

# Chicago Public Schools Suspensions and Expulsions Reduction Project (SERP) Update

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# CPS Student Code of Conduct Revisions Approved by Board in June 2014

- Limit the use of out-of-school suspensions and emphasize restorative approach
  - Require Network Chief or designee approval for suspensions of PreK-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students, with suspensions permitted only where a clear safety justification exists.
  - Remove out-of-school suspension as an option for responding to Group 2 behaviors, and lower the number of suspension days permitted for Groups 3, 4 and 5.
- Improve the specificity and appropriateness of behavior codes
  - Reclassify unauthorized use of cellular telephones to Group 1.
  - Remove infraction 5-5 (“persistent defiance”). “Disregard for the directions of school personnel” would remain a Group 2 infraction.
- Expand options for administrators to address most serious behaviors

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# Accountability and Resources

- Regular **reporting** of key discipline data points to networks and schools, including reporting suspensions by school and subgroup publicly.
- Enhancement of **internal data systems** that provide real-time analysis of behavior and suspensions data disaggregated by student subgroups.
- Creation of a **clear set of guidance and tools** that will support schools and families in preventing inappropriate behaviors and providing effective discipline alternatives. These resources include:
  - Hiring social emotional learning specialists in all networks
  - Providing



# Professional Development

## Summer/Fall 2014:

All principals received training on the revised SCC and implementation of the Guidelines for Effective Discipline this past summer. All principals also participated in the Common Core summer sessions with a focus on Safe and Inclusive Classrooms.

On-Going Supports Within District- wide F



# Community Engagement

- **Collaborative For Supportive Discipline**
  - Community stakeholders continue to hold quarterly meetings to review data and organize further supports for schools. This work is now linked to the Mayor’s Commission for a Safer Chicago.
- **Collaboration with Charter Schools:**
  - Review of Charter Student Codes of Conduct in partnership with OSEL.
  - Access to SMART alternative to expulsion program.
- **Student- Led Discipline Conference**
  - CPS, in partnership with Mikva, Voyce, Umoja, and Project Nia, will host a student-led conference on discipline issues and restorative practices in the Spring (date TBD).
- **PASSAGEGrant**
  - CPS, VOYCE and COFI collaborating to reduce racial disparities in discipline through parent/community engagement in restorative practices .



Compared to the first semester last year,



# The Work Ahead

- Targeted focus on addressing discipline disproportionality
- Identify and share examples of excellent SEL practice in action including identification of “Supportive Schools Certification” for exemplary SEL schools
- Support expansion of effective strategies that integrate academic, social and emotional learning.
  - Implementation of SEL pedagogical practices including morning meeting in all K-2 classrooms
  - Integration of SEL into 8th-9th grade transition supports
- Spring convening with charter schools to reflect on collaboration and areas for continued collaboration



# Final Note

- Words from a CPS high school teacher to her colleagues, as she begins her work with a Restorative Practices Coach