



INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF TEXAS

LEGAL MEMORANDUM

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: CLAYTON E. GREENBERG, GENERAL COUNSEL
DATE: JUNE 14, 2017
RE: 2017-2018 STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK AND CODE OF CONDUCT

During the May Board Meeting, the Administration briefed the Board of proposed changes to the Handbook, and outlined substantive proposed changes (See attached memo). In addition to the information previously provided, the final version of the Handbook includes a new section regarding honors and highest honors. For your convenience, the new section added is set forth below:

Calculation of Weighted LOCAL GPA

Only courses taken at ILTexas count towards local GPA. Local GPA is based on a 100 point scale. Further, weightings are based on the following scale:

<i>Advance Placement/Dual Credit</i>	<i>1.15</i>
<i>Honors/Pre-AP</i>	<i>1.1</i>
<i>All other courses</i>	<i>1</i>

Valedictorian, Salutatorian, and Other recognitions

ILTexas will identify the top 10% as required by law.

Graduating seniors with the highest and second highest cumulative *local* weighted grade point average as determined at the end of the spring semester of the senior year and carried out three decimal places, will be eligible to serve as the Valedictorian and Salutatorian respectively. In the event of a tie for Valedictorian, the student with the highest number of AP and Dual Credit

classes taken shall be declared the Valedictorian. If still tied, the person with the highest SAT score will be designated Valedictorian. All courses and corresponding numeric grades earned to determine local GPA must not be modified in content and must be identified by the state as a regular, honors, and/or AP course in order to qualify for Valedictorian and Salutatorian.

Each ILTexas High School shall have a Valedictorian and Salutatorian. Candidates shall be in attendance at the awarding High School continuously, commencing with enrollment no later than the first day of the second six-week grading period of the student's junior year until graduation. The Valedictorian shall be the eligible graduate with the highest local GPA; the Salutatorian shall be the eligible graduate with the second highest local GPA.

Further, all senior Honors students are recognized at graduation based on the following criteria:

Honor	Criteria
Highest Honors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 97.5+ Local GPA • Completed a minimum of 15 community service hours per year (enrolled at ILTexas) • Has successfully completed a min. of 5 dual credit and/or AP courses. • Exemplifies the ILTexas Core Leadership Traits • Demonstrated growth in language proficiency (English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese), as measured by ACTFL Guidelines
High Honors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 95+ Local GPA • Completed a minimum of 15 community service hours per year (enrolled at ILTexas) • Has successfully completed a min. of 3 dual credit and/or AP courses. • Exemplifies the ILTexas Core Leadership Traits • Demonstrated growth in language proficiency (English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese), as measured by ACTFL Guidelines

Encl.



INTERNATIONAL LEADERSHIP OF TEXAS

Office of the General Counsel

MEMORANDUM

To: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: CLAYTON E. GREENBERG, GENERAL COUNSEL
DATE: MAY 12, 2017
RE: 2017-18 STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK AND CODE OF CONDUCT (THE "HANDBOOK")

Attached please find a redlined version of the proposed Handbook¹. The majority of proposed changes from the 2016-17 to the 2017-18 Handbook are non-substantive in nature. Below are the substantive changes being proposed:

Student Discipline/Authority and Jurisdiction

The Authority and Jurisdiction sections of the Handbook has been revised to provide broader jurisdiction to ILTexas when misconduct occurs off campus, and the misconduct creates a substantial disruption to the educational environment, in the reasonable discretion of ILTexas. The proposed circumstances where ILTexas has jurisdiction over a student are as follows:.

1. *During the regular school day and while the student is going to and from school;*
2. *During lunch periods in which a student is allowed to leave campus or at any time during school hours;*
3. *While the student is in attendance at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location;*
4. *For any school-related misconduct, regardless of time or location;*
5. *For any expulsion offense committed while on ILTexas property or while attending a school-sponsored or school-related activity of ILTexas or another school in Texas;*
6. *For any expulsion offense committed away from ILTexas property or utilized facility and not at a school-sponsored or school-related event, if the misconduct creates a substantial disruption to the educational environment, in the reasonable discretion of ILTexas;*
7. *While the student is in transit to or from school or to or from school-related activities or events;*
8. *When retaliation against a school employee or volunteer occurs or is threatened, regardless of time or location;*
9. *When criminal mischief is committed on or off ILTexas property or any facility and/or at a school-related*

¹ The Handbook is on the May Board Meeting agenda for discussion purposes only.

event;

10. *When the student commits any felony punishable as a Level III expulsion offense under the Student Code of Conduct;*
11. *Any misdemeanor or felony offense, no matter when or where said activity occurs, if ILTexas determines that said activity occurred by a preponderance of the evidence; and*
12. *Any cyberbullying, on-line harassment, cybercrime, or computer related crime, that involves a computer or any device and/or network ("in the cloud" or otherwise), no matter when or where said activity occurs, including the sharing, displaying or transmitting any illegal images, words or otherwise, or that creates or is likely to create a substantial disruption to the educational environment.*

In terms of what staff member may assign what type of discipline, the Handbook clearly delineates the roles of the GLA, AP, Principal, Area Superintendent and Superintendent.

- The AP may assign ISS or OSS for up to five (5) days.
- Only the Campus Principal may recommend expulsion and may assign an additional five (5) days of ISS or OSS.
- Unless there is a reasonable reason to extend suspension during the expulsion process (which only may be exercised by the Superintendent), a student should not be suspended for more than a total of ten (10) days.

The Level I, II, and III offenses, as well as the respective disciplinary consequences, have been clarified and also correspond with PIEMS. All references to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code have been removed.

The Administration has introduced Restorative Discipline, as a discipline management technique, at Garland K-8, Lancaster K-8, Westpark K-8, and East Fort Worth K-8.

Finally, a student/parent has 72 hours, of receipt of the hearing officer's decision, to appeal an expulsion to the Board and General Counsel.

Grading Program, Promotion Standards, Graduation Requirements

Other than identifying the top 10% as required by law, the Handbook proposes eliminating class rankings, as well as all communications regarding class rankings.