

**STUDENT CONDUCT AND BEHAVIOR**

1. Schools are established for the benefit of all students. The educational purposes of the schools are best accomplished in a climate of student behavior that is socially acceptable and conducive to the learning and teaching process. Student behavior that disrupts this process or that infringes upon the rights of other individuals will not be tolerated.
2. The Governing Board supports the administrative staff and teachers in taking all necessary steps, **exclusive of corporal punishment of any kind, at any time or in any circumstance**, to enforce and implement all board policies and administrative directives to maintain appropriate student behavior. Important among these policies and directives are those in the areas of conduct, discipline, suspensions and expulsions, and enhancing the climate for learning.
3. Palm Beach School District policies inclusive of **5.181** through **5.1891** are adopted and shall serve as the basis for South Tech Charter Academy, Inc. Board code governing student conduct and discipline. All discipline shall be administered in accordance with provisions of the Palm Beach School District “Matrix of Incidents and Actions for Secondary Schools”.
4. The Board recognizes that the code of student conduct must be compliant with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. Therefore, students eligible for services under IDEA or Section 504, will be disciplined in accordance with these Acts and are governed by those Board policies which specify application to students covered under IDEA and Section 504.
5. The codes shall be distributed to all school personnel, students, parents or guardians and discussed at the beginning of every school year.
6. In accordance with § 1006.13 FS, the Board adopts a policy of zero tolerance for crime, gang-related activity, substance abuse, and possession of a firearm.
7. To the extent that any definition, recommended disciplinary action or any provision in the policies serving as the basis for code governing student conduct are contrary to state law, state board of education rule, the law or state board rule shall control.
8. Grievance Against Schools
  - a. Students, parents or guardians are required to follow the procedures outlined in South Tech Charter Academy, Inc. Board Policy 5.19 for addressing grievances against the school.
  - b. Grievances associated with student boycotts, walkouts, and sit-ins, must be presented by the parents themselves rather than by students.

Authority: FS 230.23(6)(c)(d); 230.23(8); 230.23(22); 1006.13; 230.23005(1)

Implemented: FS 230.23(6)(c)(d); 230.23005(1); 1006.13; 18 U.S.C. §§ 921(a)(25)(26); 922(q)(2)(3); 924(a)(4)

Reference: Palm Beach School District Policy 5.18

History: New: 8/19/2004, Revised: 11/04/2004; 7/07/2005