#### REVIEW OF STATUTORY PURPOSE OF STUDENT DISCIPLINE TASK FORCE & DRAFT WORK PLAN

Maria Flores

## **Objectives:**

- Understand the duties assigned to the task force in law
- Understand other changes to the law that will be informed by the task force
- Create a timeline and draft work plan for upcoming meetings



#### Engrossed Senate Substitute Bill 5946-Section 301

**Duties:** 

- Develop standard definitions for causes of student disciplinary actions taken at the discretion of the school district.
- Develop data collection standards for disciplinary actions that are discretionary and for disciplinary
  - The data collection standards must include data about education services provided while a student is subject to a disciplinary action, the status of petitions for readmission to the school district when a student has been excluded from school, credit retrieval during a period of exclusion, and school dropout as a result of disciplinary action.

### Membership

 The discipline task force shall include representatives from the K-12 data governance group, the educational opportunity gap oversight and accountability committee, the state ethnic commissions, the governor's office of Indian affairs, the office of the education ombudsman, school districts, and other education and advocacy organizations.

### What will happen with the data?

 The office of the superintendent of public instruction and the K-12 data governance group shall revise the statewide student data system to incorporate the student discipline data collection standards recommended by the discipline task force, and begin collecting data based on the revised standards in the 2015-16 school year.

#### More on data...

- All school districts must collect data on disciplinary actions taken in each school and must record these actions using the statewide student data system, based on the data collection standards established by the office of the superintendent of public instruction and the K-12 data governance group.
- The information shall be made available to the public, but public release of the data shall not include personally identifiable information including, but not limited to, a student's social security number, name, or address.

#### Data disaggregation

- Gender;
- Foster care;
- Homeless, if known;
- School district;
- School;
- Grade level;
- · Behavior infraction code, including:
- Bullying;
- Tobacco;
- Alcohol;
- Illicit drug;
- Fighting without major injury;
- Violence without major injury;
- Violence with major injury;
- Possession of a weapon; and
- Other behavior resulting from a short-term or long-term suspension, expulsion, or interim alternative education setting intervention;

Intervention applied, including:

- Short-term suspension;
- Long-term suspension;
- Emergency expulsion;
- Expulsion;
- Interim alternative education settings;
- No intervention applied; and
- Other intervention applied that is not described in this section

Cross tabulated by:

- school and district;
- race
- low income
- special education
- transitional bilingual
- migrant
- foster care
- homeless
- students covered by section 504 of the federal rehabilitation act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794),
- and categories to be added in the future;
- Behavior infraction code;
- Intervention applied.

### Additional changes in the law

- An explusion or suspension cannot be for an indefinite period of time
  - Any corrective action involving a suspension or expulsion from school for more than ten days must have an end date of not more than one calendar year from the time of corrective action. Districts shall make reasonable efforts to assist students and parents in returning to an educational setting prior to and no later than the end date of the corrective action.

### Changes to emergency explusion

- Emergency expulsions must end or be converted to another form of corrective action within ten school days from the date of the emergency removal from school.
- Notice and due process rights must be provided when an emergency expulsion is converted to another form of corrective action.
- Where warranted based on public health or safety, a school may petition the superintendent of the school district, pursuant to policies and procedures adopted by the office of the superintendent of public instruction, for authorization to exceed the one calendar year limitation provided in this subsection.
  - OSPI to adopt rules outlining limited circumstances in which schools can petition to exceed the one year explusion, including safeguards that the school district has made every effort to plan for the student to return to school

#### Alternative educational setting

 Nothing in this section prevents a public school district, educational service district, the Washington state center for childhood deafness and hearing loss, or the state school for the blind if it has suspended or expelled a student from the student's regular school setting from providing educational services to the student in an alternative setting or modifying the suspension or expulsion on a caseby-case basis.

#### Timeline



### **Draft Work Plan**

		November	December	2014?
•	Samples of discipline definitions Existing data sets Timeline for the work (definitions)	<ul> <li>Student discipline data from last school year</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Finalize recommendations for the data manual</li> <li>Youth voice</li> </ul>	
		Youth Voice		

- Youth voice (subgroup?)

