Student Discipline: New Rules for the 2019-20 School Year
Classroom Exclusions

• Definition of a classroom exclusion
  ▪ (1) Exclusion of a student (2) from a classroom or instructional/activity area (3) for behavioral violations (4) that disrupt the educational process

• Definition of a non-CE
  ▪ Missed instruction for (1) a brief duration when (2) staff attempts other forms of discipline to support student meeting behavioral expectations, and (3) student remains under staff supervision
Classroom Exclusions

• Duration
  ▪ All or part of balance of school day in which excluded
  ▪ Anything longer must be processed as suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion
Classroom Exclusions

• Following classroom exclusion:
  ▪ Staff member must report exclusion and behavioral violation to principal* as soon as reasonably possible
    • * = principal or designee
  ▪ Teacher or principal must notify parents of exclusion and reasons as soon as reasonably possible
Short-Term Suspensions

• Cannot be used for a first offense
  ▪ “Before administering a short-term or in-school suspension, a school district must first attempt one or more other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations.”
  ▪ “Exceptional misconduct” designations no longer apply

• No limitation on severity of offense for which short-term suspension may be imposed
Long-Term Suspensions

• Can only be used when:
  ▪ Student has committed one of a variety of serious specified violations, including “behavior that adversely impacts the health and safety of others,” AND
  ▪ Student’s return to school would pose:
    • imminent danger to others, or
    • Imminent threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process

• Can be used for first offense
  ▪ “Before administering a long-term suspension, a school district must consider other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations.”
Expulsions

- Can only be used when:
  - Student has committed one of a variety of specified serious violations, including “behavior that adversely impacts the health and safety of others,” AND
  - Student’s return to school would pose an imminent danger to others
Limitations on Suspensions and Expulsions

• Must consider student’s individual circumstances and the nature/circumstances of the behavioral violation to determine what level of discipline and length of exclusion are warranted.

• Cannot preclude student from returning to original educational setting unless:
  - Superintendent grants petition to extend expulsion;
  - Excluded in accordance with protecting victims; or
  - Otherwise allowed by law.
Educational Services

• During suspension/expulsion, district must offer educational services that enable student to:
  ▪ Continue to participate in the general education curriculum
  ▪ Meet educational standards established within the district
  ▪ Complete subject, grade-level, and graduation requirements

• Nature of services required depends on length of exclusion
  1. All course work and homework
  2. Access to school staff who can offer support
  3. Opportunity to make up missed assignments and tests
Essentially every communication with a family regarding student discipline must be translated or interpreted when necessary to allow the student or parents to understand.