

Comparison of Arizona School District Discipline Policies

December 12, 2017

District Discipline Policies

1. Background

2. Comparative Analysis

3. USP Analysis



Discipline Policies Reviewed

Amphi Elementary Student Code of Conduct

Amphi Secondary Student Code of Conduct

Chandler Unified Handbook

Dysart Unified Handbook

Mesa Elementary Handbook

Mesa Secondary Handbook

Phoenix Elementary Handbook

Phoenix Union High School District Handbook

Tempe Elementary Handbook

Tempe Union High School District Handbook

*Gilbert Elementary Handbook

*Gilbert Secondary Handbook

Amphi Code of Conduct

- Structure is similar to the GSRR except it is separated into two separate codes (elementary and secondary) and differentiates consequences into first incidents and repeated incidents

Chandler Student Handbooks and Parent Guides

- Each school has its own handbook; each handbook includes the “CUSD Discipline Procedures” chart

Dysart Student and Parent Handbook

- Dysart differentiates consequences based on grade levels: K-2, 3-6, 7-8, and 9-12 (7-8 and 9-12 consequences are generally the same)

Mesa Information and Guidelines

- Two separate codes (elementary and secondary) but consequences are similar
- Includes a range of minimum and maximum consequences, differentiated by first incidents and repeated incidents

Phoenix Elementary Student Handbook for Success

- Includes a range of minimum and maximum consequences, differentiated by first occurrences and repeated occurrences

Phoenix Union High School District Student Handbook

- The Student Conduct section identifies the specific behavior for which students will receive interventions and/or consequences. The behaviors are listed in different groups, according to the degree of possible consequences assigned.

Tempe Elementary Family Handbook

- Includes a range of minimum and maximum consequences

Tempe Union High School District Selected Student Policies & Regulations Handbook

- Includes a range of minimum and maximum consequences, differentiated by the numbers of incidents

Gilbert Public Schools, Elementary and Secondary Student Handbooks

- The Gilbert student handbooks outline a general approach to discipline and specific policies (including, in some cases, recommended consequences
- These handbooks do not include a “chart” linking violations to consequences

District Discipline Policies

1. Background

2. Comparative Analysis

3. USP Analysis

GSRR LEVEL 1 VIOLATIONS

Dress Code

Provocation



DRESS CODE

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: parent notification and conference request; student conference.</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more additional level 1 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order, short-term or long-term suspension, and revocation of automobile privileges</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Conference requesting a change of clothes to a suspension
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> change clothes to detention</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> change clothes and detention to 3 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> change clothes and detention to 3 day suspension</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> informal talk to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p>
MESA SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> informal talk to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to short term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> detention to short-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, mediation, temp removal, contract, support group</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> service learning</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Student conference to long-term suspension
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> short-term to long-term suspension</p>

PROVOCATION (VERBAL / NON-VERBAL)	
TUCSON UNIFIED	REQUIRED: parent notification and conference request; student conference. PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more additional level 1 responses.
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension <u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension
AMPHI SECONDARY	<u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension <u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Conference to long-term suspension
DYSART UNIFIED	"Provocation" is included in "Inappropriate Language" <u>Grades K-2:</u> detention to 3 day suspension <u>Grades 3-6:</u> 1 day suspension to 5 day suspension <u>Grades 7-12:</u> 1 day suspension to 10 day suspension *Dysart includes a separate violation for provocation committed against an adult <u>Grades K-2:</u> 1 day suspension to 5 day suspension <u>Grades 3-6:</u> 1 day suspension to long term suspension <u>Grades 7-12:</u> 1 day suspension to expulsion
MESA ELEMENTARY	Not Listed
MESA SECONDARY	Not Listed
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<u>First incident:</u> conference to short term suspension <u>Repeated:</u> detention to long term suspension
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	"Verbal Provocation" is included in "Disruptive Conduct" <u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, mediation, temp removal, contract, support group <u>Highly intensive consequence:</u> ISS, transfer from class, restitution <u>OSS</u> up to two days if progressive discipline has been documented, referral to Alt Ed Program
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Student conference to long-term suspension
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<u>First incident:</u> conference <u>Repeated:</u> short-term to long-term suspension