# "Mandatory" v. "Discretionary" Codes and Infractions

Maria Flores

Accountability Research & Policy

# Objectives

- Understand the student discipline data that is required for school districts to report
- Distinguish between "mandatory" data requirements and other student behaviors and misconduct that is "discretionary" – locally defined at the school district level



## "Mandatory"

- OSPI is required by the Department of Education to collect data certain "mandatory" student discipline incidents
- School districts and schools must insure accurate data is collected within the "mandatory" discipline codes

#### **Mandatory Discipline Offenses**

Weapons (handgun, shotgun/rifle, multiple firearms, other firearms, knife/dagger or other weapon) Harassment, intimidation and bullying (HIB)

Possession, use, distribution or sale of tobacco products

Manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession or consumption of intoxicating alcoholic beverages or substances represented as alcohol. Suspicion of being under the influence of alcohol may be included if it results in disciplinary action.

Unlawful use, cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, solicitation, purchase, possession, transportation or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance or violation of the district drug policy. Includes the use, possession, or distribution of any prescription or over-the-counter medication (e.g. aspirin, cough syrups, caffeine pills, nasal sprays) in violation of district policy. Major injury-when one or more students, school personnel, or other persons on school grounds require professional medical attention. *Examples of major injuries include stab or bullet wounds, concussions, fractured or broken bones, or cuts requiring stitches.* Violent incidents w/ major injury:

• Severe fighting that results <u>in a major injury</u>, Assault, Homicide, Malicious Harassment, Kidnapping, Rape, Robbery

Violent Incidents without major injury

Fighting without major injury, violent incidents without major injury, assault, malicious harassment,
 kidnapping, rape and robbery

4

# Discretionary

- Student misconduct that does not fall within the mandatory codes and is determined to disrupt the learning environment ( in accordance with state and federal law) is defined at "discretion" of the local school board
- O9 Other behavior resulting in a short term suspension (SS), long term suspension (LS) or expulsion (EX) as reported in PO9 – Intervention Applied

# **Role of Local School Boards**

#### • RCW 28A.600.010

• Every board of directors, unless otherwise specifically provided by law, shall:

(1) Enforce the rules prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction for the government of schools, pupils, and certificated employees.

(2) Adopt and make available to each pupil, teacher and parent in the district reasonable written rules regarding pupil conduct, discipline, and rights, including but not limited to short-term suspensions as referred to in RCW <u>28A.600.015</u> and suspensions in excess of ten consecutive days. Such rules shall not be inconsistent with any of the following: Federal statutes and regulations, state statutes, common law, and the rules of the superintendent of public instruction. The board's rules shall include such substantive and procedural due process guarantees as prescribed by the superintendent of public instruction under RCW <u>28A.600.015</u>. When such rules are made available to each pupil, teacher, and parent, they shall be accompanied by a detailed description of rights, responsibilities, and authority of teachers and principals with respect to the discipline of pupils as prescribed by state statutory law, the superintendent of public instruction, and the rules of the school district.

For the purposes of this subsection, computation of days included in "short-term" and "long-term" suspensions shall be determined on the basis of consecutive school days.

Suspend, expel, or discipline pupils in accordance with RCW <u>28A.600.015</u>.

# **Role of School Districts**

#### WAC 392-400-225

School district rules defining misconduct—Distribution of rules.

(1) It shall be the responsibility and duty of each school district to adopt, publish, and make available to all students and parents written rules which state with reasonable clarity the types of misconduct for which discipline, suspension, and expulsion may be imposed. In addition, written procedures for administering corrective action shall be developed and reviewed periodically as follows:

(a) Each school district shall provide for the development with parent and community participation of written procedures for administering corrective action at each school as required by RCW <u>28A.600.020</u>(3).

(b) In a manner consistent with the district procedures developed pursuant to (a) above, the principal and certificated employees in each school building shall confer at least annually for the purpose of developing, or reviewing, or both, building discipline standards and the uniform enforcement of those standards, as required by RCW <u>28A.400.110</u>.

(2) Rules that establish types of misconduct pursuant to this section must have a real and substantial relationship to the lawful maintenance and operation of the school district including, but not limited to, the preservation of the health and safety of students and employees and the preservation of an educational process which is conducive to learning.

