

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0065

K-12 public school discipline.

Sponsored by: Joint Education Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to K-12 public school discipline; requiring
2 school district board of trustees to adopt rules or
3 policies; establishing requirements for student discipline;
4 requiring notice to parents and guardians; requiring
5 reporting; making conforming amendments; repealing immunity
6 for the use of corporal discipline; and providing for an
7 effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 21-4-308(a) and by creating new
12 subsections (d) through (m) is amended to read:

13

1 **21-4-308. Disciplinary measures; required rules and**
2 **policies; duties of school district boards of trustees and**
3 **school district employees; reporting requirements.**

4
5 (a) Each board of trustees in each school district
6 within the state ~~may~~shall adopt rules or policies for
7 ~~reasonable forms of punishment and disciplinary measures.~~
8 ~~Subject to such rules, teachers, principals, and~~
9 ~~superintendents in such~~ discipline of students enrolled in
10 a school district. ~~may impose reasonable forms of~~
11 ~~punishment and disciplinary measures for insubordination,~~
12 ~~disobedience, and other misconduct.~~ The rules or policies
13 shall:

14
15 (i) Provide school district employees with
16 authority to enforce school and district behavior rules and
17 policies applicable to students placed under their
18 supervision by the school principal or the principal's
19 designated representative to ensure all students have the
20 opportunity to learn on school district property and ensure
21 the safety of students and school district personnel. The
22 rules or policies shall provide school district employees

1 with authority to take any of the following actions to
2 ensure the safety of students and school district employees
3 and to maintain the opportunity for all students to learn:

4
5 (A) Enforce classroom management rules or
6 policies adopted pursuant to this subsection, including
7 policies or rules adopted for the use of cellular phones,
8 smart watches, tablets, computers and all other electronic
9 devices;

10
11 (B) Discuss behavior and disciplinary
12 issues regarding a student with the student's parent or
13 guardian. The school district may make exceptions to the
14 requirements of this subdivision necessary to comply with
15 any applicable state or federal laws;

16
17 (C) Enforce consequences in response to
18 student misconduct that violates the rules or policies
19 adopted pursuant to this section or a student code of
20 conduct adopted by a school district that may include any
21 of the following:

22

1 (I) Removal of violent, abusive,
2 uncontrollable or disruptive students from the area of
3 disruption on school district property. Reasonable force
4 may be used by school district employees to remove a
5 student from the area of disruption on school district
6 property to prevent injury of the student or others or to
7 ensure the safety of students and school district
8 employees. Any use of reasonable force to remove a student
9 shall comply with rules governing seclusion and restraint
10 required pursuant to W.S. 21-2-202(a)(xxxii);

11
12 (II) Referral to the school principal
13 or school district superintendent for behavioral
14 modification or imposition of consequences pursuant to
15 subsection (d) of this section. If a student is removed
16 pursuant to subdivision (I) of this subparagraph, prior to
17 the imposition of any behavioral modification or
18 consequences pursuant to subsection (d) of this section,
19 the school principal or the school district superintendent
20 shall consult with the employee that removed the student to
21 discuss recommended consequences. If the final consequences
22 or punishments imposed by the school principal or the

1 school district superintendent pursuant to subsection (d)
2 of this section differ from those recommended by the
3 employee that removed the student, written notice shall be
4 provided by the school district to the removing employee.
5 The employee shall also be informed of all actions taken to
6 address the student's behavior.

7
8 (ii) For purposes of this section, "school
9 district property" means any property owned or leased by a
10 school district, including classrooms, property where any
11 school district or school sponsored activities take place,
12 as defined by W.S. 21-3-137(a)(v), regardless of location,
13 and transportation to or from school sponsored activities.

14
15 (d) Consequences imposed under this section by the
16 school principal, the school district superintendent or the
17 board of trustees may include the following:

18
19 (i) If a student is removed from a classroom,
20 placement in an alternative classroom. No student removed
21 from a class shall be returned to the class from which the

1 student was removed without the written consent of the
2 classroom teacher;

3
4 (ii) In-school suspension;

5
6 (iii) Exclusion from participation in, or
7 attendance at, school or district sponsored events and
8 activities, including extracurricular or cocurricular
9 activities;

10
11 (iv) Suspension or expulsion in accordance with
12 W.S. 21-4-305 and 21-4-306.

13
14 (e) School district employees that request assistance
15 in enforcement of actions authorized pursuant to paragraph
16 (a)(i) of this section shall receive assistance, as soon as
17 reasonably practical, from other school district personnel,
18 including the school principal.

19
20 (f) Each school district shall provide ongoing, high
21 quality and district-funded professional development to
22 ensure teachers and staff have the ability to provide

1 students with a high quality, adequate education in
2 kindergarten through grade twelve (12). Each school
3 district shall ensure teachers and staff have input on the
4 design and implementation of the professional development
5 required pursuant to this subsection.

6
7 (g) Any school district employee who knows, or has
8 reasonable suspicion to believe, that a person has
9 committed, or may commit, a violent crime on school
10 property shall report the information to the school
11 principal and the school district superintendent. If the
12 report is made in good faith, the principal and
13 superintendent shall defend and support the actions of the
14 reporting employee.

15
16 (h) The school district board of trustees shall take
17 reasonable steps to ensure the safety of students and
18 school district employees when physical violence is likely
19 to occur on school district property.

20
21 (j) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
22 teacher who acts in a manner consistent with this section,

1 applicable school district and board of trustees policies,
2 and rules of the state board of education shall not be
3 subject to professional disciplinary proceedings,
4 reprimand, or adverse employment actions.

5
6 (k) The school district superintendent or school
7 principal shall provide written notice to the student's
8 parent or guardian of any action taken under this section
9 and shall consult with and involve the student's parent or
10 guardian in the imposition of any consequence imposed
11 pursuant to this section.

12
13 (m) The following student discipline reports shall
14 maintain the confidentiality of individual students. All
15 data reported pursuant to this subsection shall be
16 de-identified and shall not include personally identifiable
17 student information:

18
19 (i) Not later than June 15 of each year, each
20 school shall report major student disciplinary actions
21 imposed in the preceding school year to the school district
22 board of trustees;

1

2 (ii) Not later than July 15 of each year, the
3 board of trustees shall consolidate the information
4 submitted pursuant to paragraph (i) of this subsection and
5 submit the information to the department of education;

6

7 (iii) Not later than August 15 of each year, the
8 department of education shall submit a report to the joint
9 education interim committee summarizing the information
10 received pursuant to paragraph (ii) of this subsection.

11

12 **Section 2.** W.S. 21-4-308(b) is repealed.

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14 **Section 3.** Not later than August 1, 2026, each school
15 district shall adopt policies or rules as required by W.S.
16 21-4-308(a) as amended by section 1 of this act.

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1 **Section 4.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

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(END)