

KIPP: Nashville Board of Directors

Monitoring:	Descriptor Term:	Policy:	Issued:
Annually	Zero Tolerance	6309	4/28/2020

1 In order to ensure the safety and security of all students and a learning environment that
2 is free of drugs, violence, and firearms, KIPP Nashville schools shall adopt the following
3 zero tolerance policy in accordance with state law. "Zero tolerance policy" means that
4 violations of this policy will not be tolerated and that violators will receive certain, swift,
5 and reasoned punishment. Reasoned punishment may include a spectrum of disciplinary
6 measures designed to correct student misbehavior and promote student respect and
7 compliance with codes of conduct and policies. A zero-tolerance violation may not
8 necessarily result in a presumptive one (1)-calendar-year expulsion, except for the
9 following student misconduct:

- 10 (1) Bringing to school or being in unauthorized possession on school property of a
11 firearm;
- 12 (2) Commission of aggravated assault or assault that results in bodily injury, upon any
13 teacher, principal, administrator, any other employee of an LEA, or school
14 resource officer;
- 15 (3) Unlawfully possessing any drug including any controlled substance, controlled
16 substance analogue, or legend drug on school grounds or at a school-sponsored
17 event; or,
- 18 (4) Using an electronic device to transmit any communication containing a credible
19 threat to cause bodily injury or death to another student or school employee
20 which causes actual disruptive activity at the school that requires administrative
21 intervention.

22 **Weapons and Dangerous Instruments**

23 Students shall not possess, handle, transmit, use, or attempt to use any dangerous
24 weapon on school buses, on school property, or while on school sponsored outings.¹

25 Dangerous weapons for the purposes of this policy shall include, but are not limited to, a
26 firearm or anything manifestly designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting
27 death or serious bodily injury or anything that in the manner of its use or intended use is
28 capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.²

29 Violators of this section shall be subject to suspension and/or expulsion from school.

1 *Firearms*³

2 In accordance with state law, any student who brings to school or is in unauthorized
3 possession of a firearm on school property shall be expelled for a period of not less than
4 one (1) calendar year. The KIPP Nashville Executive Director shall have the authority to
5 modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁴

6 **Drugs**

7 In accordance with state law, any student who unlawfully possesses any drug, including
8 any controlled substance, controlled substance analogue, or legend drug on school
9 grounds or at a school-sponsored event, shall be expelled for a period of not less than
10 one (1) calendar year. The KIPP Nashville Executive Director shall have the authority to
11 modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁴

12 **Assault**

13 In accordance with state law, any student who commits aggravated assault⁵ or commits
14 assault that results in bodily injury⁶ upon any teacher, principal, administrator, any other
15 employee of the school, or school resource officer shall be expelled for a period of not
16 less than one (1) calendar year. The KIPP Nashville Executive Director shall have the
17 authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁴

18 **Electronic Threats**

19 In accordance with state law, any student who transmits by an electronic device any
20 communication containing a credible threat to cause bodily injury or death to another
21 student or school employee and the transmission of such threat creates actual disruptive
22 activity at the school that requires administrative intervention shall be expelled for a
23 period of not less than one (1) calendar year. The KIPP Nashville Executive Director shall
24 have the authority to modify this expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.⁴

25 **Modification and Appeals.**

26 The KIPP Nashville Executive Director shall have the ability to modify zero-tolerance
27 disciplinary actions on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the Tennessee Public
28 Charter School Commission LEA Policy 6317.

29 **Notice of Policy.**

30 The school shall annually report their zero-tolerance policy and procedures to
31 the Tennessee Public Charter School Commission. The Tennessee Public Charter School
32 Commission will annually file each charter school's zero tolerance policy and procedures
33 with the Commissioner of Education. At the beginning of school each year, the school
34 shall provide students and parents with written notification of the school's policies and
35 procedures and post a summary within each school.

¹ TCA 39-17-1309(b)

² TCA 39-11-106(a)(5)

³ 18 USCA § 921(a)(3); 20 USCA § 7961(b)(3)

⁴ TCA 49-6-4216(b); TCA 49-6-3401(g)

⁵ TCA 39-13-102

⁶ TCA 39-13-101(a)(1); Public Acts 2018, Chapter No. 958