(3) The rules set forth in this chapter, the rules of a school district that establish types of misconduct pursuant to subsection (1) above, and the written procedures of a district for administering corrective action adopted pursuant to subsection (1)(a) above, shall be published and made available to all students and parents on an annual basis. If a school district chooses not to distribute such rules to all students and parents, then notice which describes the contents of such rules and specifies the person(s) to contact for a copy thereof shall be provided to students and parents on an annual basis in a manner reasonably calculated to come to their attention.

# **Role of School**

#### • RCW 28A.600.020

 (1) The rules adopted pursuant to RCW <u>28A.600.010</u> shall be interpreted to ensure that the optimum learning atmosphere of the classroom is maintained, and that the highest consideration is given to the judgment of qualified certificated educators regarding conditions necessary to maintain the optimum learning atmosphere.

(2) Any student who creates a disruption of the educational process in violation of the building disciplinary standards while under a teacher's immediate supervision may be excluded by the teacher from his or her individual classroom and instructional or activity area for all or any portion of the balance of the school day, or up to the following two days, or until the principal or designee and teacher have conferred, whichever occurs first. Except in emergency circumstances, the teacher first must attempt one or more alternative forms of corrective action. In no event without the consent of the teacher may an excluded student return to the class during the balance of that class or activity period or up to the following two days, or until the principal or up to the following two days.

## **Student Disciplinary Laws & Policies**

**Federal Law & Regulations** 

(Department of Education and Office of Civil Rights)

State Law & Regulations

(RCW's and WAC's)

**Local School District Policies** 

(Board Policy and Student Handbook)

School Rules (school policies, practices and classroom management)

## Considerations for "Discretionary" Discipline Codes

- > 295 School Districts and School Boards
- Student, Family and Community understanding of definitions
- Use of data to analyze the system
- Classroom management systems and interventions
- Others?

# **Discussion Questions**

- Given the purpose of defining student behaviors and discipline issues that are locally defined, what additional resources does the committee need to consider and review?
- What are your hopes and fears for the work?

# Discipline Data

#### Discipline Task Force Meeting September 19, 2013

Robin G. Munson, Ph.D. Assistant Superintendent Division of Assessment and Student Information Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction

# **Discipline** Data

- Annual Data Collection for Behavior and Weapons (aggregate)
- Student level discipline data
- Other student level data
- Possible discipline data analysis

### Annual Data Collection for Behavior and Weapons

- Began in 2003-2004
- Intended to meet federal reporting requirements
- Aggregate data submitted at the end of the year
  - By school / grade
  - Number of incidents/suspension/expulsions for severe behaviors and weapons (detail on next slide)
- Currently reported in the K-12 Data and Reports tool (<u>http://data.k12.wa.us</u>)

# Student-level discipline data

- Began collecting in Comprehensive Education Data and Research System (CEDARS) in 2012-13
- Includes required data for federal reporting
- Data fields:
  - Incident date
  - Behavior type
  - Intervention applied
  - Intervention date and length
  - Interim Alternative Education Setting (IAES) for special education students

#### CEDARS student-level discipline data

Sample:

- Wile E. Coyote
- Incident date: March 20, 2013
- Fighting without major injury
- Long-term suspension
- Intervention date: March 21, 2013
- 12 days
- Type of weapon: knife or dagger



## **CEDARS** Discipline File

Behavior Types	
Bullying	Violence without major injury
Торассо	Violence with major injury
Alcohol	Possession of a weapon
Illicit drugs	Marijuana (2013-14)
Fighting without major injury	Major bodily injury (2013-14)

# **CEDARS** Discipline File

#### **Intervention Type**

Expulsion

Long-term suspension (more than 10 days)

Short-term suspension

No intervention

Other

## **CEDARS** Discipline File

Weapon Type	
Handgun	Knife or dagger
Rifle or shotgun	Other weapon
Multiple firearms	Firearm and other weapon
Other firearms	

# Student-level discipline data

- Can be linked to the other student-level data collected in CEDARS and assessment data
- For each incident, a student may have only one behavior type reported ("most serious behavior, as determined by the district")
- Incident ID
  - Can count incidents by student or school
  - Can connect to other students involved in same incident and their interventions
- Will incorporate into K-12 Data and Reports

