FORMAL DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

To assist in understanding terms used in regard to discipline in the Code of Conduct this section provides specific definitions of major terms utilized in the Disciplinary Responses to misconduct.

1. **Alternative Placement:** Sarasota County has developed a variety of programs that are intended to provide educational services to students whose behaviors are such that regular classroom placement is no longer appropriate. Programs range from in-school to outside of the school and are operated by agencies within the community. Some alternative placements are voluntary and others are assigned.

2. **Behavior Contract:** A contract either oral or written developed between the student and a teacher, the principal, and/or other school personnel. Parental involvement is highly recommended. A student may be placed on behavioral probation in lieu of suspension. Such student while on probation may be denied participation in extracurricular activities, and may be required to maintain frequent contact with a staff member assigned responsibility for monitoring his activities.

3. **Co-Curricular Program or Activity:** A school-sponsored activity which is an extension of the actual course of study.

4. **Confiscation of Unauthorized Materials/Contraband:** Students who bring to the school campus or school function, materials and/or items which are prohibited or which are considered contraband may have the item or items confiscated. Once confiscated, the return of such items shall be at the discretion of the school.

5. **Counsel and Direction:** Students involved in misconduct may be given counsel and direction in a conference with the staff or administration; the misconduct is discussed and future expectations outlined.

6. **Corporal Punishment:** “Corporal punishment” means the moderate use of physical force or physical contact by a teacher or principal as may be necessary to maintain discipline to enforce school rule. However, the term “corporal punishment” does not include the use of such reasonable force by a teacher or principal as may be necessary for self-protection or to protect other students from disruptive students. F.S. S. 1003.01 (7)
7. **Detention:** Students can be detained before, during, or after school hours for misconduct with approval of the principal/designee. Parents/guardians must be notified that the student will be detained. Prior arrangements shall be made by the principal/designee to ensure that the student has transportation home after such detention.

8. **Expulsion:** Expulsion is defined as the removal of the right and obligation of a student to attend a public school in Sarasota County for a period of time and under conditions set by the School Board not to exceed the remainder of the current school year, summer school, and one additional school year of attendance.

9. **Expulsion for Disabled Students (Manifestation Determination):** Disabled students are subject to the same disciplinary action as non-disabled students so long as that disciplinary action does not infringe upon the student’s right to a free, appropriate public education. Expulsion may be a proper disciplinary measure but complete cessation of educational services is not appropriate unless permitted by law.

   A disabled student may be expelled for reasons set forth in this Code, provided that the student is afforded the procedural safeguards set forth in the Code, and that it is determined by professionals with expertise to make such a decision that the student’s offense is not related to his/her specific disability.

   In instances where such a student presents an unreasonable hazard to health, safety, and welfare of others, s/he may be removed from the normal school setting or current assignment until appropriate procedures are followed provided that this does not result in a complete cessation of educational services.

10. **Extracurricular Program or Activity:** A school-sponsored activity which is outside of the actual course of study and which carries no academic credit.

11. **Early Reentry Plan for Expelled Students:** A written plan that details the conditions for reentry of expelled students and the associated responsibilities of the student, his/her parents, and designated school personnel.
12. **In-School Restriction:** Students may be removed from a class or classes and assigned to other activities on the school campus. Other activities may include supervised work details.

13. **Parent Conference / Contact:** In cases of student misconduct, a conference between school personnel and the parent or guardian may be held to discuss student behavior. During this conference, future plans, alternative educational opportunities, or behavior contracts may be determined.

14. **Permanent Removal from Extracurricular/Co-curricular Program or Activity:** Removal from such program or activity for the remainder of the school year.

15. **Probation Contract:** In Pre-kindergarten through grade five, a student who commits a Level IV offense may, at the option of the principal, be placed on a probationary contract in lieu of expulsion. Such a contract will spell out the expectations of the student and must include parental involvement and cooperation. Violation of such a contract may result in a recommendation for expulsion for a minimum of one semester.

16. **Restitution (Payment for Damages):** Students destroying school Property, theft of school property, or property of others may be assessed for payment of damages and their parents may be held responsible to assure payment. F.S. S. 741.24

17. **Special Program /Alternative Classrooms/Suspension Reduction Programs:** Students may be assigned to special programs on the school campus or at special centers to assist in correcting student misbehavior and disruptive behavior.

18. **Special Work Assignments:** The assignment of a reasonable task to be completed by a student is permissible. Such a work assignment should not be to complete additional academic work. An example may include a written paper indicating an understanding of the incident.

19. **Supervised Work Details:** Students may be required to serve on supervised work details at the school for misconduct. Each work detail shall not endanger the health or safety of a student. Examples of work details may include: sweeping, cleaning, raking or other similar assigned tasks.
20. **Suspension**: Suspension is the temporary removal of the student from the regular school program not to exceed ten (10) school days on any one act of misconduct. No student who is required by law to attend school, provided they do not arrive at school and then leave campus, shall be suspended for unexcused absence or truancy but may be reported to juvenile authorities for appropriate action.

21. **Suspension/Expulsion From Bus Riding Privileges**: Students may be suspended from bus riding privileges for misconduct on the school bus for up to ten (10) school days. The School Board may expel a student from bus transportation for longer periods of time. A student suspended from riding privileges continues with the responsibility to attend school. The responsibility for transportation to and from school for the duration of the suspension now becomes the responsibility of the student’s parents.

22. **Verbal Correction/Reprimand**: Any member of the school staff may verbally correct a student for misconduct in the classroom, hallways, on the school grounds, going to and from school, or at a scheduled school function.

23. **Withdrawal of Privileges**: The temporary withdrawal of privileges which do not impact the health and safety of students nor impair the development of the basic academic program for the student.