| From: To: Subject: Date: | Kesha Hamilton on behalf of Kesha Hamilton Re: Attendance Policy Update, Suspension data Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:15:11 AM |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Subject: | |



I have a few questions regarding this.

1. How long has this tardy policy been in place? The tardy policy has been in the handbook for several years, the robo-call about hall sweeps specifically targets habitual offenders and is a reaction to a growing concern at JHS.

2. What trends are you seeing based on implementing this policy? Especially racial demographics. Who is most often escorted to the IST room?

April 11, 2022 8:30 a.m. - 2:17 p.m. There were 47 JHS students who were in the IST. Out of the 47 students: White female- 2 (228) White male- 11 (251) Black female- 4 (166) Black male- 24 (189) Hispanic female- 1 (42) Hispanic males- 1 (38) "Other" males- 4 (52)

Broken down by grade: Grade 9- 26 (286) Grade 10- 13 (276) Grade- 11- 5 (234) Grade 12- 3 (230)

Total numbers in the building are in parentheses.

9 repeat offenders that day include: 9th grade- 5 black males 9th grade- 1 white male 10th grade- 1 white female 10th grade- 1 white male 12th grade- 1 black male

At a quick glance, the largest area of concern is with Freshman and Sophomores. On this day there were 6 Black males, 2 White males and 1 White female that were repeat offenders.

3. Was this policy vetted through a DEI lens? We have the 5 year old audit report and now a DEI coach - how did you use the information resource of each of these to guide this decision? Hall sweeps and the use of IST have not been vetted through a DEI lens as all of our students regardless of race have the ability and expectation to make it to class on time. Certainly the wording of the message last week should have been written and viewed through a DEI lens. I can certainly understand how the term escorted can create a feeling of unease/ uncertainty.

4. How is this restorative and designed to fix the problem? The students caught up in the hall sweeps have had restorative efforts to get them to class on time. This practice is designed to create consequences for choices that work against the students best interest while keeping them in school.

5. Students sitting in an ISD room missing out on valuable class instruction time escalating toward being sent home - how have you determined that this policy will fix the problem of tardy students? The students sitting in IST have missed valuable instruction all on their own. Their choices and actions quite often lead to their tardiness (Note we are specifically sweeping between hours, not at the beginning of the day where a parent dropping off a student may be the cause of a late arrival).

6. How do these students make up that class instruction after they've been denied the opportunity to sit in class or after they've been sent home for being tardy one too many times? Student's grade in any course is based on his/her performance in the instructional setting and is not reduced for reasons of conduct. If a student violates the attendance or other rules of the school, s/he should be disciplined appropriately for the misconduct, but his/her grades should be based upon what the student can demonstrate s/he has learned. Students are provided with their assignments and a certified teacher oversees the IST room.

I look forward to hearing the answers to these questions.

Also, do we keep data on suspensions and expulsions? I'd like to see the past 5 school years data es ceially around racial demographics. Attached are the suspension data for the last several years as well as the expulsions for the last several years. will be working on breaking the available data down by racial demographics and he has not gotten back to me on that just yet. Attached are raw numbers "days" of suspension, not necesarilly isolated incidents.

Let me know by Friday how soon I can reasonable expect the answers to these questions and copies of the suspension and expulsion data.

Thank you,

Kesha Hamilton

Kesha Hamilton

JPS Board Trustee (She, Her, Hers) B.S. in Political Science B.S. in Public & Nonprofit Administration kesha.hamiltor

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