## Other student-level data

- Student enrollment at district and school
- Student schedules that can be linked to teachers
- Student demographics (gender, race, ethnicity, birth country, language)
- Student academic information (GPA, credits earned, grade history)
- Student programs (FRL, LAP, Title I, Gifted, special education, LEP, etc.)
- Student absences
- State assessments (MSP, HSPE, EOC, WELPA)

# Possible discipline data analysis

- Are there regional differences in suspension or expulsion rates? Do schools with similar demographics have similar suspension or expulsion patterns?
- Is there discipline disproportionality by race/ethnicity? Do certain minority groups within a school get suspended or expelled at higher rates than other students?
- Within the Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander category, are Samoan students suspended for longer periods of time for the same types of incidents than non-Samoan students?
- Are highly mobile students suspended or expelled at higher rates than non-mobile students?
- What are academic outcomes (assessment scores, credits earned, graduation, etc.) for students with chronic discipline issues?

# Reclaiming Students: the educational and economic costs of exclusionary discipline

September 19, 2013

A Presentation for the Student Discipline Task Force required by Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5946

Katie Mosehauer Washington Appleseed Anne Lee TeamChild





RECLAIMING STUDENTS The educational and economic costs of exclusionary disciplin



# Washington Appleseed

Washington Appleseed works to address social and economic problems in our state by developing new public policy initiatives, challenging unjust laws, and helping people better understand and fully exercise their rights. We believe that by engaging both volunteer lawyers and community partners in these efforts, we better identify systemic problems, outline potential solutions and achieve effective and lasting social change.



#### www.WaAppleseed.org

RECLAIMING STUDENTS

JOINT REPORT



### TeamChild

TeamChild is a non profit law firm dedicated to upholding the rights of youth involved, or at risk of involvement, in the juvenile justice system to help them secure the education, healthcare, housing and other support they need to achieve positive outcomes in their lives.



### www.teamchild.org

A JOINT REPORT. RECLAIMING STUDENTS The educational and economic costs of exclusionary discipline





Washington Appleseed, TeamChild, the ACLU of Washington and Garvey Schubert Barer came together in 2010 out of a mutual concern about the negative impact of out of school exclusions on Washington students.





### **Research Questions**

- How many children are affected by exclusionary discipline in any given school year?
- Who is being removed from the school setting? Do these exclusions disproportionately impact students of a particular race or socioeconomic status?
- How does the use of exclusionary discipline vary across the state?
- What happens to these children once they are removed from the school setting? Do they receive educational services?





RECLAIMING STUDENTS The educational and economic costs of exclusionary disciplin



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## Methodology

- Public disclosure requests sent to all 295 school districts for the 2009-2010 school year.
- Not every district could answer every question posed.
- Despite fluctuations in the number of districts included in our analyses, all of the data does reflect diverse compositions of Washington State School Districts.
- Stakeholder interviews and youth stories included.
- Appendix highlights positive district approaches.



