

Advisory Council on Behavior and Discipline  
December 9, 2016

FROM: Scott M. Richard, Executive Director, LA School Boards Association

Due to prior commitments and scheduling conflicts, the LSBA has been unable to attend previous meetings of the Council; however, we would like to provide the following information.

- The LSBA has long held to the philosophy that discipline of students is an inherently local and fact-based matter.
- Currently, LRS 17:416 (Discipline Statutes) imposes on school districts both mandatory discipline to be meted out on students as well as restrictions on school districts imposing discipline – therefore a suggested task of the Council would be to thoroughly vet the entire set of statutes relative to student discipline for practicality.
- The LSBA urges the Council to consider the uniformity of the rules governing the discipline of students whose education is funded with public tax dollars (traditional public school students, students at public charter schools and voucher students). LRS 17:416 is fully applicable to traditional public schools. Public charter schools are expressly exempt from LRS 17:416 with the narrow exception of LRS 17:416(J) which pertains to a restriction against suspending younger students for non-intentional uniform violations. Private schools that have opted into the voucher program are basically exempt from the law.

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