



## BOARD REPORT

# New Washington State Student Discipline Rules

## Why new discipline rules?

Washington's discipline rules were created four decades ago. Students and schools are vastly different today.

In 2016, the state Legislature passed a law (House Bill 1541) to help close opportunity gaps in learning. One area of concern is discipline. Some groups of students are more likely to be suspended than their peers.

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) saw the bill's passage as an opportunity to improve the rules' readability, clarify requirements, and support family engagement. After almost two years of collaborative work—including three public comment periods and eight public hearings—OSPI is adopting new discipline rules.

The rules ensure school discipline policies are fair across the state. They require schools to take a “prevention-based” approach, meaning that an attempt is made to correct a behavior before it requires discipline.

## Family Engagement

The new discipline rules provide more ways for parents and families to engage. They require increased parent communication from schools, and they provide for more collaborative discipline procedures.

School districts are now required to consult with students, families, and the community when developing and updating district discipline policies. OSPI strongly encourages parents and

families to work with school districts as they update district policies in response to the new rules.

## Student protections

Additional protections now minimize the use of suspensions and expulsions. For example, the new rules prohibit schools from excluding students from school for absences or tardiness. The new rules will further limit the use of exclusionary discipline for behaviors that do not present a threat to school safety and will prohibit the use of expulsion for students in kindergarten through grade four.

## Best practices

The new discipline rules emphasize the use of research-based best practices. School districts will be required to identify those practices that school personnel must attempt or consider before or instead of exclusions. The practices may include positive behavioral interventions and supports and other evidence-based practices.

## Educational services

State law requires that, when a school district suspends or expels a student, the district must provide the student the opportunity to receive educational services. Under the new rules, the student must be allowed to continue to participate in general education curriculum; meet the standards of the district; and complete subject, grade-level, and graduation requirements.

For more information

Learn more about the rules: [k12.wa.us/studentdiscipline/](http://k12.wa.us/studentdiscipline/) Rules

Learn more about discipline: [k12.wa.us/studentdiscipline/](http://k12.wa.us/studentdiscipline/)

Do you have concerns about discrimination in discipline? [k12.wa.us/equity/](http://k12.wa.us/equity/)

Do you have questions about our policies? Contact [rkramer@psd267.org](mailto:rkramer@psd267.org)

## Board of Directors

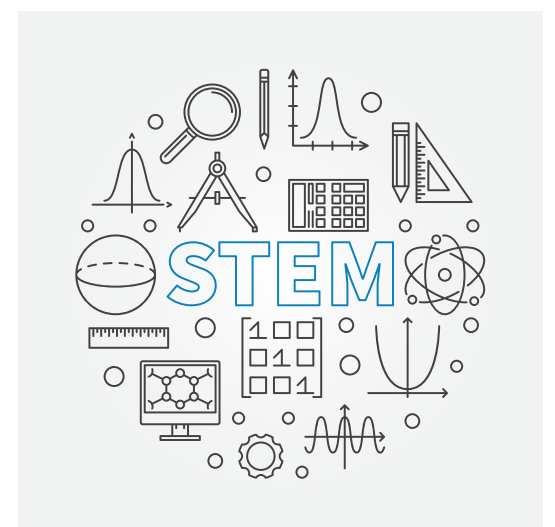
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**Ms. King's** class at Jefferson recently read a story about **Clara Barton** and invited Ms. King's mom, a nurse, to talk about nursing! The students did a great job sharing their knowledge of Clara Barton and interviewing their special guest!

## STEM Fun!

Mr. Supowit's 3rd grade class at Jefferson Elementary loved this STEM and engineering science lesson! Students designed and built cardboard arcade games—once made, other classes were invited to the cardboard arcade to play!



## October was Disability Awareness month!

Our schools participated in a variety of activities and events, including the creation of this sweet classroom bulletin board in Mrs. Strader's kindergarten class at Franklin!



## Child Find 2018-2019 Early Childhood Developmental Screening

PULLMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ensuring Learning While Challenging and Supporting Each Student to Achieve Full Potential

**WHO:** Children - Birth through 5 years of age who are living in the Pullman School District. If your family is living in a temporary situation, you may contact the district in which you are currently staying for a screening.

**WHAT:** This screening is an opportunity to identify, locate, and evaluate children who might have a disability and to address potential concerns.

**WHEN:** Friday mornings during the 2018-2019 school year:

- September 7th
- October 5th
- November 2nd
- January 11th
- February 1st
- March 1st
- April 12th
- May 3rd

**WHERE:** Community Child Care Center/Head Start  
530 NW Larry Street (aka Greyhound Way) (behind Pullman High School)  
Pullman, WA



For more information or to schedule an appointment please contact:  
Instructional Programs Office  
Pullman School District  
Phone: 509-332-3144

The Pullman School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veterans or military status, sex, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to designated youth groups. This holds true for all district employment and opportunities. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent, Pullman School District Administrative Offices, 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163, 509/332-3144. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.

The Pullman School District Board of Directors and the Pullman School District shall provide equal educational opportunity and treatment for all students in all aspects of the academic and activities programs without regard to race, religion, creed, color, national origin, age, honorably-discharged veteran or military status, sex, sexual orientation (including gender expression or identity), marital status, the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability, participation in the Boy Scouts of America or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal by a person with a disability. The district will provide equal access to school facilities to the Boy Scouts of America and all other designated youth groups listed in Title 36 of the United States Code as a patriotic society. District programs will be free from sexual harassment.

The following employee has been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: **Roberta Kramer**, Assistant Superintendent, Pullman School District Administrative Offices, 240 SE Dexter Street, Pullman, WA 99163, 509.332.3144. Applicants with disabilities may request reasonable accommodations in the application process by contacting the Personnel Coordinator at (509) 332-3584.

### Let's be social!

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Find the latest news and updates:

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- Pullman High School: [www.facebook.com/PullmanHS](http://www.facebook.com/PullmanHS)

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