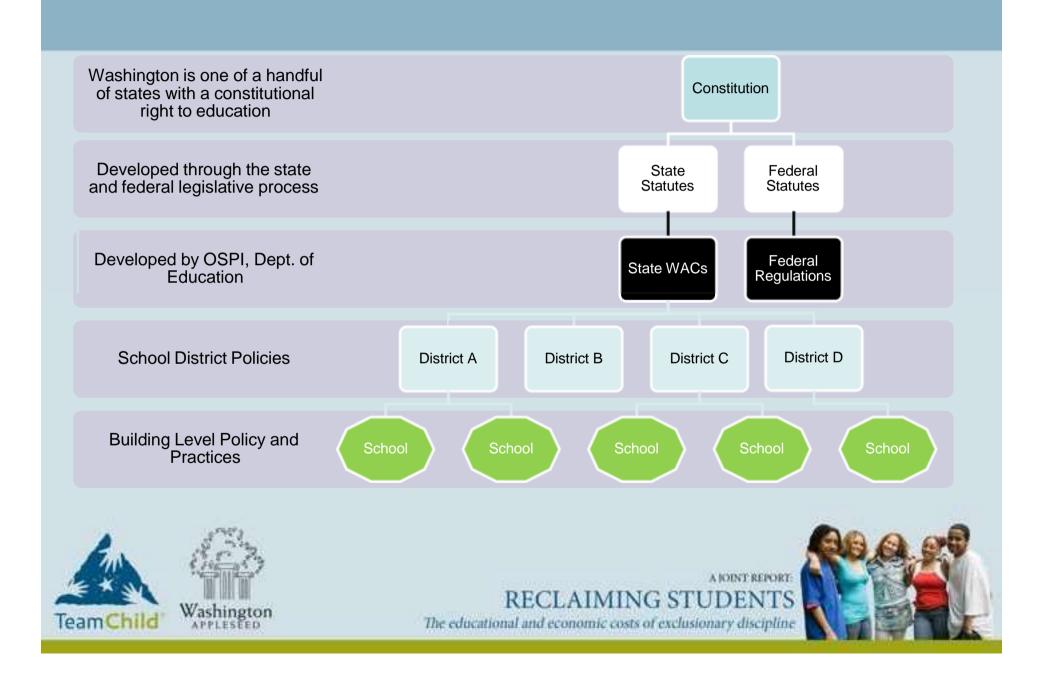


### WA's Disciplinary Framework

The landscape of school discipline for students in Washington public schools is shaped by the Constitution, state laws, state regulations, school district policies, and administrative decisions that take place at the school building level.







### **State Regulations**

•Define short term suspension, long term suspension, expulsion and emergency expulsion

•Outline appeal procedures and due process protections

•Provide for petition for readmission at any time





The educational and economic costs of exclusionary disciplin

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### **District Policies**

 Every school district has the authority to adopt discipline policies for student behavior and consequences for misconduct.

•District policies may vary greatly from district to district, but they all must comply with the state laws and state regulations.





### **Exclusionary Discipline**

 The Reclaiming Students Report focuses on exclusionary discipline, meaning a form of discipline that removes a student from a classroom setting and potentially any educational setting.



A NORT REPORT: RECLAIMING STUDENTS The educational and economic costs of exclusionary discipline

# Finding 1

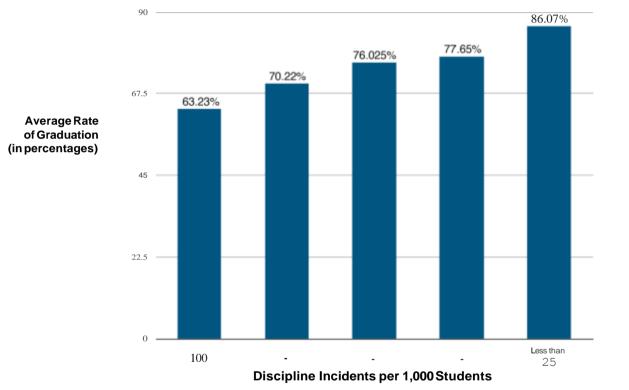
Exclusionary discipline negatively impacted academic success and a student's relationship with the educational system.







### Exclusionary Discipline Rates vs. Graduation Rates in Washington Schools



Data for this analys is based on OSPI Behavior and Weapons Reports for the 2009 - 2010 school year as well as 2011 graduation rates from OSPIs School District Profiles, published at http://www.k12.wa.us!OataAdminIdefault.aspx#download. Only school districts with 1,000 or more students were included in this analysis as districts with fewer students tended to have larger fluctuations in graduation rates year over year due to each student comprising a much higher individual percentage of the total student population.



 Students in 183 of the state's 295 school districts missed at least 70,000 days of school due to long-term suspensions alone during the 2009-2010 school year, greatly reducing the probability of academic success for these students and increasing their risk of drop out.





The educational and economic costs of exclusionary disciplin

## Finding 2

The vast majority of disciplined students did not receive educational services for the duration of their exclusion.

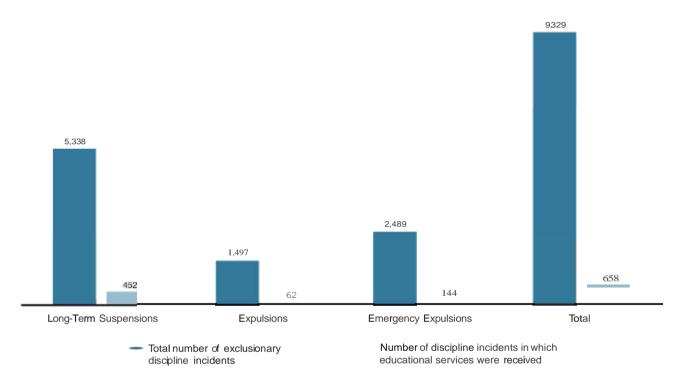




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### Frequency of Educational Services Received During Exclusionary Discipline



Data for this analysis is based on responses to the Appleseed report team's public record request from 183 school districts. Though information was requested from all 295 school districts in the state, not all districts could provide the information requested. We recognize the 9,329 discipline incidents included here as a sample size of the state total. Please note the "Total" category includes 5 discipline incidents that were not specifically labeled as a long-term suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion.



