



Tempe Preparatory Academy &  
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## Chronic Disruption Discipline Program

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Through our discussion of Tempe Prep's discipline policy during the January and April Faculty meetings, Faculty members finally have reached consensus that we all would implement a consistent, just and, we hope, effective discipline procedure for students who have not responded to the General Discipline Program and, due to cumulative receipt of Warnings and Detentions, have been identified by the Headmaster as sources of chronic disruption in classrooms. Our goal remains to improve students' rate of voluntary compliance with the agreed-to code of conduct, and create an improved atmosphere for learning.

The General Discipline Program process provides a student with a written "warning" for minor infractions of the school rules, typically uniform violations and very minor acts of misbehavior. "After school detentions" are imposed for more serious infractions such as disrespectful behavior toward teachers or other students, minor acts against the community's sense of order and fairness and similar, but more serious activities. Finally, for repeat detentions or more serious infractions, a student and the student's parent are asked to serve a "Saturday detention" for four hours. The activities for which Saturday detentions have been issued include academic dishonesty, fighting, physical acts directed toward other students, and very disrespectful behavior toward faculty or other students, among similarly serious offenses for which we consider a detention rather than suspension to be appropriate. On very rare occasion, we have instituted out-of-school suspensions and expulsions, and these remain options to the school, as more fully described in the Family Handbook.

Unfortunately, we have had a handful of students for whom the current discipline program has not corrected "chronic" disruptive behavior during class. *The behavior rises to the level of actions that otherwise only would warrant warnings or detentions*, but the continuing misbehavior demonstrates that these students are not adjusting their behavior despite the warnings and detentions they have received. Accordingly, for a student who has established a documented pattern of classroom disruption, teachers have been asked to take the student to the office when the student's behavior is deemed disruptive by a teacher. Further, as Faculty members agreed, a "warning" email will be sent to the parents of each student who has engaged in frequent, disruptive behavior.

To help correct the disruptive behavior, if a student disrupts a class, on the first offense, the student will be sent to the office for the remainder of that class and a short email will be sent home by the teacher explaining the ejection from class. If the student receives a second ejection from class, the student will receive an "in-school" suspension for a full school day, meaning that the student will spend the remainder of the school day and a portion of the next school day in the office conference room. So, for example, if an ejection occurs in third hour, the in-school suspension will be served for the remainder of that day and through second hour of the next day so that, no matter in which class hour the student is ejected, for the second offense, the student will serve a FULL day of out-of-class suspension time. Further, an email will be sent home and at least a telephone discussion must take place with the parents to discuss what efforts should be applied to instill respect for our class time.

On a third ejection from class, parents will be asked to meet with the Headmaster in person and the student will serve a one-day, out-of-school suspension. A fourth ejection from class will precipitate a phone call or email home, an offer of an additional meeting with the Headmaster, and a three-day, out-of-school suspension from class. A fifth ejection will lead to a week's out-of-school suspension, and a mandatory meeting among the Headmaster, the student and parents to discuss that a case will be brought to the Board to seek expulsion of the student.