently with due regard for the seriousness of the offense and the record of the student.

There may be situations which arise which call for the use of reasonable physical force by staff members. Staff members may use reasonable physical force with students when and to the extent that he or she reasonably believes use of such force is necessary to (a) protect themselves or others from immediate physical injury, (b) obtain possession of a dangerous instrument or controlled substance upon or within the control of a student, (c) protect property from physical damage, or (d) restrain a student or remove a student to another area to maintain order.

The Superintendent shall provide for training of K-12 staff on the definition and use of reasonable force and in mediation and conflict resolution techniques.

Use of Security Personnel

The Administration may retain and direct security personnel as appropriate to maintain order and enforce school rules. The Administration shall take affirmative steps to promote communication and understanding as to the role and responsibilities of security personnel between students, staff and such security personnel. Such steps may include written guidelines, classroom visitations by such security personnel or other sworn police officers, regular meetings between school and police representatives, and consultation by such security personnel to the School Safety Council. School staff and police or security personnel shall be trained in a team approach to conflict resolution in an educational setting.

School Safety Council

A safe school environment free of disruption is the responsibility and concern of all members of the school community. There shall be a School Safety Council in each middle and high school, comprised of parents, students and staff and other resource persons as appointed by the building principal in consultation with the Superintendent. The School Safety Council shall address safety needs of the school and shall make recommendations, as it deems appropriate to the building principal and/or Superintendent. Each Council shall file a summary of its meetings with the Superintendent each year. The Superintendent shall report annually to the Board of Education with regard to school safety issues and the work of the School Safety Councils.