## Finding 3

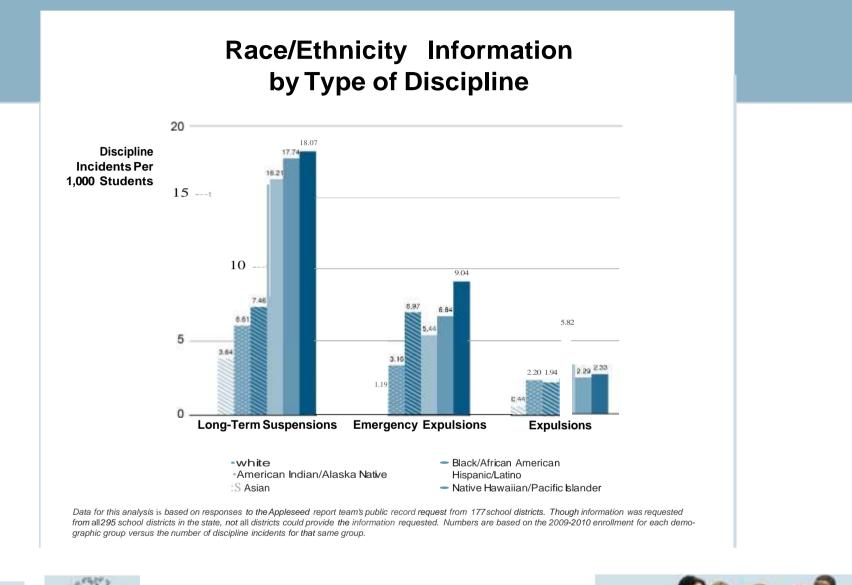
## Exclusionary discipline disproportionately impacted students of color and youth living in poverty.





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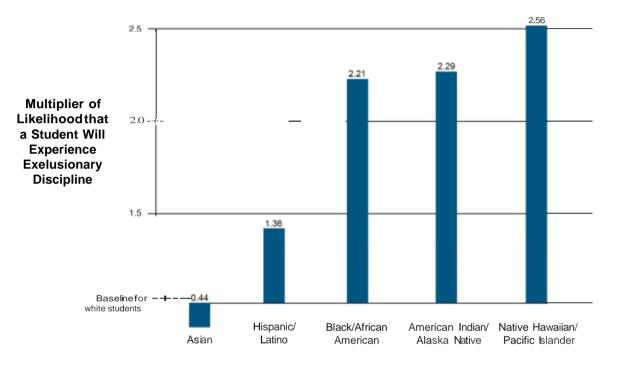


### **RECLAIMING STUDE NTS**

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### Likelihood of Experiencing Exclusionary Discipline A comparison by race/ethnicity



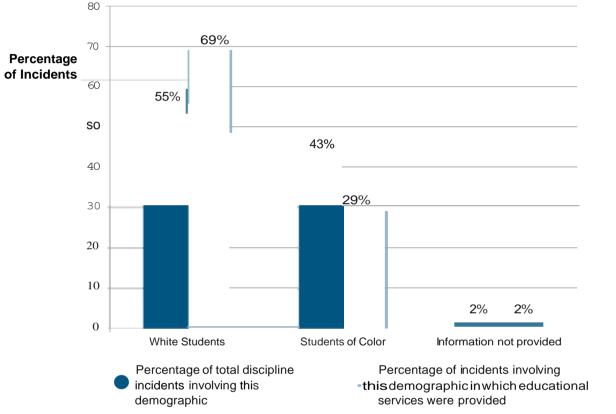
#### **Race/Ethnicity of Students**

Data for this analysis is based on responses to the Appleseed report team's public record request from 177 school districts. Though information was requested from all295 school districts in the state, not all districts could provide the information requested because they did not track deompgraphic information for discipline incidents. Some additional school districts reported no discipline incidents matching requested categories and others provided information that could not be disaggregated for statewide analysis.



