

THREATENING OR ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

It is a primary responsibility of ARKLA SDA schools to provide a safe secure environment for students while they grow physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually in the system. The recent incidents of students killing other students and their teachers compel each school to closely examine how threats or abusive behavior by students or adults are dealt with on the local level. It is therefore important to place this policy concerning safety in the hands of parents and students at registration, making them aware of procedures should behavior occur which demand extreme measures. The age of the students involved must be taken into consideration for appropriate response to threats or abusive behavior. (Two angry kindergarten students fighting demand a different response than two 8th graders fighting.)

A. *Students threatening student or adults:*

Students who threaten other students or adults with criminal behavior will be immediately suspended from school by the head teacher/principal until their behavior has been analyzed by a certified professional counselor or psychologist to determine if it is safe for the student to return to school. The head teacher/principal will notify the school board chairman immediately when the student is suspended. The student and parent must meet with the school board before the student is readmitted to school. The student may be accepted on a probationary basis when returning to school.

B. *Adults threatening student or adults:*

Adults who threaten students or adults with lawless behavior or who use obscene or abusive language will be asked to leave the school premise immediately, and the incident reported to the local prosecuting attorney for appropriate civil action. It is recommended that this inappropriate behavior is tape recorded*. Abusive phone conversations should also be recorded* and given to the prosecuting attorney. A written summary of the incident should be made immediately by the teacher/principal and signed by witnesses.

C. *Students intentionally injuring students or adults:*

Students who intentionally injure another student or adult, with criminal behavior and attitude will be immediately suspended from school by the head teacher/principal until their behavior has been analyzed by a certified professional counselor or psychologist to determine if it is safe for the student to return to school. The local law enforcement agency will also be notified of the injury. The head teacher/principal will notify the school board chairman immediately when the student is suspended. The student and parent must meet with the school board before the student is readmitted to school. The student will be placed on probation if allowed to return to school.

D. *Adults intentionally injuring students or adults:*

Adults who intentionally injure a student or adult on school premises will be immediately turned over to the local police or sheriff's department for appropriate action. A restraining order may be obtained to prevent the adult from re-entering the campus.

*It is recommended that each school and each teacher obtain a phone with speaker-phone capabilities and also a small hand held tape recorder to assist in the safety program of the school. Phone conversations that will be recorded must be identified to all parties involved.