GSRR LEVEL 2 VIOLATIONS

Minor Aggressive Act

Defiance / Disrespect



MINOR AGGRESSIVE ACT

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: restorative conference and/or restorative circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1 or 2 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Conference to suspension
DYSART UNIFIED	<p>Physical aggression:</p> <p><u>Grades K-2:</u> detention to 5 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> detention to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> 1 day suspension to long-term suspension</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	No listed violation
MESA SECONDARY	No listed violation
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to detention</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> detention to short-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	No listed violation
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Student conference to short-term suspension
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension to recommend expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> term suspension to recommend expulsion</p>

DEFIANCE / DISRESPECT

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: restorative conference and/or restorative circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1 or 2 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Conference to suspension
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> detention to 10 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> detention to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> detention to long-term suspension</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> parent involvement to expulsion</p>
MESA SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> parent involvement to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> detention to long-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, temporary removal from class, mediation, contract, support group</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> service learning, Sat. school, intervention group, mediation, intervention team</p> <p><u>Highly intensive consequences:</u> ISS, restitution, possible transfer from class repeated: off-campus suspension for up to two (2) days after the use of progressive discipline has been documented, possible referral to alt ed prog</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Student conference to long-term suspension
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> short-term to long-term suspension or expulsion</p>

GSRR LEVEL 3 VIOLATIONS

Threat or Intimidation

Fighting



THREAT OR INTIMIDATION

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: short-term in-school action and/or abeyance and restorative conference and/or restorative circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1-3 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Conference to expulsion and police report
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> mediation/detention and 1 day suspension to 5 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> mediation/detention and 3 day suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> mediation and 3 day suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	No listed violation
MESA SECONDARY	No listed violation
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> detention to long-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	No listed violation
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Conference to expulsion
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p>If a long-term suspension is recommended and it is the first long-term suspension for threat or intimidation, the Principal may allow the student to return after a suspension of at least ten (10) days has been served and the student has successfully completed a District-approved sensitivity counseling program at student's expense. Failure to satisfactorily complete the sensitivity counseling program will result in the initial long-term suspension being reinstated. If a long-term suspension is recommended and it is the second (2nd) long-term suspension for threat or intimidation offense, counseling participation will not lessen the term of suspension. If the recommendation is for expulsion, participation in a sensitivity program will not lessen the recommendation.</p>

FIGHTING

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: short-term in-school action and/or abeyance and restorative conference and/or restorative circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1-3 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Conference to expulsion, police report
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> 1 day suspension to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> 3 day suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> 5 day suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> parent involvement, short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> short-term suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> parent involvement, short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> short-term suspension to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> detention to long-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, behavior contract, support group</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> intervention group, mediation, referral to intervention team</p> <p><u>Highly intensive consequences:</u></p> <p><u>First incident:</u> suspension up to 6 days, 1 intervention group, mediation</p> <p><u>Second incident:</u> suspension up to 9 days, 1 intervention group, mediation</p> <p><u>Third incident:</u> suspension up to 1 year</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Detention to expulsion
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First:</u> short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to expulsion</p>

GSRR LEVEL 4 VIOLATIONS

Assault

Drugs or Alcohol
(Possession / Use)



ASSAULT

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: out of school suspension and/or abeyance (long-term), restorative conference and/or circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1-3 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Suspension to expulsion, police report
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> 1 day detention to 10 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> 3 day suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> 5 day suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> conference to short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> detention to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, temporary removal from classroom</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> intervention group, referral to intervention team</p> <p><u>Highly intensive consequences:</u> possible transfer from class, off-campus suspension for up to one school year, referral to an alt ed program, notification to law enforcement as appropriate</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	ISI/ISS to expulsion
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension to recommend expulsion (possible police referral)</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to recommend expulsion (possible police referral)</p>

DRUGS OR ALCOHOL (USE OR POSSESSION)