### **Access to Education Services**

CA Comparison of white students to students of color)

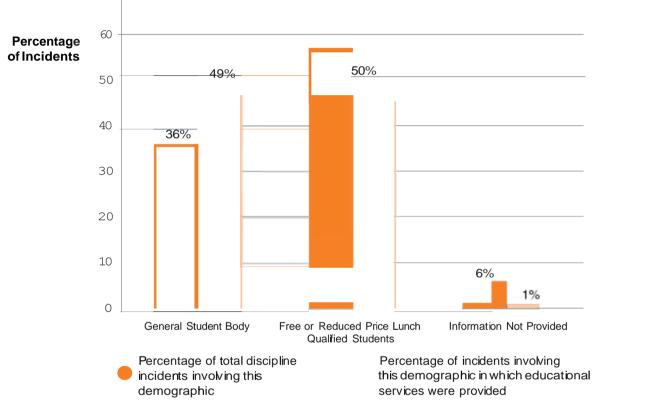


Data for this analysis is based on responses to the Appleseed report team's public record request from 177 school districts. Though information was requested from all 295 school districts in the state, not all districts could provide the information requested.



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Data for this analysis is based on responses to the Appleseed report team's public record request from 172 school districts. Though information was requested from all 295 school districts in the state, not all districts could provide the information requested.





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INTE REPORTE DE NTS r, · JI\$20joll/1/12 "There is clear evidence that these policies seem to be imposed on minority students at a greater rate. The other thing that is interesting to me is that some of the things kids face emergency expulsion for is questionable. One of the big ones in our public schools is defiance of authority or insubordination."

Judge Frank Cuthbertson,

Pierce County Superior Court Judge

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The educational and economic costs of exclusionary disciplin



## Finding 4

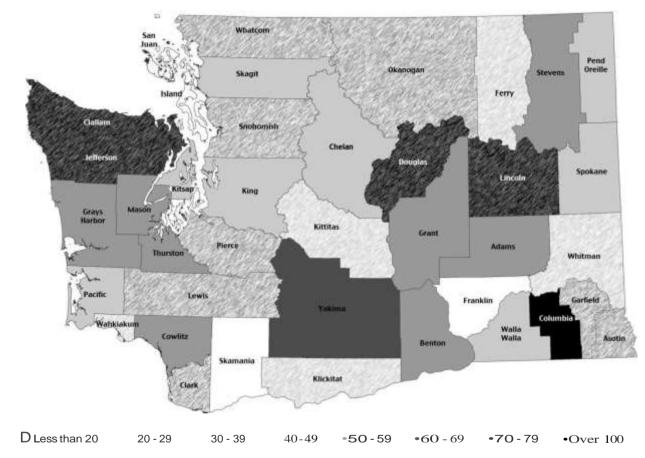
Reliance on exclusionary discipline varied significantly from district to district, even among districts with similar demographic characteristics.







### Discipline Rates (per 1,000 students) by Geography



Data for this analysis is based on data from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009-10 Behavior Report – Suspensions and Expulsions, retrieved from http://www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/Behavior/pubdocs/rptBehavior0910.pdf, -and the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction 2009-10 Weapons Report - Suspensions and Expulsions, retrieved from http://www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/Weapons/pubdocs/rptWeapons/pubdocs/r





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## Finding 5

Discipline data yielded only a partial picture of the number of students impacted by exclusionary practices each year in Washington public schools.



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### Recommendations

- Reduce the use of out of school exclusions.
- Require school districts to provide access to educational services during periods of exclusionary discipline.
- Ensure that no student is subject to indefinite exclusion.
- Adopt and follow recommendations of the Educational Opportunity Gap Oversight and Accountability Committee in order to support a reduction in the disproportionate impact of exclusionary discipline on students of color.





- Require school districts to retrieve excluded students and re-engage them in education.
- Update the statewide Comprehensive Education Data and Research System (CEDARS) so that school districts collect—and the state can review—data showing whether students subject to discipline receive educational services while out of school and whether they return to in-school education.





