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# **Safe Schools Policy**

## Purpose

Stress caused by student violence rebounds throughout a school. Desert View Middle School is dedicated to helping educators ensure safe and secure learning environments, free from crime and fear, where the business of quality education can be carried out without interruption.

## Philosophy

The school addresses many aspects of a child's development. One of the aspects, social skills acquisition, can greatly affect the development of students. The student who consistently demonstrates acceptable behavior will experience success in many areas, including academic achievement, peer acceptance, emotional growth, and self-esteem.

Desert View Middle School believes that a safe, productive, and positive climate can be provided by the appropriate and timely implementation of the guidelines. The school also believes that, if students show respect to all people at all times, a positive atmosphere can be maintained.

The school uses a progressive discipline approach in dealing with misbehavior. The school has a program of behavior and consequences that begins with teacher intervention and progresses through a number of consequences that may ultimately lead to permanent expulsion from school.

To guarantee that all students will experience the excellent educational climate they deserve, the Desert View Middle School has developed these behavioral guidelines.

### Authority and Responsibility

The school has the authority to make reasonable and necessary rules governing the conduct of students in school. The goal is to develop positive, constructive student behaviors. Discipline is administered to modify inappropriate behavior.

The school will implement and enforce the rules, regulations, and procedures set forth in this discipline policy. The lines of authority in dealing with discipline rest first with the teaching staff and the school principal. The school also recognizes this, or any discipline policy, cannot be effective without the full cooperation of the entire staff, parents, and the students of the school.

### Student Responsibility

Students have a great responsibility in being good citizens of their school. Their responsibilities include regular school attendance, conscientious effort in classroom work, and conformity to school rules and regulations. Students share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school that is conducive to wholesome learning and living. It is the responsibility of each student to respect the rights of the teachers, administrators, students, and all others who are involved in the educational process.

It is the responsibility of students to be aware of all rules and regulations for student behavior and to conduct themselves in accordance with them. Students, therefore, must obey school rules and work through channels to effect changes. Such changes may be accomplished by working through class officers, homeroom representatives, the student council, or meeting with administration.