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: out of school suspension and/or abeyance (long-term), restorative conference and/or circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1-3 responses.</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension or expulsion</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Suspension to expulsion, police report
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> confiscation and 3 day suspension to 10 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> confiscation and 5 day suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> confiscation and 10 day suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension and intervention program to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> suspension for 2 semesters to expulsion</p>
MESA SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension and intervention program to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> suspension for 2 semesters to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term suspension to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> short-term suspension to long-term suspension</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, temporary removal from classroom, behavior contract</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> intervention group, referral to intervention team</p> <p><u>Highly intensive consequences:</u> possible transfer from class, off-campus suspension for up to one school year, referral to an alt ed program, notification to law enforcement as appropriate</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Long-term suspension to expulsion
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First incident:</u> long-term suspension to expulsion (police referral)</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to recommend expulsion (police referral)</p>

GSRR LEVEL 5 VIOLATIONS

Aggravated Assault

Drugs or Alcohol
(Sale / Share)



AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: out of school suspension and/or abeyance (long-term), restorative conference and/or circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1-4 responses, possible expulsion</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
CHANDLER UNIFIED	Suspension to expulsion, police report
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> 1-10 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> 5 day suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> 10 day suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	No listed violation
MESA SECONDARY	No listed violation
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, temporary removal from classroom, behavior contract</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> intervention group, referral to intervention team</p> <p><u>Highly intensive consequences:</u> possible transfer from class, off-campus suspension for up to one school year, referral to an alt ed program, notification to law enforcement as appropriate</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	Long-term suspension to expulsion
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	Recommend expulsion (police referral)

DRUGS OR ALCOHOL (SALE OR SHARE)

TUCSON UNIFIED	<p>REQUIRED: out of school suspension and/or abeyance (long-term), restorative conference and/or circle</p> <p>PRINCIPAL DISCRETION: administrators may also select one or more add'l level 1-4 responses, possible expulsion</p>
AMPHI ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
AMPHI SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> any "School-Level Action" in any order and short-term or long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
CHANDLER HIGH SCHOOL	Suspension to expulsion and police report
DYSART UNIFIED	<p><u>Grades K-2:</u> confiscation and 3 day suspension to 10 day suspension</p> <p><u>Grades 3-6:</u> confiscation and 5 day suspension to expulsion</p> <p><u>Grades 7-12:</u> confiscation and 10 day suspension to expulsion</p>
MESA ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> suspension for 2 semesters to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> suspension for 2 semesters to expulsion</p>
MESA SECONDARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> suspension for 2 semesters to expulsion</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> suspension for 2 semesters to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX ELEMENTARY	<p><u>First incident:</u> short-term to long-term suspension</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
PHOENIX UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>Least intensive intervention:</u> conference, temporary removal from classroom, behavior contract</p> <p><u>Moderately intensive intervention:</u> intervention group, referral to intervention team</p> <p><u>Highly intensive consequences:</u> possible transfer from class, off-campus suspension for up to one school year, referral to an alt ed program, notification to law enforcement as appropriate</p>
TEMPE ELEMENTARY	<p>Sale: expulsion</p> <p>Share: long-term suspension to expulsion</p>
TEMPE UNION HS DISTRICT	<p><u>First incident:</u> long-term suspension to recommend expulsion (police referral)</p> <p><u>Repeated:</u> recommend expulsion (police referral)</p>

District Discipline Policies

1. Background

2. Comparative Analysis

3. USP Analysis

USP Section VI

“...the punitive use of serious disciplinary sanctions for low-level offenses creates the potential for negative educational and long-term outcomes for affected students.”

“...a variety of graduated positive behavior techniques shall be used with the aim of preventing students from being excluded for any amount of time from the classroom or school.”

“limit exclusionary consequences to instances in which student misbehavior is ongoing and escalating, and the District has first attempted and documented the types of intervention(s) used in PBIS and/or Restorative Practices, as appropriate”

“None of these revisions shall prevent school personnel from protecting student safety as appropriate”

Consequences in Other Districts that Conflict with USP Objectives

“preventing students from being excluded for any amount of time”
“limit exclusionary consequences”

Levels 1 - 3

- Exclusionary discipline on first incident
- Exclusionary discipline without previous interventions
- Expulsion available for repeated incidents

Level 4

- Expulsion
- Long Term Suspension greater than 30 days
- Any response that does not include a restorative component

Level 5

- Any response that does not include a restorative component