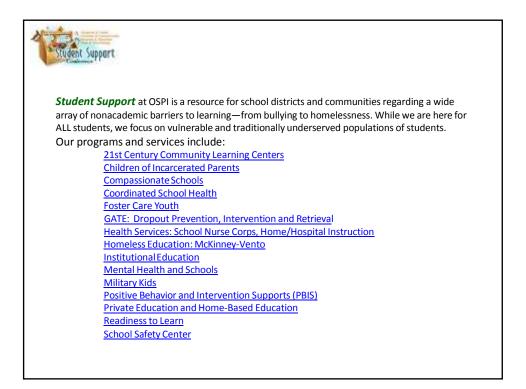
 Transforming Washington's current exclusionary discipline practices should be a collective effort. School districts need the support and collaboration of students, parents, the medical community (including pediatricians and mental health providers), juvenile justice professionals, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), community agencies, advocates, and others to support and maximize the work school districts will need to do.









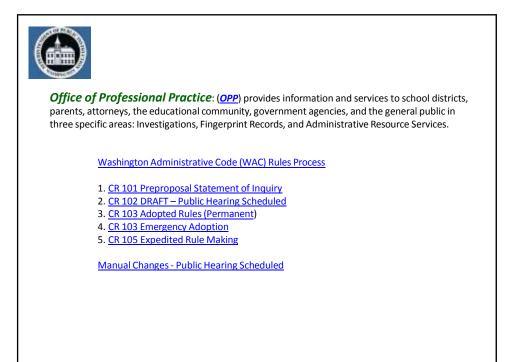




**The School Safety Center** provides resources to schools and parents on a broad spectrum of safety related topics such as bullying, internet safety, substance abuse prevention, suicide prevention, discipline and truancy. We also help schools develop comprehensive safe school plans that prepare schools for on-campus emergencies, security issues, and large scale disasters.

#### Behavior Report

Bullying and Harassment Cyberbullying & Digital/Internet Safety Discipline and Conduct Emergency Preparedness Gangs in Schools Healthy Youth Survey Juvenile Sex Offenders in Schools Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Student Support Pandemic Flu Preparedness (OSPI Health Services) School Safety Manual School Mapping Emergency Response System SOS for Youth Spanish Language Resources / Recursos en español <u>Suicide Prevention</u> Threat Assessment and Policy Training and Professional Development <u>Truancy (Becca Bill) and Compulsory Attendance</u> <u>Weapons and Schools</u> Youth Safety – Additional Information





#### Chapter 392-400 WAC:

**PUPILS** 

#### 392-400-200 - Purpose and application.

The purpose of this chapter is to implement RCW 28A.600.015 by prescribing the substantive and procedural due process rights of students served by any program or activity conducted by or in behalf of a common school district.....

#### Sections:

Sections.	
<u>392-400-205</u>	Definitions.
392-400-210	Student responsibilities and duties.
<u>392-400-215</u>	Student rights.
<u>392-400-220</u>	Student disciplinary boards
392-400-225	School district rules defining misconduct—Distribution of rules.
392-400-226	School district rules defining HIB
392-400-227	School district rules defining students religious rights.
392-400-230	Persons authorized to impose discipline, suspension,
	expulsion, or emergency removal upon students.

Chapter 392-400	WAC:
PUPILS	
FOFILS	
DISCIPLINE	
392-400-235	Discipline—Conditions and limitations.
392-400-240	Discipline—Grievance procedure.
SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION	
392-400-245	Short-term suspension—Conditions and limitations.
392-400-250	Short-term suspension—Prior conference required—Notice to parent.
<u>392-400-255</u>	Short-term suspension—Grievance procedure.
LONG-TERM SUSPENSION	
<u>392-400-260</u>	Long-term suspension—Conditions and limitations.
<u>392-400-265</u>	Long-term suspension—Notice of hearing—Waiver of hearing.
<u>392-400-270</u>	Long-term suspension—Prehearing and hearing process.
EXPULSION	
<u>392-400-275</u>	Expulsion—Conditions and limitations.
<u>392-400-280</u>	Expulsion—Notice of hearing—Waiver of hearing.
<u>392-400-285</u>	Expulsion—Prehearing and hearing process.

